



# Finger Lakes Housing Consortium

## MEETING MINUTES

June 16, 2023, at 9:30am via Zoom

**Attended By:** Jennifer Carlson, Jessica Chase, Connie Sanderson, Paul Towsley, James Breslin, Mike Alessio, Lisa Graf, Candice Leit, Ben Levine, Maria Bizardi, Lindsay Robbins, Donna Johnson, Sarah Simson, Wanda Felix, Darlene Berry, Elaine Lewis, Amy Pauley, Brandi Wahl, Kristine Josyln, Andrew Bradley, Ken DeLand, Sean Tulumello, Shelly Wilcox, Natalia Lopuchowycz, Christine Gedney, Samantha Warren, Cynthis, David Prete, Samantha Lotz, Ilian Gala

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. April Minutes– Motion to approve by Donna Johnson, seconded by Kristine Josyln. All in favor, No opposed
  - b. Welcome new members!
2. Review of Coordinated Entry Data (January 1, 2023 – May 31, 2023)
3. HMIS Discussion
  - a. Samantha Lotz (Seneca DHS) – Discussed several walk ins/phone calls with individuals presenting as homeless and looking for hotel placement. Seneca DHS is having to turn these individuals away due to lack of emergency housing available. It is suspected that these individuals are floating between the counties (Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates) and/or “couch surfing” These individuals are likely not being counted in HMIS. Is there an option to capture this data in another way? Follow up meeting to be scheduled.
4. 2023 Summer Point-In-Time – Scheduled July 26, 2023 – Volunteers Needed – Spread the word!
5. County Housing Consortium Updates
  - a. Wayne County – Meeting was held May 22 @ 1:00pm via Zoom
    - Wayne County Housing Study – plans for report to be presented at next meeting.
    - Next meeting August 28 @ 1:00pm
  - b. Ontario County – Meeting was held May 26. –
    - Ontario County DSS - Rental supplement program for those that qualify. Ontario County has plans to apply to extend the program.
    - Ontario County Housing Study Continues
      - Meeting was held May 9<sup>th</sup> to report market findings and survey results. To review results visit <https://ontariocountyny.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=672>
    - Ontario County Summer PIT Coordinator will be Jessica Belle. For more information on how to volunteer in Ontario County please reach out to Jessica at [jbelle@eaglestarhousing.com](mailto:jbelle@eaglestarhousing.com)
    - Next meeting July 28 @ 10:00am via Zoom
  - c. Yates County – Meeting was held June 2 @ 10:00am
    - Plans for community education on homelessness

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- Plans to engage landlords and property managers to attend consortium meetings
  - Next meeting June 2 @ 10:00am
- d. Seneca County – No Updates
6. Strategic Planning for Consortium
- a. FLHC Board voted to move forward with plans for strategic planning.
  - b. FLACRA hopeful to secure a strategic planning facilitator. Currently in conversations with Linchpin Strategy, David Robertson.
7. Housing Grant Updates
- a. Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) – No updates
  - b. Landlord Rental Assistance Program (LRAP) – No updates
  - c. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) CV – Funding must be exhausted by September 30, 2023
  - d. HHAP Funding – More information can be found at <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/housing/hhap.asp>
  - e. ESSHI – Awaiting information for the release of the next round.
  - f. HCR – Discussion about recent HCR awards and possible shift that has occurred in priorities
8. Board Updates – No additional updates
9. Provider Updates
- a. Finger Lakes Community Action –
    - Plans to pursue HHAP funding for improvements/upgrades to transitional house.
    - OASAS – Older Adults Safe and Sound – Safety modifications for homes. Wayne, Ontario, and Cayuga – For more information please reach out to [wanda.felix@waynecap.org](mailto:wanda.felix@waynecap.org)
  - b. Keuka Housing Council –
    - Partnership with Safe Harbors – there is now a unit set aside for survivors of domestic violence. For more information, please reach out to Keuka Housing Council or Safe Harbors.
    - Plans to apply for CBDG funds to assist individuals.
  - c. Soldier On –
    - Accepting referrals for homeless or at-risk of homelessness Veterans
    - Veteran eligibility has recently expanded.
    - Permanent housing currently in Cicero and soon to be in Buffalo
  - d. Yates County DSS
    - Expansion of the rental supplement program to assist with back rent and security deposits.

**Next Meeting: August 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am via ZOOM**

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