



Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 12pm – 1pm

Location: Zoom Call

1. Welcome and Introductions – Maggie Honaker

- Please subscribe to the Homeless Coalition Listserv for the most updated information from this coalition: <http://eepurl.com/cwoyDP>
- New team members?
 - Kristyn Denison, NIBC
 - Christina Morgese, ISK
- Additions to the Agenda?

2. Training & Presentations

- Meghan Taft, Summit Pointe First Step Psychiatric Urgent Care Center Presentation
 - Timely access to mental health care, alternative to emergency department
 - 11 clinical rooms
 - Voluntary and medically stable individuals
 - Barrier free services – 24/7, all ages, all insurances
 - Recovery Center has moved to First Step
 - For more information, contact Meghan at meg@summitpointe.org

3. Housing Solutions Board Update to General Membership – Maggie Honaker

- Presentation on PIT/HIC Count from HMIS Administrator. Began discussing strategic planning process that will start this summer. CERA Update. New state benchmarks for ESG-CV grant.
- Next board meeting on Friday, May 21, will focus on HARA application presentations and deliberations.

4. New Business

- COVID-19 Grant Funding
 - United Way Disaster Relief Fund program is OPEN. UW reviews applications weekly. For additional information on categories and a copy of the application, please visit: <https://changethestory.org/disaster-relief/>
 - CERA (Covid Emergency Rental Assistance) program has officially started, and will continue through at least September 2021. Partners include Summit Pointe, Community Action, and Neighborhoods, Inc. **Call 269-966-1538 for assistance** or visit <https://ceraapp.michigan.gov>
 1. Covid hardship (unemployment, lost income, increased expenses)
 2. Risk of homelessness or housing instability (past due notices, notice to quit, conditional dismissal, etc.)
 3. Up to 80% of Area Median Income
 4. Up to 150% of Fair Market Rate
 5. Up to 13 - 15 months of rental assistance, based on eligibility
 6. Up to \$1500 - \$2500 of utility assistance, based on eligibility
 7. Up to 6 months of internet stipend, based on eligibility
 8. Paper application forms may be found at <http://www.tcccalhoun.org/cera/>.

- Direct Services Update, incl coronavirus action plans – Ellen Lassiter Collier, Daniel Jones, Robert Elchert
 - Haven – new street outreach – Ron Leigh, ron.leigh@thehavenbc.org, 269- 719-3184.
 - SAFE Place – no updates.
 - Battle Creek Homeless Shelter – 3 new board members, new shelter operations director, bathrooms are next upcoming project.
 - SHARE Center – no updates.
- HARA (Summit Pointe Housing) Update – Whitney Wardell
 - Summit Pointe Housing now located at 47 North Washington Ave, shared with NIBC.
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- Other HC Agencies' Updates
 - MCAH – AmeriCorps host site applications are open now. “Building Michigan’s Communities Conference” is coming up: <https://buildingmicommunities.org>
 - Battle Creek Housing Commission – 1200+ families applied for the HCV waiting list at the beginning of April. 700 chosen. Public Housing opportunities are still available.
 - Summit Pointe – “Credible Mind” resource is available to anyone in the county, provides helpful mental health information, assessments, referrals, and behavioral health tools. <https://summitpointe.crediblemind.com/>
 - Willard Library – open M-F from 12-6PM. “One Hour Express.” Free Notary. Fax available at \$1/page or free scan to email. Copying available. Tax forms.

5. Updates on collaborative workgroups:

- **HMIS Data Quality User Group** – SP Housing, Whitney Wardell
 - Meetings have resumed every other Wednesday at 3:00PM
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- **Veteran by Name List** – Hannah Patton, Cindy Carrier
 - Weekly, Thursdays at 12:00PM weekly virtually
 - Current challenge is lack of available housing
 - 14 individuals currently on list
 - Submitted first application for “No Vet Left Behind”
- **Interagency Services Team** – Ashley Andrews, Cindy Carrier
 - Every 4th Wednesday, virtually
- **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Alisa Parker or Anna Moss
 - No update this month
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- **Income Increase / Employment** – Robert Elchert
 - Limited face-to-face contact
 - Available by appointment, 269-964-8133
 - Assistance with stimulus payments, social security, and other needs
- **Hunger Free Calhoun – Homeless** – Laurel Clark
 - Meeting on the 4th Monday of the month.
 - Email Laurel Clark at lclark@uwbckr.org if interested in participating
 - Focus on mobile food options and meal kits
 - Beginning to explore what model needs to look like post-pandemic
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- **Calhoun County Connect & VA Stand Down 2020** – Laurel Clark/Ellen Lassiter Collier/Ian Pegg
 - Email Laurel Clark at lclark@uwbckr.org if interested in participating
 - Tote bag model again this year expected
 - First Wednesday of the month at 1:30PM
- **Street Outreach – PATH and Haven** – Ron Leigh, Christina Morgese, Todd Artis, Mitch Misiasz

- Ron will be working 16 hours/week
- Christina will be working in Calhoun County twice weekly
- Christina's contact information is: cmorgese@iskzoo.org, 269-491-1939
- Ron's contact information is: ron.leigh@thehavenbc.org, 269- 719-3184
- **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker
 - HARA Application process is underway.
 - Applications due – April 28
 - Board presentations and Board Vote – May 21 meeting
 - Reminder: HUD Exchange has some great resources located under their COVID-19 Community Planning & Preparedness Page. <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/#covid-19-community-planning-and-preparedness>

6. Next Meeting

- May 18, 2021 @ 12:00PM via Zoom