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

Date: Friday, 2/11/2022	**Location:** Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84448067751?pwd=M3daczloeVgxWDdQVDFGdlE3SGk4QT09
Time: 9:00 – 10:30 am	

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

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome / Introductions

In Attendance: Madeline DeMarco, Clint Brugger, Audricka Jacob, Connie Carroll, Amy Sweinhagen, Jackie Bradley, Leslie Love, Collin Keehn, Angie Shepherd, De'Angelo Boone, Steve Kuiper, Ashley Vandenbusche, AJ Evans, Dawn Scott, Todd Ritzler, Alison Prielipp

II. Review Agenda & Minutes   Clint

The agenda and previous meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

III. Collective Impact Core Updates   Clint

A. Core Concept - The Impact of Trauma on Adult Behavior   Clint

Repeated exposure to traumatic events, especially in childhood, can impact the way the brain develops.

Adults whose brains have developed through trauma may spend more time responding from a place of either hyper- (anxious, angry, overwhelmed) or hypo- (spacy, numb, depressed) arousal.

Trauma can also impact the neural pathways involved in:
- Memory function
- Problem solving
- Decision making

Neural pathways have the ability to change over the lifespan, so the impacts of trauma can be "re-wired" through intervention.

Take it further in your own work by:
- Practicing the Community Resilience Model's Help Now strategies to ground yourself when feeling hyper- or hypo-aroused.
- Building activities that help "re-wire" neural pathways into your meeting agendas.

B. State Behavioral Health Legislative Proposals   Clint

Everyone is encouraged to share the talking points regarding Michigan Senate Bills 597 & 598 with their local legislators. These bills seek to privatize the behavioral health system and would take away our local control and input around mental health services.

IV. Treasurer's Report   Tami

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

Several Lenawee residents have taken Rent Smart! By attending this webinar offered by CAA, local residents are eligible for a $50 stipend. These stipends will be appearing in next month's treasurer's report.

V. **Ongoing Strategies**

A. <u>Blight Remediation</u>   Everyone

      1. What has happened since our last meeting?

- Clint met with Glenn Preston, Leslie Love, and additional members of the code enforcement team.
- De'Angelo shared information about the Blight Action Plan, Blight Elimination Initiative, and neighborhood revitalization. These are proposals that would help revitalize the community and rental properties without increasing gentrification.

      2. What did we learn?

- We have the same goals as the City of Adrian! The City is doing a lot of work to remediate blight in the community and they're looking for different ways to partner with community organizations to support low-income residents with blight remediation.
- Leslie's position enable us to better track and mobilize around blight in the community. This will enable more thorough inspections with rental projects.
- The City of Adrian is exploring the possibility of setting up a program to offer low-interest micro loans to community members.
- De'Angelo shared examples of the power of community organizing to revitalize rental properties. These revitalizations resulted in ripple effects where other folks in the neighborhood started to increase maintenance on their own properties as they saw the neighborhood revitalization occurring.
- Community education is needed about the relationship between property maintenance and taxes (home values).
- Some landlords in the community don't actually live here, meaning rental payments are not coming back to the community.
- Volunteers are important! People power can be super helpful, and we need to come up with some sort of centralized volunteer structure to mobilize folks.
- If older adults are in need of assistance with a blight issue, either a homeowner or renter, they can contact Habitat for Humanity's repairs program or Habitat's micro-loan program.
- The Blight Elimination grant from MADC was not budgeted for this year. De'Angelo does know about a grant opportunity for Habitat to receive $10,000 to rehab a property.

      3. What are our next steps? Who will take them and by when?

- **At our March meeting, we will discuss creating a centralized proposal or structure for a volunteer blight remediation program.**
- **Leslie will continue speaking with folks about potential grant opportunities.**
- **De'Angelo will share the proposals mentioned above.**
- **Jackie will reach out to Joe Williams to see if the Community Foundation would like to be part of next month's conversation because the Community Foundation manages the Volunteer Lenawee program.**

2021 Meeting Dates:
1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12, 9/9, 10/14, 11/1q, 12/9

B. <u>Increase Participation in Financial Education Programs</u>   Everyone

      1. What has happened since our last meeting?

- Clint met with Tim Kelly and attended Cradle to Career's Planning for Success network meeting.
- Tami and Alison are working on creating a financial education program for the communities among local banks.

      2. What did we learn?

- The Planning for Success network wants to provide education to high school seniors about student loans and basic education for financial literacy.
- The All About Adrian Resident Coalition is interested in pursuing some financial education opportunities being offered to the community.

      3. What are our next steps? Who will take them and by when?

- **<mark>Clint will meet with the All About Adrian's Activities Committee to talk about offering financial education programs.</mark>**
- **<mark>Alison and Tami will continue talking with the CAA team about the plan for these financial education programs.</mark>**
- **<mark>Alison will invite Steve Kuiper to the financial education event planning sessions.</mark>**
- **<mark>De'Angelo will create a community survey to get resident input on the times and offerings for these trainings.</mark>**
- **<mark>Clint will continue to participate in the Planning for Success network meetings.</mark>**

VI. **New Strategies**

A. <u>Any new proposed action items?</u>   Everyone

      1. Why is it needed?

Nothing new this month.

      2. Does it align with our mission?

N/A

      3. Do we currently have the capacity to implement it?

N/A

      4. If not, what do we need?

N/A

      5. What action steps do we need to take?

N/A

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VII. **Updates**   **Everyone**

    A.   Promote expungement – Clean Slate Initiative   Ashley

MI Works! Se and Legal Services are trying to work through all their current applications before re-evaluating the process and accepting more applications.

    B.   End high-interest pay day loans   Clint

Clint found information about an advocacy group that's collecting signatures to put something on the ballot in November of 2022. This campaign would cut the APR rates and transaction fees that pay-day lenders can offer for loans. The group is called Michiganders for Fair Lending and you can sign-up on their website.

    C.   Approve Mini-IDA applications   Tami

There are no Mini-IDAs that need to be approved today.

    D.   Recruit volunteers for VITA   Tami

Appointment scheduling began on January 19th and tax preparation begen on January 31st. You can call 517-247-2099 or go online to schedule an appointment – there are Saturday opportunities available! In addition to the normal tax preparation for VITA (for folks with a household income of up to $57,000), we are offering MyFreeTaxes.com free for anyone with a household income of $73,000 or less. Our community gets credit for anyone who does their tax return through MyFreeTaxes.com.

Volunteers are needed for special state-wide push for home-heating credits next month. **If you know folks, send them to Tami!**

    E.   Promote professional development among professionals and community members   Clint

No updates.

VIII. **Announcements**   Everyone

    A. MI Works! SE has discretionary funding available that can help folks with things that are a barrier to working. All you have to do is call or show up at their office.

IX. **Next Meeting: 03/11/2022**

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