



**Lenawee County Continuum of Care  
via Zoom  
May 11, 2021**

**MINUTES**

1. Introductions / Roll Call

In attendance: Madeline DeMarco, Elizabeth Salerno, Laura Pipis, Kelly Castleberry, Shannon DeSloover, Nancy Bishop, Wendy Knox, Ted Crockett, Audricka Jacob, Samantha Tubbs, Emma Salazar, Tim Ruple, Chris Howard, Clint Brugger, Roseann Miller, Amy Sweinhagen, Robyn Loveland, Nicole Beagle, Brian Elliott, Angie Shepherd, Jill Hicks, Allison Green, Becky Selenko

2. APPROVE: Agenda & Previous Minutes

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

3. REMINDER: Telegram Articles

<b>May</b>	Share the Warmth – new Executive Director	Kelly Castleberry
<b>June</b>	MDHHS	Nancy Bishop
<b>July</b>	<i>This could be you!</i>	<i>This could be you!</i>
<b>August</b>	<i>This could be you!</i>	<i>This could be you!</i>
<b>September</b>	LISD	Chris Howard
<b>October</b>	Catherine Cobb – Domestic Violence Awareness Month	Jill Hicks

- a. If you notice that an article hasn't been printed, please let Elizabeth know!
- b. **If you would like to publish an article, please let Madeline or Elizabeth know!** Articles should be submitted by the last week of the month.

4. REVIEW: Lenawee County Homeless Numbers

- a. # added to Housing Preference waitlist in April, 2021: 14
- b. # pulled by Housing Agent in April, 2021: 8
- c. Community Waitlists:
- i. Legacy Housing Apartments: Chronically homeless individuals can apply at Housing Help of Lenawee. This is the only permanent supportive housing program in Lenawee County. These apartments are for chronically homeless individuals with a disability (documentation is required for both). There are currently 4 openings with 1 application getting put on the waitlist this week.
    - 1. Discussion was had about the possibility of having a regular By-Name Meeting. To implement this, all the agencies that are able to help the homeless population (shelters, food banks, etc.) would meet regularly to track individual clients and discuss wrap-around services. It would be similar to case management. We already do something similar informally. There are concerns about adding a whole new meeting to the schedule in addition to confidentiality. We could set-up a separate meeting with the shelters to begin planning this. Elizabeth will also

email out some of the housing resources available to folks since we've had a lot of turn-over in the past year.

- ii. Carriage House's voucher waitlist is open for some 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom units. Interested folks can apply directly at the complex.
  - 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: 0
    - iii. # of homeless veterans housed this month: 0
    - iv. # of homeless veterans currently seeking housing: 0
    - v. # of homeless veterans that left services without housing: 1
5. Grants
- a. Motel Funds
    - i. Motel funds are out. The Community Foundation is exploring whether or not they can supply additional funds. Housing Help is also exploring re-allocating DHHS-ESP funds. There are still funds available at Housing Help for veterans. There's a small amount of Dire Needs funds available at Housing Help, but that's only enough for about 3 nights per household.
  - b. CERA Funds
    - i. The online portal is now open for applications. Folks can now apply either online or with a paper application for rent or utility assistance. Paper applications are available at Housing Help if applying online isn't an option. The turn-around goal is 30-days, although it can be sooner.
  - c. United Way Pac Funds
    - i. United Way in Jackson is able to assist Lenawee County residents with their Consumer's Energy footprint. They begin by assisting with completing and SER, look at creating payment plans, and explore resources from there.
  - d. Emergency Housing Vouches
    - i. MSHDA was allocated 779 emergency housing vouchers. The details of this program are still being finalized. Those living with or at risk for homelessness and those at risk of domestic violence will be eligible. This program will be different than the homeless preference list. The initial funding runs until 2022. After that, the PHA cannot reissue vouchers that turn-over after September, 2023. A webinar with more information will be held tomorrow. More information can be accessed using this link:  
<https://tdainc.adobeconnect.com/coctrain/>

6. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Public Awareness
  - i. The Case By Case fundraiser will be held virtually this year, potentially featuring a raffle. The drawing for the raffle prizes would be held at Adrian's First Fridays in conjunction with November being Homeless Awareness Month.
  - ii. The planning process for the Norma Dell Courage to Care event is beginning.
  - iii. Project Connect still has some funds leftover from this year, so hopefully a lot of fundraising won't be needed for next year's event.
  - iv. The full-group discussed doing something in honor of Helen Henricks. Laura offered to highlight Helen in her biweekly news article. Another suggestion was honoring Helen with the Norma Dell Courage to Care award. **Folks are also encouraged donate directly to Share the Warmth. Please mention the CoC in your donation.**
  - v. Their next meeting will be at 2:00 pm on May 26<sup>th</sup> if you're interested in attending!
- b. Homeless Youth
  - i. They are still working with one student who will be graduating to post-secondary education this year. If anyone has any caps and gowns at home that can be donated,

those donations are welcome! If you know anyone living with homelessness that has children, please recommend that they contact their local district liaison.

- c. Affordable Housing/Short-Term Emergency Shelter
  - i. No updates. Clint has moved to a new role at CAA that is limiting his role as the lead for this group. If anyone is interested in moving into a leadership role in this committee, please reach out to Clint or Elizabeth. Kelly offered to help with this committee.
  - ii. Robyn suggested doing a biannual count of the homeless population in the community. **Clint will connect with Robyn about this.**
  - iii. There was conversation about One Lenawee taking on affordable housing as a goal and the need to continue conversations across the community to ensure that the work being done across the community is aligned.

7. Additions / Comments / Questions

- a. MI Works! – Their service center is reopening by appointment or virtual appointment beginning, Monday, May 10.
- b. MCAH – 2 trainings coming up:
  - i. Human Trafficking toolkit for domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. You can sign-up using this link: <https://rebrand.ly/Human-Trafficking-Toolkit>.
  - ii. Free webinar in June about breastfeeding: <https://rebrand.ly/breastfeedingMCAH>
- c. LCMHA – They are launching a new wellness app available to folks who live and work in Lenawee County called MyStrength. More information will ultimately be available on LCMHA's website.
- d. Disability Connections – They have money available for disabled folks who are unable to access doctor's appointments, etc. They are also starting a fundraiser at the end of the month: Move More Month! Folks will be encouraged to get outside as they're able to and set some healthier living goals.
- e. VA – Funding is available for veterans and their families.

**8. NEXT MEETING: June 8, 2021. This will be a full meeting via Zoom.**