

**Westchester County Continuum of Care Partnership for the Homeless
Monthly Meeting Minutes**

February 19, 2020

Attendees: Annette Peters-Ruvolo (Co-Chair), Karl Bertrand (Co-Chair), Melinda Bellus, Sylvia Bolivar, Phara Carolei, Dahlia Austin, Ruthanne Becker (phone), Jim Coughlin, Erika D'Aquino, Helen Frankel, Tajae Gaynor (phone), Brittany Hodgins (phone), Joe Kenner (phone), Patricia Mims, Allison McSpedon, Barbara Pose, Elissa Ramos, Walter Ritz, Yoav Spiegel, JoMarie Tarchoun, Tiece Thomas, Craig Wong, Cory Hutchinson, Jesse Johnson, Kathy Pendekakes (phone), Kristin Yamin (phone), Judy Mezey, Anthony Sabia

Topic #1:	Discussion:
Announcements/Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anahaita Kotval and Jim Coughlin motioned for approval of January meeting minutes. Meeting minutes for January approve by all. • New Z Cards are available for those who need. Dahlia Austin suggested addition of substance abuse information to be added along with Alcoholics Anonymous • Jim Coughlin informed Broadway Manor needs to be added as a Drop-In for next year edit • This will be Michele Landry's last CoC Board meeting as she concludes her Internship with the CoC • Mount Vernon new women's shelter, Annex opens as an extension of New Rochelle's Oasis, which is now all men. The Mount Vernon shelter will be named Oasis Annex located at 22 East Post Road. During the day residents can stay at Oasis then they are transferred to the Mount Vernon site. Walk-Ins welcome. There is shelter holds 40 beds.

Topic #2:	Discussion:
PIT Count 2020 Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year's PIT Count included a total of 47 volunteers making up 18 teams that went out to count individuals currently experiencing street homelessness. • There was a debrief PIT Count meeting with the team leaders who provided suggestions on improvements to next year's PIT Count. The team agreed that teams should be sent out at a later time encounter more people. • In total 67 individual were found to be homeless. Half were by observation only. • The information received by the teams that night (names/descriptions) were given to the Street Outreach Workgroup by area. • Judy Mezey commented on how helpful the White Plains Police Department was during the PIT Count. Also, the White Plains team leader was very skilled in knowing how to approach individuals who may be homeless. • Craig Wong was on the Mount Vernon team and agreed that having buy in from the Police Department was very helpful with finding areas to look for people who are homeless. The councilwoman on the Mount Vernon team was able to collaborate with the Police Department. • Yoav Speilgel, DCMH Program Specialist shared the data found. Most of the homeless individuals found on the night of the PIT Count were sheltered. All shelter staff needs to quickly respond to any data correction requests. Five sites have not submitted as of yet.

Topic #3:	Discussion:
Communities of Practice (CoP) Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiece Thomas shared introduction to consumer advisory committee with Karl Bertrand and Craig Wong as co facilitators. This committee will consist of small committees formed at the shelters site then interested individuals could join an advisory committee that meets at a public library or other community space to bring back ideas and suggestions to Tiece.
Topic #4:	Discussion:
Rank and Review Workgroup Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rank and Review Workgroup met three times since the last Board Meeting. Annette revised the rank and review process and changes were made. Craig Wong motioned to accept the changes made and update if needed, Jim Coughlin seconded, all were in favor, zero opposed.
Topic #5:	Discussion:
2020 Spring Symposium Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annette sent out the 2020 Spring Symposium planning survey. The survey will help to inform the CoC of what topics people are interested in learning about this year. Survey will close on February 21st.

Topic #6:	Discussion:
Subcommittees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthony Sabia is forming the Homelessness Prevention Network. Annette will connect Anthony to Tiece to assist with coordinating meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted:

Date:

Next Meeting:

Date: March 18, 2020

Time: 9:30am to 11:00am

Location: DCMH, 112 East Post Rd, Room 217