

**Financial Stability Coalition Meeting**  
**April 14, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Terry Clark-Jones, Burt Fenby, Laura VanSickle, Beth Woods, David Verboort, Jackie Bradley, Laura Negron-Terrones, Julie Laughlin, Tami Farum, Stephanie Dinius, Nancy Bishop, Shannon Lucas, Jenna Furman, Misty Shulters, Lillian Warren, Sunshine Plato, CAA Americorp Worker Janice

Meeting was called at 9:00am by Terry Clark-Jones.

**Review Goal and objective of LFSC**

- Reviewed the goal and objective that is listed at the top of the agenda: discussion started.
- Moderate to low income expanding budgeting options.
- Programs through CAA, goodwill, and Salvation Army.
- Educate the public on what they have and make the most of it on what they have.
- Good indicators to show that they are building assets in some way or form:

Measure the 30% on income of housing. Look at local rents and income – is it difficult to measure. We have a 3-year data collection. It captures that if they have opened a savings account. We are not capturing the housing information. Community surveys through CAA. Goodwill is using an excel spreadsheet for their clients to show their expenses and their living conditions and payments for rent. Subsidized housing and what is your portion of the payment.

Different agencies are collecting different information and not all collect the same information. Housing is really big piece of eviction cases and the cost of housing. Are we looking at the big picture or just our clients? Last census Lenawee is 18% in the housing costs and income. We need to look at the data that is already out there.

Stephanie indicated that the bank could voluntary be asking banking clients to fill out an on-line survey or a paper survey to track rent/mortgage.

Michigan WORKS offered to have their clients to fill out a survey asking about their rent/mortgage payments. Associated Charities indicated they would continue to it has to be simple.

Add this onto the agenda for May.

**Monroe/Lenawee United Way**

Jackie indicated that they are restarting our Lenawee Advisory Committee again. Working on updating the transition plan, reviewing and updating goals and see what the impact areas are for the upcoming year.

**Mini IDA Committee**

Waiting for the 4 checks to be processed that have already been approved. Waiting for new client applications to come in. Julie had a client inquire about car insurance that is paid twice a year and can they request for it early. The clients are trying to plan ahead. Julie inquired if a mini IDA client applies for their mini IDA early and their car insurance is not due until November will they be able to receive it? Yes but this is a one-time offer per household with the goal of getting them into the habit of saving and planning ahead.

**VITA**

At the present time there are no appointments available at CAA. The Lenawee Dept. on Aging has no appointments available either. Clients can call after May 1 to schedule an appointment at CAA.

### **Classes**

Julie reported out that one has dropped out of Tecumseh due to moving and 2 dropped out of Hudson to due health issues. Julie has had a few that miss a class and want to know how can they make it up.

### **Americorp**

Jackson CAA Americorp Person reported out about the Outreach Program she is putting together a committee to focus on budgeting, banking, and credit. She is using the FDIC and Money Smart model and is incorporating CAA curriculum into it and to target areas in Lenawee County and reach the populations that they don't know. There is a bank that is going to do a program to reach out to the Veterans at the Adrian Library. The goal is to have clients set up a financial plan and where do you want to move from here.

### **Raise Up**

David mentioned that this program is wrapping up and they have been working on budgets and affordability while looking at the long-range and saving for those goals. Dave is informing the clients on how to shop around for car insurance, car payments when shopping for a vehicle, etc. More clients are more interested in financial/money management. Clients who signed up from Project Connect want to take more than just one class. The clients are realizing that goal setting is important.

### **Rent Smart**

Terry mentioned that the next session is April 26 and nobody has signed up yet. The session is from 5:30-7:30pm. This class has been publicized several different ways.

### **Financial Stability Class**

Julie had 13 people in the first class for the credit piece.

### **Financial Institutes/Partnerships**

We have two representatives from the banking institutions in Lenawee. We have Lillian from TLC and Stephanie from First Federal. Look at what products we have been dealing with and how can their institutions help us get the connections out there.

### **Social Marketing/Promotional Financial Literacy/Education**

Money Smart Week –a planning group has been meeting regularly.

Road Rally Monday through Thursday. Every time the clients attend an activity, they will receive a ticket for the main drawing being held on Friday.

CAA Advisory Council “Fishing for Savings” and will be supplying the Refreshments for Friday.

TLC activities are missing from the money smart link. Stephanie will add this to the link.

Flyers will be distributed throughout Lenawee County.

This is an outreach to show clients what programs/offerings are available for clients at each participating agency/organization, etc.

Maps will be distributed to those agencies that are participating.

Wrap up meeting on May 4, 2017 at 1:00pm at First Federal Bank.

“Fishing for Savings” concept at CAA is “Saving, Spending, and Giving.” Each client will be given the opportunity to fish. Each fish will have 3 coins in them with some to have dollar bills. The Friday Fishing will have larger bills in each one.

Friday – 11:00am-1:00pm a drawing every 10 minutes. One drawing at 9:00am and one at 1:00pm at the CAA Learning Center.

Laura T. will be offering budget classes in Spanish. A flyer in Spanish has been developed and is available for advertising this opportunity,

### **Landlord Group**

Terry mentioned that this group meets monthly. They will be meeting April 28 and the topic will be how to make clients and landlords better.

Next month

### **Core and Community Collaborative Meetings**

The hospital is building a new hospital and they will not be offering services for mental health/substance abuse. The CEO is going to meet with a core group of individuals on their plan. There is a Trauma Training scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup>. This training speaks about Trauma Informed Community. The LISD is going to have a portal to sign up. Training location is yet to be determined.

### **Data Collection for 2017**

Continue to do what we are doing and at the next meeting discussing the Coalition’s goals/objectives. Look at what we are doing and come up with 2-3 questions for the survey for clients to complete.

### **Emerging Issues**

- Beth indicated that the project for meeting the needs of seniors is coming together. Both agencies are coming together to support this client in a collaborative effort.
- Michigan WORKS is hosting a Hiring Blitz on May 24 from 9-noon. We have 10 employers signed up so far.
- Clients who will be attending the Homebuyer Education Class have to attend both of them. The class will be meeting on June 6 and June 13 from 5:30-8:30pm.

### **Next Meeting**

May 12 at 9:00am is our next meeting.