LENAWEE FINANCIAL STABILITY COALITION

Mission: To increase the number of families and individuals who are financially stable

Date: Friday, 5/10/2019  
Time: 9:00 – 10:30 am  
Location: Lenawee Room  
Human Services Building  
1040 S. Winter St.  
Adrian, MI 49221

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome / Introductions

In attendance: Clint Brugger, Jackie Bradley, Britni Stornant, Lynne Punnett, Laura Schultz-Pipis, Jeff Rickerd, Connie Carroll, Terry Clark-Jones, Jenna Furman, Misty Shulters, Todd Ritzler, Rachel Emery, Tami Farnum

II. Review Agenda & Minutes

a. Connie made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Todd supported. The motion carried.
b. Lynne made a motion to approve the March Meeting Minutes as presented. Rachel supported. The motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report


IV. Activities

A. Build Financial Resilience

1. Mini-IDA Committee
   i. Lynne made a motion to re-allocate all remaining Rent Smart funds to the mini-IDA program. Connie supported. The motion carried.
   ii. No additional report

2. VITA
   i. The VITA program met their goals with the IRS and got through their waitlist. During the de-brief session with the IRS, they were very impressed with the Mobile Unit initiative.
   ii. The program was audited and everything came out well.
   iii. Doubled their number of My Free Taxes completions from last year.

3. Getting Ahead
   i. Julie has recently completed two classes.
   ii. There is no available funding to offer additional classes at this time.

4. BRN
i. There is still one employer committed in Lenawee. Michigan Works continues to receive a lot of preliminary interest from employers, but don’t receive follow up.

ii. **GOOD STORY:** An employer had an individual who had worked with them for many years. This employee experienced a housing crisis and was staying at the Travelodge, unable to identify stable housing. Through the BRN, the employee was able to find housing, have first month’s rent and a security deposit paid for, and is now paying rent that is half of what they were paying at the Travelodge.

iii. **Connie and Misty will follow up with the Success Coach about potential engaging in this group.**

5. Legislative Issues
   i. HB4251 (Pay Day Lending Cap Bill) – Advocates are looking for testimonies for the hearing. **If anyone knows someone who has been affected, please pass the information on. If anyone from this group would be interested in testifying, Lynne will keep us updated on when dates are set.**

B. Build Awareness of Financial Resources
   1. Events Committee
      i. Clint would like to join the Events Committee.
      ii. **Social Media**
         a. The LFSC Facebook has launched ([https://www.facebook.com/LenaweeFSC/](https://www.facebook.com/LenaweeFSC/)). **If anyone has any information they would like shared to the page, please send it to Misty or Britni.**
   
   ii. **Logo Contest**
      a. The Winners returned their paperwork, but didn’t sign it, so they haven’t received their prizes yet.

   iii. **April Meeting**
      a. Approximately 22 people attended, mostly banking professionals.
      b. Misty sent out a post-survey for feedback. As of this meeting, she has only received a few responses. **Misty will send out a reminder.**

C. Build Landlord / Tenant Relations and Resources
   1. **Rent Smart**
      i. Clint was approached by a Rent Smart trainer out of Jackson who is interested in offering classes in Lenawee County. This class is not exactly the same as Terry’s; its 4 weeks and doesn’t include the same amount of general financial literacy piece. This is in very early stages; more info to come. The trainer is a landlord and Lynne would be interested in invited him to speak to the Landlord Group.
2. Landlord Group
   i. This group has been having good attendance. Several of the new landlords who were invited are continuing to participate and bringing new ideas and energy.

3. Tri-County Housing Coalition
   i. No report at this time

4. Legislative Issues
   i. PA 585’18 – Removes barriers to conversation between municipalities and landlords around affordable housing
      a. Jackie will remove this item from the agenda. There is no real momentum locally, but Lynne will keep us updated, if that changes.

V. Collective Impact Core
   a. Core continues to work on rolling out the Trauma Toolkit. Presentations have been scheduled at several of the Collective Impact groups. Clint and Jackie will present on this topic at the June meeting.
   b. There was a lot of conversation at the Core about an update from CMH. The follow is an excerpt from the Collective Impact Core 5/1 Meeting Minutes:
      i. CMH Appeal. Kathryn updated the committee on state level happenings. The focus of the CMH Board Association in Lansing has been putting together information regarding the underfunding of the public health system going back twenty years. In the last few years this has been affecting our region significantly. Kathryn explained how the state determines rates (Region 6, has consistently been below the base rate in every category, which means that the rates are not high enough to meet our expenses). We are mandated to serve people within 14 days of assessment, and there can be no waiting list for those on Medicaid. We are in a deficit situation at the end of the last fiscal year by $16m. We (region) are appealing to the state. The administrative law judge recommends dismissal of the appeal. When the Director supports the dismissal, we will take a motion to circuit court and expect the state to cover our expenses for the last two years ($41m). Lenawee is in the best position, in fact last year was the first year we had seen a deficit in Healthy Michigan. The region doesn’t have any risk reserve left. The Senate has proposed changing the boiler plate language on 298, which is the proposal to privatize the behavioral health system. This would take $2.8b and give it to the health plans. Health Plans are allowed to have a wait list, and most are for-profit. The Senate also proposes that the Health Plans be allowed not to contract with CMHs. Monroe had a Town Hall event yesterday to bring more awareness to their situation, which was well attended.

VI. Other Issues
   a. Project Ramp
      i. UWMLC is taking over project from Department on Aging; this allows them to draw on labor connections and funds. UAW Ford will provide labor for 15 ramps in each county; we just needed to provide materials.
      ii. First Federal and Huntington are both sponsoring a ramp.
iii. There is the ongoing question of rental properties and aluminum ramps.

b. Building Michigan Communities Conference
   i. Clint reported on Hand up, a crowdfunding website similar to GoFundMe. The platform is free to use and the individual creates their own profile and ask. Then other individuals can donate to that cause and the non-profit sponsoring the platform in the community ensures that the funds go where they were stated to go. For example, if CAA is the community sponsor and an individual raised money for car repairs, CAA would make sure that the funds go to car repairs.

c. ALICE Report - [https://www.uwmich.org/alice](https://www.uwmich.org/alice)
d. Self Sufficiency Standard
   i. The Self-Sufficiency Standard calculates how much income families of various compositions need to make ends meet without public or private assistance, varied by county. The Full PDF is available online: [http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/sites/default/files/selfsuff/docs/MI2017_SSS.pdf](http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/sites/default/files/selfsuff/docs/MI2017_SSS.pdf)

e. Michigan Works! Southeast
   i. Youth Expo on 5/14 (page 6)

f. Community Action Agency
   i. CAA is currently looking for weatherization applications. The grant cycle is about to end and they need to expend the remaining funds. Home must be owner-occupied or the landlord must be willing to contribute funds.

VII. Next Meeting: 6/14
   a. We will talk about goals and outcomes.
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Final Balance after allocations

GBP 6,282.71
Youth Expo

Free pizza and refreshments, gift card drawings, and more!

Tuesday, May 14, 2019
Open House - 5pm-7pm

Human Services Building (1st floor) 1040 S. Winter St. Adrian, MI

Are you between the ages of 17-24 years old? Come learn about the opportunities available through Jobs for Michigan Graduates (JMG) to help you reach your career goal! Bring a friend 17-24 years old for an extra raffle entry to win a gift card! See you there!