



Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

Tuesday, November 16, 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?
 - April Gordon, ERN
 - Hailey Black, CCPHD
 - Asha Ritchie, CCPHD
 - Renwick Ballew, Gryphon Place
 - Kathy Antaya
- Additions to the Agenda?

2. Training & Presentations

- Asha Ritchie, Calhoun County Public Health Department
 - Syringe Services Program – focus on harm reduction and building connections to healthcare and treatment services – clean syringes, naloxone kits, sharps boxes
 - ARitchie@calhouncountymi.gov 269-986-0054 (SSP program)
 - <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drug-topics/syringe-services-programs>
 - <https://redproject.org>

3. New Business

- COVID-19 Grant Funding
 - 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
- Direct Services Update – Ellen Lassiter Collier, Daniel Jones, Olivia Harvey, Robert Elchert
 - Haven – Inasmuch House is full. Men’s shelter still has some space available. WLRP is going well. MLRP graduations coming up. Have seen a couple of Covid cases, utilized Covid protocols.
 - SAFE Place – Shelter is full. Continuing to use hotels as overflow. DV Crisis Intervention Training is coming up in January to community. Callie Belt has started as new Volunteer Coordinator.
 - Battle Creek Homeless Shelter – Women’s shelter has been full every night. 10 beds currently. 2 Covid cases have been quarantined.

- SHARE Center – Seeing fewer people, providing connections to services, looking at serving homeless families who are contacting the SHARE Center through meals program. Holiday Box distribution coming up on Saturday November 20.
- HARA (Neighborhoods Inc.) Update – Whitney Wardell, Kristyn Denison
 - Working primarily with ESG and ESG-CV, which includes possibility of security deposits and up to 6 months of future rental assistance. Currently out of hotel funding.
 - New email: housing@nibc.org
- HC Agencies' Updates
 - MCAH – how to use the 2020 report coming up on November 29 from 1:00-2:30PM
 1. <https://rebrand.ly/MCAH2020>
 - Gryphon Place
 1. RBallew@gryphon.org
 - CC Senior Services – needs drivers
 1. Medicare enrollment – 12/7/2021

4. Updates on collaborative workgroups:

- **HMIS Data Quality User Group** – Whitney Wardell, Nancy Doyal
 - Meetings have resumed every other Wednesday at 3:00PM
 - Nancy is the HMIS Administrator for Calhoun County and the primary contact.
- **Veteran by Name List** – Hannah Patton, Cindy Carrier
 - Thursdays at 12:00PM weekly virtually
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- **Interagency Services Team** – Maggie Honaker, Cindy Carrier
 - Need emails of case managers ASAP to Maggie Honaker
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- **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Whitney Wardell
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- **Income Increase / Employment** – Robert Elchert
 - Limited face-to-face contact
 - Available by appointment, 269-964-8133
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- **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
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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
 - First Wednesday of the month at 1:30PM
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- **Street Outreach – PATH and Haven** – Ron Leigh, Christina Morgese, Todd Artis, Mitch Misiasz
 - Keep sending referrals ISK and HARA. Currently helping with IDs. Barrier is primarily LL not accepting vouchers.
 - Off Burke – 269-419-6730
- **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker
 - HUD CoC Program Competition Grant was submitted on November 12, 2021. Thank you to all of our community partners who provided input to the grant!
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- 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>

5. Next Meeting

- December 21, 2021 @ 12:00PM via Zoom