

Financial Stability Coalition Meeting

MINUTES

Friday – April 8, 2016

GOAL: To increase the number of lower-income families who are financially stable

Financially Unstable- Spending more than 30% of your income on housing

Low-income – below 200% of the Federal Poverty level.

Case Management - The client-focused process of counseling, advising, advocating and/or assisting clients by linking them to necessary resources.

Objective: To expand budgeting and saving through education, counseling, financial resources and skill building.

Sean Armstrong- Old National Bank		*Julie Laughlin, Community Action Agency	
Vanessa Armstrong- Lenawee Great Start Collaborative		*Lisa Maskill, Legal Services of SCM	
*Diane Bach, Community Action Agency		*Beth Mehan-Wood, Dept. on Aging	
*Amy Clough Baker. Habitat for Humanity		*Camarrah Morgan, Child Care Network	
*Nancy Bishop, DHS		Heather Perez, Communities In Schools of the Tecumseh Area	
Jackie Bradley, Legal Services of SCM	X	*Lynne Punnett, Habitat for Humanity	X
*Dave Brevoort, Goodwill	X	*Laurie Rivetto, MSU Extension	
*Terry Clark-Jones, MSU Extension	X	*Nathan Salazar, Goodwill	
*Delight Creech, Associated Charities		Jeff Seitz, Monroe Bank & Trust	
*Lisa Eack, Lenawee Great Start Collaborative	X	Laura Teronnes, CAA	
*Burt Fenby, Community Action Agency		Cassandra Turner, Head Start	
*Stephanie Fields, First Federal	X	Copi Valdiviez, Lenawee United Way	
*Mindy Goll, Housing Help of Lenawee		Nick Vanover, KeyBank	
*John Haight, Goodwill			
Derek Henning, TLCCU			
*Khris Henson-Jones, Housing Help of Lenawee			

Terry Clark-Jones opened the meeting with introductions. Special thanks to Stephanie Fields for volunteering to take notes for this meeting.

1.) Updates:

LUW: No update

Mini IDA update-The committee has not met in the last month. They will convene again when they have sufficient amount of applications. Short discussion on housing need requests- Lynn shared that requests related to this area are redirected to other resources that are better equipped to assist but these type of funds are getting more difficult to find. Example is Housing Help of Lenawee is the lead county housing assistance agency. They have experience major cuts on funding. It was also shared that some people are reluctant to apply for the mini grants because it seems “too good to be true” to them. All will continue to encourage candidates to apply.

Financial Institutions Presentations- No presentations were completed this past month. Terry has not completed a good contact list of financial lenders. She will have this completed by the May meeting. All present agreed that we need some action and partnering goals when presenting to lenders.

Social marketing events and ideas updates:

- Great Start [blog](http://lenaweegreatstart.org/blog) (<http://lenaweegreatstart.org/blog>) Diane completed a write on the VITA program and submitted. Habitat will write up a piece on Habitat volunteerism for their programs.
- Money Smart Week is April 23-30, 2016. To learn more go to: <http://www.moneysmartweek.org/>.
 - Continued discussion/idea to possible offer family fun type of event around financial management education community wide as a LFSC event for 2017. Possibly submit a Hometown Hope Grant with WLEN as seed money to advertise. Terry shared a few materials that are used with the Geocache event held at University and Colleges during MSW. Should a committee be formed? Will continue discussion in May.
- Lenawee Community Housing Committee (Landlord Breakfast) – Next meeting will be April 29th 8:15 am at Country Kitchen.

2.) Core and Community Collaborative meetings- No report on the April core meeting. **Michelle Hutchison will be giving a presentation at our May meeting on this topic.** Diane will represent the LFSC at the next Core meeting in May. She will be presenting on the work the coalition has done to date as well as the data we have collected.

3.) Data Collection Reports-Our goal is to have a three years of data. So we ask that all agencies in the Coalition [continue to gather data for 2016](#). We will be asking for this data again at the end of 2016 instead of quarterly. We also feel it would be helpful to look at agencies' Annual/UW reports.

4.) Emerging Issues/Updates –

- Attendance of our meeting is dwindling. The group reviewed the currently listing of members. The group decided to do some follow up calling:
 - Terry will follow up with Camarrah, Trevor, Linda, and Khris
 - Lynn will follow up with Key Bank
 - Terry and Diane will follow up with rest of the bank representatives
- A Getting Ahead teen class has begun at Adrian HS and Prep academy with nine students.
- Rose grant opportunity-Timing was the greatest issue with an in-depth letter of intent due on 4-8-16. This is a good example of a potential partnership with lenders. Lynn is looking into the grant proposal more too possibly plan for future RFP opportunities.
- Habitat reported Frank St. will be their summer focus. With the new Dodd Frank act continually being implemented, the new regulations are effecting how Habitat assist with home repair loans. Basically they are required to have a compliance officer. Currently working on trying to figure out what will be the best way to provide these loans within new guidelines.
- MSUE is currently providing a financial management series for Housing Help of Lenawee. They also have a new Renters Education program. Lynne ask to receive a copy to share with Community Landlord Group.
- Eviction- Avoidance program is available through Legal Services. Send them as early in the process as possible. Past cases indicate more success in avoiding evictions. This continues to be an issue and would like our help to get the word out of this assistance.
- Create a quick reference guide for financial institutions to know who to contact when working with clients.

Next meeting will be Friday, May13, 2016 - 9:00 to 10:30 am at Lenawee United Way.

Respectfully, Stephanie Fields and Terry Jones