

Auburn Cayuga County Homeless Taskforce

Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2023

Present: Shari Weiss, CCHN; Megan Stuart, HHC; Renee Jensen, City of Auburn, Tim Donovan, Community Member; Arlene Ryan, Community Member; Kathryn Dennis, United Way; Krista Tallman, Rescue Mission; Mary Rathbun, Cayuga County DSS; Christina Bennett, CAP; Darlene Podolak, Unity House; Amy Alfieri, CAP; Liz Burke, Cayuga County Mental Health; Lisa Carr, Seymour Library; Alicia Finazio, Cayuga Counseling; George Judware, Gavras Center; Kathryn Scozarri, Women Doing God's Work; Meadow McDowell, Solider On; Alyssa Magliano, Helio Health; Miranda Spencer, HHC;

Next meeting: September 13th, 11 am, City Chambers, Auburn

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 am. Introductions were made.

2. HHC Updates

Megan Stuart shared about the NOFO application. The local competition will open on July 24th. New applications will be accepted for Rapid Re-Housing projects. There will be some DV bonus funding. We are waiting on how much new project and DV bonus funding that will be available. There will be more information coming out as the Housing and Homeless Coalition gets more information.

Miranda Spencer shared that the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project application was successfully submitted. The application requested \$3 million for youth focused projects. The HHC team is still actively recruiting for the Youth Action Board and Client Advisory Board.

3. CoC Funded Agencies

CAP: Christine shared the program is full at 16. They will have 5 openings at the end of the month and a new program will be starting August 1st.

Chapel House: All shelters are currently full.

4. Agency Updates

DSS: Mary shared that all shelter beds are being used. They are currently serving 23 families, 16 of which are in hotels, and 92 individuals, 60 of which are in hotel rooms. CHESS was able to prevent 14 evictions. The increase in family homelessness is coming from the condemned apartments. Finding apartments is difficult because apartments are too expensive to afford without a subsidy.

Cayuga County Mental Health: The daytime mobile crisis is up and running. They are actively trying to raise awareness of the program and how to contact the program. If anyone is interested in having them present to agencies or business, please contact Liz.

CCHN: Shari shared Nicole Gee is very busy. Kyra has been interning and is now a part-time employee who will be going full-time in September. They are partnering with Auburn PHA for those who are in danger of being evicted. Nicole has been all over the county and is aware of the people living in tents. Officer Flickner is doing a foot patrol and is working alongside Nicole.

City of Auburn: Any agency that is getting CDBG funding will be having site visits. The funding cycle started July 1st. CAP does have rental deposits and rental assistance and CCOC has a small fund for that as well.

CC United Way: Kathryn Dennis shared that the nonprofit summit in June was a success, due to partnership with the library and Cayuga Medical. August 3rd is Day of Caring. They are still accepting projects. There are a lot of volunteerism opportunities. There are personal care drives across the county. All items provided are going to CAP and Christine will be distributing those items. The rolling mini grants are available for any non-profit organization for up to \$1,000. The application is their website and is very straightforward.

This Saturday, July 15th from 10 am to 1 pm will be the Cayuga Community Health Network's 2nd Annual Health Fair at Double Days. There will be over 21 tables and there will be a great kid's zone.

Seymour Library: Lisa Carr shared that the library received a grant to increase their book stock in Spanish and Ukrainian among others.

5. New Business/Community Updates

Renee shared that they are still waiting to hear from Housing Visions. CCHN will be meeting with them about the PSH units on the 19th. Emergency Housing is under site development and will be presenting to the City planning board. The community will be notified when that happens and there will be some push for public education and awareness.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.