

# Lenawee Essential Needs Council

MINUTES from March 1, 2016

## ■ Call to Order/Roll Call: Nancy Bishop, Lynne Punnett, Burt Fenby, John Haught

### ■ Hunger Free Lenawee

- Trails and Treats planned for 06/12/16 this is to promote healthy eating and physical fitness. Location will be determined soon.
- Breakfast or Tea will occur in the Fall
- Safe Healthy Food Pantry Project: MSUE is looking at bringing this tool into the community, it will help with agency visits, assessing food pantries, and it will help food pantries with best practice skills.
- Cooking Matters Classes are going to be offered through MSUE The chef from FireKeepers is going to teach cooking classes and participants will get the supplies needed to go home and prepare the meal for their family.

### ■ The Housing Group

- Housing Help with the Salvation Army have spear headed the Good Samaritan Donation Fund and are working together to use these funds to support motel vouchers for individuals in housing crisis.
- A group met to talk about SSVF funds; there was an opportunity to apply for \$11,000 in SSVF funds through MSHDA. Housing Help opted out of this grant, however other agencies could apply if they felt it fit their mission. We met at Veterans Affairs to discuss this option. Lenawee will not apply for this grant. Currently there are already funds available to service this same population and we struggle with meeting the requirements to spend the monies we already have.
- The Quest for a housing study continues. Originally they were looking at a TMA (total market analysis) which looks at the future need. This has grown to include the current market. This study is a NEEDED for this community, it could directly impact future funding opportunities.
- Community Housing Meetings continue to occur monthly. Many of our local landlords have attended these meetings. Each month there is a different topic.

Burt Fendy has presented info on weatherization, Dagmar McKinney talked about the Section 8 voucher, and Laura Schaedler is scheduled to talk about the eviction process.

■ The Utilities Task Force

- Walk for Warmth was again a success. We collected over \$20,000 which is down from last year, however we lost a couple of large donors which usually contribute \$25,000. The community actually contributed \$5000 more this year than last year.

■ The Transportation Group

- MCOP (Monroe County Opportunity Program) along with CAA purchased a lift van to assist with transportation needs in Lenawee County. This service is scheduled to begin on 03/14/16. They will be through Medicaid and Logisticare.

**Next Meeting is scheduled for 05/01/16 @ 3PM**