

Auburn Cayuga County Homeless Taskforce

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2023

Present: Michael Slomski, Chapel House; Shannon Tanner, Chapel House; Arlene Ryan, Community Member; Timothy Donovan, Community Member; Alyssa Maglione, Helio Health; Rosemary Radley, Rescue Mission; Jordan Marsh, 211/Lifeline; Amy Heintz, Rescue Mission; Shari Weiss, CCHN; Nicole Gee, CCHN; Kyra Parsley, CCHN; Christina Bennett, CAP; Amy Alfieri, CAP; Liz Burke, Cayuga County Mental Health Counseling; Mary Rathbun, Cayuga County DSS; Kathryn Dennis, United Way of Cayuga County; Lisa Carr, Seymour Library; Armani Moore, HHC; Sarah Schutt, HHC; Megan Stuart, HHC; Miranda Spencer, HHC;

Next meeting: July 12, 2023, 11 am, Auburn City Hall

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Chair Renee Jensen. Introductions were made.

2. CoC Funded Agencies

Chapel House: Mike Slomski reported the following:

Men's: Franklin Street started the month with 12 men and ended the month with 14 men; 7 of which were CDBG unique individuals. Positive outcomes with goal achieved this month included a client who had resided at men's house since 6/24/2022, fought 4 different types of cancer, finally found an apartment, and moved in with a Homesite subsidy.

ROLES: Roles started the month with 14 individuals (5 men/ 9 women/ 1 transgender) and ended the month with 12 individuals (5 men/ 6 women/ 1 transgender).

PSH: Permanent Supportive Housing program started the month with 19 Households, with 4 matches via Coordinated Entry, and ended the month with 17 households with 6 matches via Coordinated Entry.

Chapel House was awarded funds for both the men's case manager and the ROLES case manager position from the United Way. They also applied for the CNY Community Foundation for move out supplies including bedding, pots and pans, and essentials for when a client moves into housing. Chapel House underwent CoC monitoring on April 20th, and it went very well. There were some suggestions for their policy and procedure packet that has already been updated. Chapel House also had a surprise OTDA inspection on April 26th which went very well programmatically. They were very impressed with the case manager's files and case notes.

CAP: Christina shared that CAP is currently full and they will have some clients moving on and a few openings upcoming.

There was a discussion about what Coordinated Entry is for the new attendees. All individuals who are unsheltered or in shelter are placed on a list after receiving an assessment that prioritizes them and places those individuals with the projects that have the appropriate openings.

3. Agency Updates

Dept of Social Services: housing 26 families, 21 in hotels. 99 single individuals, 10 at CH, 14 at ROLES, 75 in hotels. Case management has moved several individuals. CHES program saved 8 families from entering homelessness. Triple FS funding awarded through the state- \$60k for the program. Up to \$2,000 one-time payment to divert working families who need rental arrears, 1st month rent, security, utility arrears. There is another funding program for automobiles and car insurance. There are income restrictions.

Cayuga County Mental Health: The mobile mental crisis unit started in the middle of April. Main contact number 315-253-0341 with prompt #9. LGU and Community Service Board are working on the local action plan. There will be a needs assessment that will be sent out to prioritize the community needs. They are working toward getting connected with the 911 dispatch.

CCHN: Nicole shared about working with clients and there are a lot of calls coming in. There is a lot of tenant rights education. One client has been housed at Sennet Meadows. There is another client close to being housed there as well. There are showers available from 1-3 pm on Tuesdays at Auburn Inn. There is one individual who is living in a tent near Walmart. She has connected with Tiny Home and there is the landowner who would allow her to have something built. The community checks on her. Nicole has been working with the criminal justice system and being able to educate people on resources prior to re-entry.

Shari shared the about the reproductive program that aids female presenting individuals, ages 15-44. has two community workers who can work with those who are pregnant or with infants whose the youngest child is less than 24 months.

Chapel House is getting a large donation of bedding supplies.

City of Auburn: They are working with Housing Visions on the emergency shelter site plan, will be going through the planning board in June or July. Renee would like Chris Trevisani to present in the next few meetings. There will need to be a lot of community outreach. The PSH will have 20-40 units through the ESSHI in the western part of the city.

4. HHC Updates

Megan shared board approved the application for the YHDP grant that has funding for 12-24 youth experiencing homelessness.

The State is still accepting EHV referrals and are encouraging a strong push for the CoC's to. Reimbursements can still be accessed. Funding is for the next 10 years. Most Housing Authorities think that they could be moved on to housing choice vouchers.

Sarah shared the Cayuga PIT numbers. The report has been submitted to the federal government and she pulled this from Cayuga and did a 3-year analysis. Shelter numbers increased but Transitional decreased. Sub-populations have gone down- chronic, veteran, youth and family. The annual numbers have not been finalized because they will be mixed with the System Performance Measures.

We will have finalized numbers by the next meeting.

At the HHC Annual Meeting, there will be a more in-depth analysis for the PIT Count.

Miranda Spencer asked if anyone in the community had connections with the local indigenous Tribes.

5. New Business

Shari shared that CCHN is hosting an annual health fair on 7/15 from 10-1 at Auburn Double Days arena. There will be a kid's zone and activities with community partners tabling. Pandemic EBT cards just got reloaded based on the school's submitted reports.

Kathryn Dennis will connect with Booker T Washington. UW RFP was just closed supporting 35 programs. Mini grants up to \$1k that have a rolling due date, staff training, professional training or random program needs. On June 7, the non-profit summit is coming back. There will be a needs assessment presentation with keynote speaker with differing options for break out sessions. (check UW Cayuga's website for information) Kathryn Dennis shared that August 3rd will be the Day of Caring. Volunteer and agency forms on our website.

Food pantries are well stocked and are able to help. Cayuga County Food Pantry Coalition meets bimonthly.

The library shared that they have seen an increase of housing issues and they have found Nicole to be a great resources. CDBG funding to receive Wi-Fi extension and there will be some outside seating capacity added soon. They are working toward some resources for addiction recovery and the literary challenges for the county. Please visit your local libraries. There has been a lot of change and updates.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 am.