**NYS BoS CoC**

New York State Balance of State Continuum of Care

## 58th New York State Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Meeting

March 7, 2024
9:30am-11:00am

## Steering Committee Attendees

Adam Anderson, Cattaraugus
Jodi Fuller, Cattaraugus
Nicole Zink (on behalf of Commissioner Erin Whitcomb), Cattaraugus
Liz Carpenter, Clinton
Gretchen Crowningshield (on behalf of Commissioner Christine Peters), Clinton
Crystal Narducci, Clinton
Commissioner Anne Solar, Fulton
Amanda Anderson, Fulton
Jenn Braun (on behalf of Randy Viele), Fulton
Shauna Cone (on behalf of Maureen Petrie), Herkimer
Kathleen Paton (on behalf of Mary Carpenter), Montgomery
Janine Robitaille, Montgomery
Ashley Brody, Putnam
Ann Ellsworth, Putnam
Commissioner Donna Becker, Schoharie
Christy Houck, Schoharie
Cheryl Plant (on behalf of Meg Parsons), Schoharie
Sarita Green, Sullivan
Colleen Haberzettl (on behalf of Commissioner John Liddle), Sullivan
Deb Worden, Sullivan

## Guests

Jennifer Schultz, Albany VA Medical Center
Kelley Gilligan, Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery Counties
Jennifer Heidemann, New York State Department of Health
Duane Miller, Helio Health
Mary Ann Oliver, HUD Buffalo
Stephen Munford, Schoharie County DSS
Giselle Steketee, Sullivan County DSS
Victor Preuninger, Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York

## Ex-Officio Members

Timothy Bethea, OTDA
Linda Camoin, OTDA
Arden Estep, OTDA
Jason Gallacchi, OTDA
Dana Greenberg, OTDA
Sarah Watson, OTDA

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Steering Committee Voting Actions**

*Previous Meeting Minutes*

The February 1st Steering Committee meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jodi Fuller and seconded by Adam Anderson. All attendees were in favor, none opposed.

*NYSHADE Participation*

The New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) administers a data warehouse, New York State Data Warehouse Environment (NYSHADE) which accepts information uploaded from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) from Continuums of Care across the state to analyze de-identified data at the state level. For the Balance of State (BoS) to participate, the BoS and OTDA must enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). OTDA will provide a demonstration and high-level overview of NYSHADE at an upcoming Steering Committee meeting. To participate in NYSHADE the BoS will need to propose a resolution authorizing the signing of a MOU.

**FY2023 CoC Notice Of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) Debriefing**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced funding awards in January. The NYS BoS CoC received funding for all renewal projects and two new projects. The Steering Committee reviewed the score and debriefing document provided by HUD. The majority of points were lost in the System Performance section. The Alliance DV bonus expansion project scored very well.

**CoC Monitoring and 2024 NOFO**

CoC monitoring will occur over the next several weeks. Additionally, the 2024 NOFO may be released earlier this year.

**Point-in-Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC)**

The 2024 PIT Count was held on the night of Tuesday, January 30, 2024. OTDA is analyzing and compiling data for PIT and HIC submissions, due to HUD in April. OTDA will conduct outreach to individual programs as needed. Once all data is compiled, OTDA will create a report that shows PIT Count data by county.

**Committee/Program Updates**

*Regional Racial Justice Advisory Committee (RRJAC)*

The RRJAC plans to administer the Diversity Assessment Tool in the spring and hopes to elicit a robust response to better understand the representation gaps in CoC leadership.

*Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)*

CARES is working on the System Performance Measures report that is due to HUD by March 13th.

### *Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)*

There is EHV programming funding still available. If providers have any unclaimed expenses, reach out to OTDA staff to collaborate with CARES on final claiming.

### *Stability Vouchers*

All stability vouchers in Putnam County are leased up. Putnam County also has one Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) voucher leased up.

### *New York State Bar Association Task Force*

The NYS Bar Association is developing a report that focuses on homelessness and how it interacts with legal services across the state. The Bar Association has met with CoC members to discuss CoC functionality and homelessness. The Task Force received a training on CoC basics and interactions with the legal system. The Task Force will be comprised of various subcommittees.

## Miscellaneous Opportunities and Updates

### *CoC Performance Profile Reports*

HUD released a new resource that compiles information from Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA), System Performance Measures (SPMs), PIT, HIC, and other data sources called Performance Profile Reports. These will be reviewed at next Data Committee meeting.

### *Homebase Partnership Action Lab (PAL)*

PAL hopes to provide a holistic case management approach to individuals who are affected by both homelessness and the criminal legal system. PAL invites leaders in the homeless system and public defender's offices to jointly apply. There is no cost to participate. PAL applications are due March 29th.

### *ConnectHomeUSA (CHUSA)*

CHUSA creates a platform for leaders, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private industry stakeholders to collaborate on solutions for narrowing the digital divide for HUD-assisted residents living in CHUSA-designated communities across the country. CHUSA promotes access to affordable in-home internet services, devices, and the training to use them. This is a three-year commitment to identify projects in development to increase access to digital skill and training. Applications are due April 12, 2024.

### *Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI)*

Conditional awards were announced for ESSHI including three BoS projects. In Cattaraugus County, Eagle Star Housing was awarded 45 ESSHI units (67 total units), which includes 20 Serious Mental Illness (SMI) units, 19 veteran units, and six frail elderly units. In Putnam County, Search for Change was awarded 36 ESSHI units (72 total units) including 14 SMI units, 11 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) units, six Domestic Violence (DV) units, three veteran units, and two frail elderly units. In Schoharie County, Rehabilitation Support Services (RSS) was awarded 20 ESSHI units (40 total units) including 10 chronically homeless units, six SMI units, and four DV units.

## Local Planning Body (LPB) Updates

### *Clinton*

Behavior Health Services North (BHSN) is planning to respond to a Request for Proposal (RFP) released by the Office of Mental Health (OMH) to expand their scattered-site supportive housing program. Development of BHSN's ESSHI project has been put on hold, but they plan to reapply next year.

### *Fulton*

Fulton County is working to improve warming center services during the daytime hours.

### *Putnam*

Search For Change is responding to the OMH RFP for additional scattered-site supportive housing beds as their current program is full and has a waitlist.

### *Schoharie*

A site has been identified for a housing project in Schoharie, with the support of local community leaders. FYI vouchers can now move forward and there is currently one prospective applicant.

### *Sullivan*

Sullivan is experiencing unprecedented homeless numbers with 270-300 homeless individuals in emergency housing, including 77 children. The Rental Supplement Program (RSP) is full and has a waitlist of 75 individuals. A new hotel with 28 beds will become available later in March, however another hotel utilized for emergency placements will be unavailable for approximately two months while they remodel. The Hudson Valley Veteran Coalition Task Force was recently formed to address the needs of homeless and at-risk veterans.

## Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

Cattaraugus – March 20
Clinton – March 21
Fulton – March 19
Herkimer – March 25
Montgomery – March 25
Putnam – March 27
Schoharie – March 11
Sullivan – March 26
Rank and Review Committee – March 22
Steering Committee – April 4

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.