Educate

Eight members of the Advocacy Team attended *An Introduction to Trauma Informed Care Training* on Nov. 6th, provided by Andy Carey, MSW, and Jeanette Gartland Creighton, LMSW, CASAC.

The information provided at the training will shape how we interact with people with lived experiences of homelessness who may also be interested in becoming advocates for change.

We hope that REACH's long-time partner agencies will help us recruit interested graduates and provide a warm introduction for those individuals to take a 2-hour self-empowerment training, tentatively scheduled for January or February 2025. This is the first of several steps toward providing this opportunity for REACH and other shelter program graduates from around the city.

Some additional self-study opportunities at the University of Buffalo’s Social Work Department in the Trauma Informed Care Training Institute may be available to our Team. **Email us** to request more information about the training or the Advocacy Team.

Organize

It's staggering to hear that the number of unhoused individuals in Rochester rose by 32% from 2023 to 2024. Over the summer, some individuals from various

organizations came together to raise public awareness about this concerning increase. This group, now known as **Solving Homelessness As a Community** (SHAC), has since hosted three public forums. These events have highlighted critical topics, including the severe impact of the housing crisis on families, the substantial costs it imposes on government and businesses, and the essential principle that housing is a human right.

Agitate

The Advocacy Team has recently pledged to support SHAC's efforts. This includes helping to secure resources, speakers, and venues for future presentations; meeting with local and state legislators to further these discussions; organizing community actions inspired by SHAC's calls to action; and engaging faith groups interested in partnering with SHAC.

If you'd like to join this campaign of support, please **reach out to Peter or Scott**.

Newsletter Image Sources:

https://www.socialworkdegreecenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/trauma.jpg

Photo by Duncan Harris

https://mcnygenealogy.com/maps/