

## **SOR RFA Pre-Application Conference Welcome Remarks - Meg Snead**

- Good afternoon, I am Meg Snead, Deputy Secretary for Governor Wolf's Office of Policy and Planning.
- We would like to welcome you to the Pre-Application Conference for the 2018 Support Services Navigation and Housing Services for Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder RFA.
- On behalf of Governor Wolf and the Wolf Administration, thank you for being here today and for your interest in helping us fight the opioid crisis, and provide better support to those affected.
- As you know, Governor Tom Wolf recently announced the plans for implementation of the \$55.9 million federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant secured for the state's response to the opioid epidemic. Planned initiatives focus on prevention, treatment, housing, law enforcement, recovery, education, and training.
- The \$15 million dedicated to the housing initiative will support people through treatment and provide stability as they transition into life in recovery.
- Treating a substance use disorder requires a comprehensive approach that considers all barriers to recovery.
- A person's individual circumstances are unique, but social and environmental factors like the conditions in which a person lives greatly influence their health, and are often barriers to recovery.
- A safe, comfortable place to call home is one of our most basic needs.

- When a person experiences homelessness, unsafe, or unstable housing in addition to a substance use disorder, returning from treatment to the same stressors may not provide the ideal conditions to support recovery and overall stability.
- This is why the Wolf Administration is committed to helping people who are working towards recovery, find and maintain a place to live and receive access to vital supportive services.
- Thank you all for your interest in this RFA. I look forward to seeing the good work that will come as a result of the projects that your organizations will submit for consideration.
- Let us join our efforts to save the lives of so many Pennsylvanians affected by the opioid crisis.
- Now, I would like to introduce Mr. William Spiker, RFA Project Officer, who will deliver today's presentation and webinar.
- Thank you.