

**CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**April 14, 2017**  
**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM, UNITED WAY OF LONG ISLAND, DEER PARK, NY**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Nancy D. Co-Chair  
Arthur B.  
Clara C.  
Marci E.  
James H.  
Kevin M.  
Joseph P.  
Angie P.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Lance M. Co-Chair  
Keith A  
Traci S.  
Ed M.  
Glenn L.  
Juanita C-F  
Clement W.  
Margret H.  
James C.  
Wendy A.

**GUESTS**

Ernest B.  
Richard G.  
William D.  
Robert S.  
Jennifer G.  
Doug R.

**STAFF:**

Georgette Beal  
JoAnn Henn  
Stephanie Moreau

**I. Welcome/Introductions**

Nancy D. called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. She welcomed everyone and introductions were made. There was a moment of silence to remember those living and those whom we have lost.

**II. United Veterans Beacon House Presentation-** A presentation was given by Ms. Jennifer Gielarowski and Mr. Doug Ruiz on the Long Island housing opportunities available through the various United Veterans Beacon House programs. UVBH, which has a 22 year history, is the leading service provider for homeless veterans and their families on Long Island. It manages and supports 34 housing locations throughout Long Island, providing a safe haven to more than 350 men, women, and children, the majority of which is emergency and transitional. Transitional housing is for a two year period. Housing placement goes through Central Access at LIHC.

Some of these programs are:

- **MISSION UNITED-** is a critical program supporting United States military veterans and their families as they re-acclimate to civilian life, focusing on employment services, care coordination, emergency aid, education and connection to available local resources. Mission United also works directly with the Veteran's Administration (VA). The need for these resources is particularly significant on Long Island, where more than 135,000 veterans live.

- Housing is not only for veterans. HOPWA housing (Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV/AIDS) provides permanent affordable housing for single men and women diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, with 3 locations in Suffolk County. Supportive services are available to all residents, rent is 30% of resident's income and all locations are newly renovated to meet EPA
- VetsBuild, a free green jobs training program, thrift shop, food pantry, and medical locker.
- Beacon House also has a Home Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) helping veterans get employed by providing job search and placement assistance, resume preparation, clothing for interviews and referrals to funding sources for education.

Available services are not limited to housing: Beacon House gives clients the opportunity to develop the necessary coping skills for a successful return to independent living. These services include: intensive case management job readiness, assistance with receiving entitlements.

Further printed immaterial and contact was provided. The committee members thanked the presenters for their presentation.

### **III. Approval of March 3, 2017 Minutes-**

The only correction was that Ms. Moreau was not in attendance at this meeting. Kevin M. made a motion to accept the corrected minutes which was seconded by Marci E.

### **IV. Cab Updates/Regional Trends-**

- Northwell Cart is having a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 8am-3pm at 852 Conklin Street in Farmingdale.
- Thursday's Child has plans to create a CAB. One of the topics being considered is long term survivors (those living with the disease for 10+ years).

### **V. 2017 World AIDS Day planning.**

World AIDS Day is Friday, December 1, 2017, which is the actual date of our event.

The WAD budget was discussed. Although there is enough money to cover the cost of the event, it is important not get complacent and realizing the importance of seeking donors, increasing the number of sponsorships and thinking of ways to boost raffle and basket sales, so that the money in the account does not need to be touched, or at least not a significant amount

Ms. Beal noted that is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of United Way having the Ryan White grant and should be mentioned in the program.

There was some discussion as to whether it is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the observance of World AIDS Day. After some googling and debate it was learned that it was 30 years since the conception and idea, but World AIDS Day did not become a reality until the following year. (Which could be our theme and focus for WAD 2018).

Carlyle on the Green has been the venue for the past two years. Did the committee want to see if the date was available or look into other locations? The location is gaining in popularity, capacity is filled quickly, and it is affordable. However, transportation continues to be an issue.

It was suggested that Carlyle on the Green be contacted to see if that date is available and to contact the Melville Marriot to compare prices and services. Ms. Henn will contact both and report at the next WAD meeting.

Marci E. offered to get poinsettias as table centerpieces.

United Way's marketing department will help with program, banners, and other printed material.

There will be a World AIDS Day planning meeting on Thursday, May 18, 12pm-2pm. World AIDS Day meetings will follow CIC meetings and other meetings scheduled as needed. Topics to be discussed at the May WAD meeting are: venue, theme, printed material, provider and consumer awards, including a discussion of what worked well and what needs to be improved.

**VII. Other Business**

There was no other business

**VII. Announcements/Adjournments**

Long Island Pride is the weekend of June 9-11 at Long Beach, New York

A motion was made by Angie P. and seconded by Clara C. to adjourn April 14, 2017 Consumer Involvement Committee meeting. **All in Favor-Motion carried**