

Mohawk Valley Housing and Homeless Coalition

Utica/Rome/Oneida and Madison Counties HUD Continuum of Care (NY-518)

Collaborative Applicant: United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica, 201 Lafayette St., Utica, NY 13502

www.mvhomeless.org

NY-518 CoC Second Quarter 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday April 20, 2017: 1:15 pm- 3:15 pm

Location: RCIL: Dorothy Smith Center, Genesee St, Utica, NY

CoC Chair, Steve Darman, opened the meeting at 1:15.

Agenda Items Reviewed and Discussed at this meeting include:

CoC Chair covered the new project development that is occurring within the CoC region. Utica Rescue Mission has broken ground for a 42-unit project, which will begin accepting applications in November of 2017, and expects a certificate of occupancy in March of 2018. Utica Municipal Housing has been fully funded for the 50-unit Roosevelt project. DePaul Properties is working on two 60-unit supportive and affordable housing projects that have been partially funded by NY State, one in Utica and one in Rome. The Vecino Group is developing 49 new units of supportive (12) and affordable (37) housing units in central Utica in the old Jeffries Hardware building (now under construction). The CNY Veterans Outreach Center will be sending their 18-unit project out for construction bids, and will commence work once that process is complete. Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency has opened their youth RHY shelter in Rome, it is called the Journey Home, and will have an open house on April 28th.

Oneida County Mental Health noted that they are seeing a lot of prison releases to the community with no housing plan at all; there is a need for additional housing for this population, as many are being sent directly to shelters, and they also need follow-on case management services.

Associate Planner, Scott McCumber, distributed the 2017 Point in Time (PIT) final numbers, including a comparison to the 3 previous PIT counts. Noted were that the number of households continues to decrease, but household sizes offset the total number of people, making this year's count higher than the last 2 years. Other highlights included a slight drop (1) in unsheltered persons and an increase in people with mental health and substance abuse issues as well as people who are victims of domestic violence. YWCA Executive Director, Diane Stancato, said that the DV shelters have been full nearly every day in 2017 and are placing people in motels on occasion. The Board discussed the need for more DV shelter beds and youth TH beds.

CoC Chair announced that NYS had passed the state budget and there is 1 billion for supportive and affordable housing projects throughout NYS in this year's budget. Also noted was that HUD has issued the CoC registration along with the Grants Inventory Worksheet (GIW) review, which grantees are asked to review and return ASAP. The NOFA is expected to be issued shortly after Congress passes a continuing resolution or a budget to cover FY 2017 {NOTE: the FY 2017 budget was passed by Congress and signed by the President}. City of Utica Section 8 Program noted that they are awaiting a budget to actively forecast activity; wait list is at approximately 2,000 right now.

CoC Chair gave an overview of the City of Utica ESG applications for emergency shelter and rapid re-housing (RRH) projects. Matt Buono from CNY Services announced that the upcoming RRH project funded through reallocation during the FY 2016 HUD Continuum of Care application will be staffed at 1411 Genesee Street in Utica, providing housing search and placement, case management and security deposit and rental assistance

for the first 3 months in an approved housing unit, and will be pulling from the Coordinated Entry list. There is no requirement that a person or family have a disability but must be Category 1 homeless to receive assistance. There will also be staff at CNY Services that will be trained to administer the VI-SPDAT for Coordinated Entry.

CoC Chair gave an updated overview of the Coordinated Entry system and updates on the CoC's progress. June 1, 2017 is the anticipated launch date to begin using coordinated entry. HMIS Administrator, Linda Wilkinson, noted that HMIS is ready for the launch and is expecting bugs to pop up once its "live", but they will be worked out as it progresses. The new APR tool Sage was launched on April 1, 2017, and is the only way to upload an APR now. It is a direct upload with HMIS data imported.

Associate Planner McCumber notified the board that all CoC-funded agencies had individual on-site performance technical assistance visits based on their system performance during the last fiscal year. The planning office will be creating project-level performance charts that will be uploaded and maintained on the CoC website, www.mvhomeless.org.

CoC Chair final updates included an announcement that "Grady's Way", a proposed youth shelter/TH project, did not receive funding through HHAP, but the project will be submitted again in the next funding round. Also mentioned was progress with Lead Free Mohawk Valley, led by the Community Foundation, working to pass a lead ordinance in Utica.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15

Submitted on 5/4/2011 by Scott McCumber, Associate Planner, NY-518

The next quarterly CoC Board Meeting will be held on July 20th, 2017 at 1:15 PM.