



**Lenawee County Continuum of Care
via Zoom
December 8, 2020**

MINUTES

1. Introductions / Roll Call

In attendance: Madeline DeMarco, Elizabeth Salerno, Laura Pipis, Clint Brugger, Audricka Jacobs, Ted Crockett, Allison Green, Helen Henricks, Christal Albigh, Angela Shepherd, Samantha Tubbs, Timothy Ruple, Takisha Jones, Jill Hicks, Brian Elliott, Becky Selenko, De'Angelo Boone

We have achieved a quorum

2. APPROVE: Agenda & Previous Minutes

- a. **Motion to approve previous meeting minutes as presented made by Clint. Supported by Audricka. The motion carried.**

3. REMINDER: Telegram Articles

December	CAA	Clint Brugger
January	Neighbors of Hope	Tim Ruple

- a. The Telegram should now be caught up with running our monthly articles.
- b. Our 2021 schedule is relatively free. **If anyone would like to publish an article, please send an email to Elizabeth or Madeline so you can be added to the schedule.**

4. REVIEW: Lenawee County Homeless Numbers

- a. # added to Housing Preference waitlist in November 2020: 18
added to Housing Preference waitlist in December 2020: 21
- b. # pulled by Housing Agent in October 2020: 25
pulled by Housing Agent in November 2020: 40
 - i. 3 people are scheduled to do briefings for their vouchers via phone tomorrow
- c. Legacy has 1 vacancy. Carriage House's voucher waitlist is open.
- d. MSHDA Homeless Veteran Report
 - i. Total number of homeless veterans identified in previous month: 1
 - ii. Number of new homeless veterans identified this month: 1
 - iii. # of homeless veterans housed this month: 1
- e. MSHDA has not had much luck recently connecting with people to be pulled for housing. This could be because no one was getting pulled previously. Please remind people there's always opportunities!

5. Grants

- a. ESG-CV Round 2 NOFA Grant
 - i. Housing Help of Lenawee and Share the Warmth's proposals were presented via screen share. The Executive Committee reviewed these proposals on 12/4/2020 and recommended the proposals for support. Elizabeth abstained from the vote.
 - ii. **Motion to support the proposals was made by Clint. Supported by Brian. Motion carried; Housing Help and Share the Warmth abstained from the vote.**
 - 1. Elizabeth plans to have the proposals processed by Christmas.

b. HUD

- i. We have received word that HUD is trying to create an expedited process for conditional renewals. If you are applying for UFA costs, you will have to go through the regular competition process to be approved. We are waiting for this process to be approved by the legislature through a bill. Fortunately, we still have some time before our current grant awards expire.

c. SSVF

- i. SSVF has requested to be added to next month's agenda for their annual letter of support

d. Neighbors of Hope

- i. They have been approved for a federal home loan grant. This approval should enable them to finish renovating their men's facility. They are hoping to have this project completed by June, 2021!

e. UWMLC

- i. Once official confirmation has been received for the next round of Emergency Food and Shelter funding, a request for proposals will be sent out.

6. Sub-Committee Reports

a. Public Awareness

- i. Homeless Awareness Month was last month! The Virtual Open House went well and Lynne Punnett was awarded the Norma Dell Courage to Care Award at this event. Additionally, about 11 baskets of items were collected. Items from online wish lists were also shipped. Once these items are sorted, they will be distributed to local shelters.

1. Pillows are available to anyone who needs them.

2. A pallet of hats, gloves, and scarves needs to be sorted. **If you're able to help with this, please contact Laura.**

- a. If you know anyone in need of these items, please contact Laura.

Anything leftover will be carried over to use for Project Connect.

- ii. The sub-committee's next focus is Project Connect. Project Connect will be held at the Human Services Building from 12:00-2:00pm on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. It will also be a drive-up event this year. Participants will be able to drive-up (or walk-up) and receive a bag full of flyers and other materials, as well as a to-go lunch through Salvation Army. Food banks will also be there to give-out food boxes. Mick is updating the flyer and vendor list. **If you are planning on participating, please share any written materials for participants the week prior (plan for enough flyers/materials for at least 200 households). The same is true if you have giveaways planned or have staff that are planning to come and help out during the day.**

1. Instead of offering haircuts on site, we are hoping to provide haircut coupons. **If you know any salons that would be interested in participating, please share this information with them!**

2. The group is looking for canvas bags to put goods in for participants. **If you have any suggestions of how to source these, please share them!**

3. Sponsors are needed to help pay for advertising and other giveaways. The sponsorship levels are: \$100, \$250, \$500, and \$1000.

- iii. Elizabeth submitted a request for Hometown Hope again. She requested either January or November.

- iv. The sub-committee's next meeting is December 16, 2020 @ 1:30pm. They meet every other Wednesday.

b. Homeless Youth

- i. Goodwill is currently working with 1 youth. Other than that, they haven't had many referrals. Chris has struggled to connect with youth due to COVID-19.

- c. Affordable Housing/Short-Term Emergency Shelter
 - i. The sub-committee hasn't met recently. 2021 will be our year though! We'll report back with progress in January.
 - ii.
- 7. Additions / Comments / Questions
 - a. Neighbors of Hope - Both men's and women's shelters continue to operate at capacity. They continue to offer programs as best they can. Tim will be moving into a new role with Neighbors Hope as their program administrator – congratulations, Tim!
 - b. Catherine Cobb – Continues to run at capacity. Their staff are back to working at home and are working with 1 staff person/shift.
 - c. Housing Help – Their emergency shelters are full, but they do have one transitional slot for a family open. **If you know of anyone this would be a good fit for, please send them to Housing Help.** They also still have ESG and motel funding available, in addition to utility and Eviction Diversion funds. WLEN's Thank-A-Vet fundraiser had their best year ever; initial estimates show that they raised \$35,000!
 - d. CAA – CSBG funds are still available for things like transportation, connectivity, funeral expenses, and utilities. Their utility funds are quickly drying up though. Consumer's Energy has \$12 million set aside for bill pay-off, so please refer consumers there before sending them to DHHS and CAA to help stretch CAA's utility funds. Thank you to everyone who registered for the Adopt-A-Family program; all of this year's families have been adopted! CAA also has several opportunities coming up (call CAA's office and follow phone prompts to register):
 - i. Rent for Success (used to be Rent Smart): Wednesday, Jan. 6th via Zoom. Lenawee Financial Stability Coalition approved a \$50 for each individual that completes the class!
 - ii. Homebuyer's Education: Saturday, Dec. 19 from 9:00am-1:00pm
 - iii. Financial Stability (5-week course): Held on Tuesday evenings from 5:00-7:00pm, beginning on January 19.
 - iv. Julie Laughlin is able to provide credit, budgeting, and foreclosure counseling.
 - e. Utility Taskforce - Walk for Warmth will be held in May this year
 - f. Lenawee Department of Veteran's Affairs – Peacetime funds have been received and they are also waiting for some Meijer vouchers to arrive!
 - g. Fishes and Loaves – The food pantry will be distributing their Christmas boxes again this year. Details are still to be decided, but there will be turkeys!
 - h. United Way – Their 21-Day Equity Challenge will run again in February in conjunction with Black History Month. More information will be released in the New Year!

8. NEXT MEETING: January 12, 2021. This will be a full meeting via Zoom.