

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
PARTNERSHIP FOR THE HOMELESS
ANNUAL MEETING 2013
MARCH 5, 2013**

COMMITTEES

- I. **Shelter and Service Provider Committee** — Paul Anderson-Winchell, *Grace Church Community Center*,
Chair

Membership: Open to any person or organization interested in improving conditions for homeless people in Westchester County.

Role and Responsibilities: Identifies programmatic and policy changes needed, provides an on-going forum for consumer and community input, explores potential strategic opportunities and emerging concerns, identifies needs for HUD-funded technical assistance or other training, and provides community education on issues affecting housing retention, rapid re-housing, and other issues related to homelessness.

Meeting Frequency: At least quarterly.

- II. **Westchester Homelessness Prevention Network** — Lisa Buck, *The Bridge Fund* and Jeanne Blum,
Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Co-chairs

Mission/Membership: WHPN members consist of service providers and advocates who work to ensure that every Westchester resident has access to efficient eviction prevention services including emergency payments of rental arrears, legal services, tenant advocacy, budget counseling and outreach.

Goals/Roles and Responsibilities: Our goal is to prevent the evictions of eligible families and individuals and thus reduce the number of homeless in Westchester. We work as partners, collaborators and advocates with a collective voice to further enhance the economic and housing stability of the working poor residents of our county. Our goals for 2013 are to continue to improve the homelessness prevention delivery system throughout the county; to explore ways to connect programs that complement each other in the name of client economic independence; be prepared to meet any homeless crisis that might arise at any given time and to partner with the CoC on their 2013 agenda.

Meeting Frequency: At least quarterly.

- III. **Data & Systems Committee** — Philippa Seltzer, *WC Department of Social Services* and John DiPirro, *WC Department of Information Technology*, Co-chairs

Membership: Open to any person or organization with experience and a direct interest in CoC data management and collection.

Role:

- Provides input on an ongoing basis and guides the planning and implementation of data collection and management systems for the CoC.
- Provides policy, technical, and organizational assistance to the HMIS Administrator and oversees implementation and ongoing operations by addressing key issues.

Responsibilities:

- Conducts data collection, surveys, and needs assessments
- Develops, implements and monitors HMIS Governance procedures
- Participates in the Point-In-Time Count, Housing Inventory Chart, and other activities to identify needed new services or the expansion of existing services and implements the HMIS Project.

The Committee reports to the CoC Board and may propose policies and other actions for consideration by it.

Meeting Frequency: At least quarterly.

IV. Self-Sufficiency Committee – James Rather, *Greyston*, Chair

Membership: The Self-Sufficiency Committee will include representatives from supportive housing providers, workforce development agencies, public agencies, and will be open to all active Westchester CoC members.

Role and Responsibilities: The Self-Sufficiency Committee's responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to: collaboration to devise strategies designed to increase the use of workforce development & training programs by formerly homeless individuals in Westchester County; sharing of opportunities for workforce development training of formerly homeless persons; research into underutilized and new workforce development funding programs; and sharing of data regarding barriers to success and potential solutions to these barriers for workforce development initiatives conducted by Committee members.

Meeting Frequency: At least quarterly.

V. Homeless Veterans Committee – Howard Charton, *Common Ground*, Chair

Membership: Open to any person or organization interested in the coordination of Veterans services in Westchester County.

Role and Responsibilities: For the service programs within Westchester County that work with Veterans to network and coordinate services. The focus of our efforts has been and will continue to be increasing the knowledge of services available to Veterans in our community. This year, we will focus our efforts on creating a mechanism for outreach throughout the county. The services that we will focus on will be: transitional and permanent housing, coordination with programs that provide mental health, substance abuse and medical services.

Meeting Frequency: At least quarterly.

VI. Recovery Housing Network – Dahlia Austin, *WC Department of Community Mental Health* and Karl Bertrand, *Program Design and Development*, Co-chairs

Mission/Membership: RHN is a group of local providers and advocates working to engage and house chemically dependent homeless adults and families in early stages of recovery, including the chronically homeless. The group provides a forum to share ideas and resources, and helps forge a coherent county-wide continuum of housing programs that effectively serve this high-need population.

Goals/Roles and Responsibilities: Our goals are to (1) Increase the number and types of housing options available to individuals and families affected by chemical dependency; (2) Enhance the identification and referral process to better 'match' individuals and families to appropriate housing; (3) Identify best practices to support and maintain affected individuals and families in stable housing. Our goals for 2013 are to (1) Increase the number of available housing units for this population by 20; (2) Propose a housing crisis case management model for high need adults; (3) Assist in the redesign of client identification and referral to available housing.

Meeting Frequency: Monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 112 East Post Road, White Plains.

VII. Ad-hoc Governance Committee – Annette Peters-Ruvolo, *WC Department of Community Mental Health*, Chair

Membership: Open to any person or organization interested in the development of CoC Governance.

Role and Responsibilities: To review and revise, as needed, the CoC Guiding Principles which were accepted by the Board in January 2013.

Meeting Frequency: It is the interest of the CoC to begin these meetings again starting in April-May; once monthly for a specified number of months. Dates TBD.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the CoC or one of its committees, please contact either:

Karl Bertrand at KBertrand@programdesign.com or (914) 592-1272

Annette Peters-Ruvolo at apr5@westchestergov.com or (914) 995-5278