



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

Date: Friday, 11/10/2021
Time: 9:00 – 10:30 am

Location: Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84448067751?pwd=M3daczloeVgxWDdQVDFGdIE3SGk4QT09>

Phone: 1 (301) 715 8592
Meeting ID: 844 4806 7751
Password: 461266

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome / Introductions

In Attendance: Madeline DeMarco, Clint Brugger, Jackie Bradley, Liz Fuss, Connie Carroll, Angie Shepherd, Tami Farnum, Alison Prielipp, Amy Sweinhagen, Todd Ritzler, Carrie Morgan

Welcome, Alison! Alison is new to CAA and will ultimately be running their financial stability courses.

Welcome, Carrie! Carrie is new to Huntington Bank and will be working to offer and promote financial education courses.

II. Review Agenda & Minutes

Motion to approve the Agenda and previous meeting minutes moved by Liz, supported by Connie, and approved by consensus.

III. Collective Impact Core

This month we checked in to see who did any of the “take it further” practices we’ve shared over the past few months. There was not much feedback about how it went for folks and what support we need to incorporate some of these practices into our own work.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Our current bank balance is \$7,184.01. We have allocated \$2,700.00. This results in a remaining balance of \$4,484.01.

We are still offering a \$50 incentive for folks to complete the Rent Smart classes.

V. Activities –

A. Advocate for and Organize around the decriminalization of poverty in Lenawee County

1. Clean Slate Program

MI Works! is doing a lot to promote expungement fairs and opportunities for folks.

MI Works! is hosting an event next week where community partners can learn more about the services MI Works! offers and opportunities for collaboration. You can register using this link: <https://www.mwse.org/partnersinaction/>

2. Lenawee County Criminal Justice Committee

Clint was going to go to the most recent meeting until Life had other ideas. We will still work to go to this meeting in 2022, although this isn't a big priority for us right now.

3. Bail Reform

No updates.

B. End systems perpetuating “poverty taxes” in Lenawee County and build financial resilience among community members.

1. Blight Action Committee

We discussed whether or not this action is still a priority for us. This has been a big issue in the community lately and we could get a lot of interest from folks about it. CAA gets a lot of calls about home repair assistance, especially with the weather.

We will talk at our January meeting and make this our priority for the meeting. We will discuss at the December meeting who else needs to be part of that conversation.

2. End high-interest pay day loans

No updates. If you know of folks that have been negatively impacted by high-interest pay day loan centers, it would be important to for them to testify if any bills go to public comment. Our current understanding of the State's priorities is that they're currently more interested in regulating high-interest pay day loan centers rather than eliminating them all together.

3. Establish a local micro-loan program

This can get incorporated into our conversation around blight.

Habitat is piloting a micro-loan program for home repairs. If it goes well, they'll open up eligibility to the general public.

4. Increase the number of participants for existing Financial Education

This could be another area we really rally around. It would be helpful to invite other financial institutions to help share their financial education courses.

Huntington is experiencing a high volume of class participation.

We will make this topic another one of our priorities. **Next meeting, we will come prepared to discuss who else should be involved in this conversation and how we can increase participation in our existing courses.**

Alison, Carrie, and Ashley Vandebusch will get together to start coordinating!

5. Mini IDA Committee

No mini IDAs are currently in progress. One person has applied but has not opened their account yet.

This item will get moved to the end of our meeting agenda.

CAA does have money for the regular IDAs. In this program, for every dollar an enrolled participant saves, CAA matches \$3 up to \$1000 (\$3,000 matched).

6. VITA

VITA is looking for volunteers for the upcoming season! **Please help promote this program and send interested volunteers to Tami. All they need is time – 4 hours/week.**

Normal volunteers are returning this season. They will still be at the Human Services Building (Suite 3010) for drop-offs. Clients can do their own returns this year through an online portal. They have to start the process through VITA, and then they can finish it whenever and wherever they want.

C. Increase awareness of financial resources among professionals and the general public in Lenawee County Support and/or partner with the LISD to host Poverty Simulations (2 per year)

1. Support and/or partner with the LISD to host Poverty Simulations

On Hold due to COVID

2. Sponsor Bridges Out of Poverty for Lenawee County (2 per year)

On Hold until we can do the trainings in person

3. Host professional development seminars (2 per year)

On Hold due to COVID

D. Improve representation at the LFSC meetings from diverse sectors

1. Strategies for increasing membership and member involvement

- a. Do we have the capacity to be more involved in social media?
- b. Are the priorities on our agenda still our priorities?
- c. How do we function as a coalition?

Clint and Madeline met to discuss how to increase our meeting attendance and engagement. We will be going through the agenda and prioritizing which efforts we want to focus on and then inviting key players that can help move that action forward.

Please bring a friend to next month's meeting – Residents count!

E. Build landlord/tenant relations and resources

1. Rent For Success

No updates.

2. Landlord Group

No updates.

VI. Other Issues

A. Mobility Manager –

1. Please encourage folks to call (517) 257-9845 if they are in need of transportation. Misty Pope, the Mobility Manager, does not provide transportation services, but can help connect folks to existing resources in Lenawee County.

B. LCMHA –

1. Kay Ross, LCMHA's customer service supervisor of 33 years, is retiring at the end of the month. We will be hosting an open house to wish her well on Thursday, December 2 from 2:00 – 4:00pm in the River Raisin Room. Light refreshments will be served!

C. CoC Homeless Awareness Month –

1. The CoC is collecting personal and household items on behalf of local shelters. All donated items will be shared with Neighbors of Hope, Share the Warmth, Catherine Cobb Safe House, and Housing Help of Lenawee. A drive-by collection will be held on November 16th from 10:00am – 1:30pm at the United Way Gallery of Shops. You can just drive-up to the backdoor and someone will get the items from your car.
 - a. Items can also be dropped-off at the MI Works! office in the Human Services Building or at Housing Help of Lenawee.
 - b. If you prefer to shop online, you can search for one of the shelters on [Amazon Smile](#), order items, and have donations shipped directly to the shelter.

- c. A [wish list of items](#) is posted on the CoC's Facebook page.

VII. Next Meeting: 12/10/2021