Subject: PSAP Pulse

Attachments: Office of Rental Administration (two eviction fact sheets)

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| **Hello from the GTAC:** |
| Happy Spring! Please read below for more information about the upcoming PSAP events and other items of interest. If you have any questions or something to include in next month’s newsletter, please email [gmorton@nyam.org](mailto:gmorton@nyam.org). |
| **Staff Highlight:** |
| Each month we highlight one of the amazing staff members from this project. This month we have the pleasure of highlighting Caitlin Downing! Learn more about Caitlin below!  A person wearing glasses smiling  Description automatically generatedCaitlin Downing is the social worker for STRIVE – a PSAP grantee partnership between Service Program for Older People, Metropolitan Center for Mental Health, and NYC Aging. She has spent her career working to support people across the lifespan access concrete services and supports. Since joining STRIVE in January 2023, Caitlin has enjoyed being part of a team of amazing colleagues committed to supporting and empowering older adults. Caitlin received her MSW from the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College and completed a year-long field of practice specialization in child trauma from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. She has a particular interest in housing justice and advocating for housing as a human right. |
| **GTAC Announcements:** |
| **Affinity Groups**  It is time again for the quarterly affinity groups for Program Directors, Program Managers, and Peers. Please let Musa know at [mhussain@nyam.org](mailto:mhussain@nyam.org) if you do not have a meeting on your calendar at the following dates:  Directors: Wednesday, April 24th, at 11am  Managers: Monday, April 29th at 11am  Peers: Tuesday, May 7th at 3pm |
| **Learning Collaborative Survey**  Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the feedback survey from the learning collaborative. We will be incorporating your suggestions in our future in-person events! |
| **Important Dates:** |
| **May is Older Americans Month!** OAM 2024 Materials Available  Every May, ACL leads the nation’s observance of Older Americans Month (OAM). This year's theme is Powered by Connection, which recognizes the profound impact that meaningful relationships and social connections have on our health and well-being. Join us in exploring the vital role that connectedness plays in supporting independence and aging in place.  Check out [ACL’s website on OAM](https://acl.gov/oam/2024/older-americans-month-2024) for more information and resources to get connected. |
| **May is Mental Health Awareness Month!**  *Check out these opportunities to get involved through both the National Institute of Mental Health and the Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration:*   1. During National Mental Health Awareness Month, be a part of the conversation about mental illness and raise awareness about the National Institute of Mental Health’s (NIMH) resources related to mental health.   **Campaign date**: May 1-31, 2024  **Hashtags**: #MentalHealthAwarenessMonth, #MentalHealthMonth, #shareNIMH  **Digital shareables:** [nimh.nih.gov/shareNIMH](https://www.nimh.nih.gov/get-involved/digital-shareables)   1. 2024 Mental Health Awareness Month Toolkit: Check out what SAMHSA is doing and share our materials and remember that we all play active roles in caring for our mental health!   [Find the toolkit here!](https://www.samhsa.gov/mental-health-awareness-month/toolkit) |
| **Upcoming Events:** |
| **7th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium (OAMHAD2024)**  Online May 2, 2024  The National Council on Aging is proud to host the 7th annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium. This event is co-sponsored with the U.S. Administration for Community Living, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Registration is free and includes a full day of sessions on how to best meet the mental health needs of older adults. In partnership with Rush University’s E4 Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging, NCOA anticipates offering free continuing education credit for several professions.  Please visit the [Continuing Education](https://connect.ncoa.org/oamhad2024-continuing-education) page for more information.  Be sure to join us starting at 10:00 am EST for the welcome and keynote speaker, Jenifer Lewis.  [Register and explore the agenda and resources here.](https://connect.ncoa.org/OAMHAD2024) |
| **National Council on Aging Conference: Age + Action 2024**  May 6-8, 2024 in Arlington, VA  Discover innovative programs. Network with colleagues. Get inspired and rejuvenated. Join us in person or online—or both—for this one-of-a-kind opportunity for aging services professionals.  Topic categories include:   1. Business Acumen 2. Diverse Populations 3. Economic Security 4. Healthy Living 5. Public Policy, Advocacy & Research 6. Senior Centers   [Register here](https://na.eventscloud.com/website/60720/home/) |
| **Additional Resources** |
| **A Blueprint to Transform Mental Health and Substance Use Services in New York State**  From New York Health Foundation  On March 14, 2024, NYHealth hosted a webinar with representatives of InUnity Alliance, who discussed their efforts to transform mental health and substance use services in New York State.  Sustained and effective solutions to New York’s mental health and substance use disorder crisis require an investment in integrated systems of care. Access to all available services, regardless of when a patient enters the health system, allows for optimized patient care, coordinated action, joint advocacy, and collaborative learning.  Recently, the Coalition for Behavioral Health (The Coalition) and Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers (ASAP) joined efforts to create InUnity Alliance. The merge combines two leading membership associations for mental health and substance use service providers and collectively represents more than 250 provider agencies and 800,000 New Yorkers. InUnity Alliance is well positioned to address the critical challenges and urgent needs of the addiction and mental health sectors in New York State, including the workforce crisis, inadequate funding and reimbursement rates, gaps in services, and the needs of underserved populations.  Panelists were:   * **Jihoon Kim**, Chief Executive Officer, InUnity Alliance * **John Coppola**, Chief Operating Officer for Policy and Advocacy, InUnity Alliance * **Amy Dorin**, Chief Operating Officer for Administration, InUnity Alliance   [Watch the webinar recording here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grBSkP9TZc0). |
| **New York State Eviction Resources**  Multiple programs have identified eviction as an ongoing issue being faced by their clients. One resource GTAC wants to highlight is the following site from New York State:  The New York State Division for Homes and Community Renewal maintains a website housing multiple factsheets (attached) with resources related to eviction.  One important available resource for NYC-based programs:  **The Office of Civil Justice at the NYC Human Resources Administration funds free Anti-Eviction Legal Services in the housing courts and community offices across New York City for low-income tenants facing eviction. For information, email**[**civiljustice@hra.nyc.gov**](mailto:civiljustice@hra.nyc.gov)**or call 311.**  Review [the division’s website here](https://hcr.ny.gov/eviction#:~:text=The%20Office%20of%20Civil%20Justice,nyc.gov%20or%20call%20311.) along with [this supplementary page](https://hcr.ny.gov/housing-resources-and-referrals) identifying several resources for tenants and owners external of the Division of Housing and Community Renewal. |
| Thanks, and have a great week! |