Lenawee Essential Needs Council

2/6/2018

Present: Nancy Bishop, Tim Kelly (by phone), John Haught, Elizabeth Salerno, Laura Schultz-Pipis, Lynne Punnett, Jackie Bradley

Sub Committee Reports:

Hunger Free Lenawee!

• HFL is working with Cradle to Career and Goodwill on a Read to Feed event which will be held 3/24. Students from local schools will donate non-perishable food items and sort books at Goodwill. Then, for each pound of food collected each school will be able to take back that many pounds of books to their school. HFL will help facilitate the food distribution. Nancy is working closely with these two groups.

Housing

• The CoC annual meeting will be in April, they will be voting on the nominated Executive Committee at that time and reviewing the meeting structure.
• The CoC is also looking at including training opportunities in some meetings. Ideas so far include trauma and lead remediation.
• Project Connect was 1/31. Attendance was down this year. Potential reasons for decreased attendance:
  o We didn’t advertise with Q95 this year
  o Posters weren’t up as early around the Human Services Building
• The demographics of Project Connect also appear to be changing. We have been seeing more single people recently rather than families.
• PIT data is not all compiled yet. Elizabeth will be working on this and provide an update when it’s complete.

Utilities Taskforce

• Walk for Warmth is this Friday, 2/9. Registration starts at 12:45 pm at the Blue Flame Room. The theme is Walk of the Superheroes, so feel free to wear a cape or costume. They have about 30 to give away.
• Snow is expected on Friday, so Nancy will contact Chris Miller about the possibility of sending a reminder email to downtown businesses to shovel their sidewalks for the Walkers.
• The quarterly 211 report was released. Utilities – and in particular electric – are the largest unmet need.
  o What can we do to impact this?
    ▪ Hopefully Integrated Service Delivery can help make communication easier.
• Making sure 211 has good information; updating 211 is not an easy process right now so they don't always have the most up-to-date info. 211 is updating their website, so that might make the process easier.
• Can we connect with the Utilities companies to provide community trainings re: reducing energy consumption? Other life skills trainings would also be beneficial.

Transportation

• The Transportation group is working on a survey. It is currently available in paper format; Misty is working on getting it electronic.

Other issues

• Integrated Service Delivery
  o New DHHS paper applications are in a controlled roll-out. MI Bridges is expected to go live in March. Please continue spreading the word about the Partner trainings and the importance of keeping 211 information up-to-date.
• Burt’s Retirement and Community Action Agency
  o Burt is retiring; his last day is 2/9. His replacement will be a Clint Brugger who will be acting as a regional manager for both Lenawee and Hillsdale. There is some concern that because Clint will be covering both counties, CAA will have a reduced presence in the community. We want to make sure that we are reaching out to the right people to keep them involved.

Next Meeting

• This meeting is now quarterly
• Next meeting is Tuesday, May 1st