

Laura Shriver-Brown, Resource Wellness Group - Buffalo

One of our tenants has severe mental illness and so do several of our Medicare and Medicaid clients. We are wondering what is being done about supporting more programs like SPOA so our tenant and clients aren't forced to live on the streets because it's not healthy for the community (or them) to be living independently without more in depth support (with taking medications specifically). Crisis services only hospitalizes under very strict guidelines and the police can only help when laws are being broken. It becomes a constant cyclical battle for these folks who get off of their medications and then become a danger to themselves and others. SPOA needs more funding and space, so these people are supported, and their landlords/community members don't get burnt out trying to help them, to no avail.