

The Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition



Promoting a uniform response to the needs of the homeless in our community

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2015 – Called to order 10:00 a.m.

In Attendance:

Jill Triana – CC HHS	Josh Miller - COI
Nanci Okerlund - YWCA	Kristy Woodfield - LawNY
Brittany Cope - YWCA	Abdul Roberts - LawNY
Rebecca Magnuson – LawNY	Benjamin Haskin – LawNY
Jeff Hollern – Department of Development	Wilberto Moran - LawNY
Jeffrey Smith – St. Susan Center	Karen Anderson - VA
Piava Rioli – VA	Alyssa Kowalski - VA
Bill Vogt - COI	Josiah Lamp – COI
Lori Del Nero – COI	

1. Welcome & Introduction:

Bill Vogt facilitated today's meeting. Attendees at both locations introduced themselves.

2. Review of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the September 2015 minutes by Josiah Lamp and the motion was seconded by Nanci Okerlund. There was no opposition; the motion to approve the minutes was passed.

3. Membership Update – no changes:

Current Signed Membership Agreement	
American Red Cross	Legal Assistance of Western New York
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	SNAP! Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.
CHRIC	Southern Tier Environments for Living, Inc.
Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System	St. Susan Center
Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services	The Resource Center
City of Jamestown Department of Development	The Salvation Army
CODE	Veterans Administration
Dunkirk Housing Authority	Willow Mission – First UMC Dunkirk
Erie 2-Chautauqua Cattaraugus BOCES	YWCA of Jamestown
Housing Options Made Easy	

4. Ranking Committee:

Benjamin Haskin (LawNY), Jeff Hollern (City of Jamestown Department of Development), and Jill Triana (Chautauqua County HHS) volunteered to serve as Ranking Committee and met separately to review and submit their recommendations. After meeting, the recommendations submitted were as follows:

Final Ranking – Tier 1

Project Applicant	Dollar Amount
1) COI – HMIS	\$17,829.60
2) HOME – Supportive Housing	\$92,321.90
3) DHA/STEL	\$100,722.50

Final Ranking – Tier 2

Project Applicant	Dollar Amount
1) COI – HMIS	\$3,146.40
2) HOME – Supportive Housing	\$16,292.10
3) DHA/STEL	\$17,774.50

A motion was made to approve these recommendations by Josiah Lamp and the motion was seconded by Nanci Okerlund. There was no opposition; the motion to approve the Ranking Committee recommendation was passed.

This recommendation will be put into the County application. Members will receive an email with specifics and the information will be posted on COI's website for the public.

5. HMIS Data

Bill Vogt reviewed the HMIS data from January 1, 2015 to present. Our data quality is above 99%. Year to date there have been 1,216 individuals served by agencies inputting data into HMIS. As part of a HUD requirement, starting with our next Coalition meeting we will begin reviewing HMIS data for each individual agency inputting data into HMIS. This data is to be reviewed for evaluation of the services provided in our area and will include basic demographic information (gender, race, veteran status, etc.) and will not contain any identifying data on clients.

6. Coordinated/Centralized Assessment:

The Sub-Committee consisting of Gina Ward, Denis Bouchard, Josiah Lamp and Bill Vogt met to discuss moving forward with a coordinated assessment method. This method will be based upon the current collection of data using a centralized database to add a component that includes an assessment to determine eligibility for additional services or to determine the level of need. The Sub-Committee will meet again prior to our next Homeless Coalition meeting once information from our HMIS vendor is obtained as to the capability and any cost that might be associated.

7. Other Business:

- a. 2016 PIT Count: A motion for the 2016 PIT Count to be held on Thursday, January 28, 2016, between 4-8 am was made by Gina Ward and the motion was seconded by Jeff Smith. There was no opposition; the motion to hold the PIT count on this date/time was passed. Gina will serve as the lead for the PIT count. We will hold a Homeless Coalition meeting on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 10 am to begin planning and training volunteers for the count. Anyone interested in volunteering is invited to attend this meeting. We are in need of volunteers county-wide. We reach out annually to area police chiefs to help us identify locations where we are likely to find homeless individuals. Jeff Smith suggested we also reach out the area food banks as they often are aware of homeless individuals in the community.
- b. Union Gospel Mission Closure: The closure of this shelter in Jamestown has created an increased need for emergency housing and permanent supportive housing. Jill Triana reported that the men that were previously referred to the mission are now being sent to the Budget Motel by HHS, which is much more costly. Bill Vogt, Jeff Smith and Nanci Okerlund will work together to connect with the Board of the Union Gospel Mission to try and develop a plan to either help re-open or to assist another group or agency to re-open this much needed shelter.
- c. 2016 Meeting Schedule: The 2016 schedule of Homeless Coalition meeting dates was distributed at today's meeting.

8. Adjourn:

A motion was made at 11:10 a.m. to adjourn the meeting by Benjamin Haskin and was seconded by Josh Miller. The motion to adjourn carried without opposition.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday, January 7, 2016

This will be a special meeting to prepare for the 2016 PIT Count

**It will be a telephone conference between COI offices at
402 Chandler Street, Jamestown and
10825 Bennett Road, Dunkirk**