



## Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

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Tuesday, December 21, 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?
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- Additions to the Agenda?

### 2. Training & Presentations

- Cherilynn Sims, Summit Pointe
  - Self Care for Human Services Workers

### 3. Grants

- COVID-19 Grant Funding
  - CERA (Covid Emergency Rental Assistance) program has officially started, and will continue through at least September 2021. Neighborhoods, Inc. has assumed responsibility for the program. **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. Must have rental arrears prior to December 20, 2021
    4. Up to 80% of Area Median Income
    5. Up to 150% of Fair Market Rate
    6. Up to 16-18 months of rental assistance, based on eligibility
    7. Up to \$1500-2500 of utility assistance, based on eligibility
    8. Up to 6 months of internet stipend, based on eligibility

### 4. Housing Solutions Board Update

- New Treasurer elected – Daniel Jones, Executive Director, Haven of Rest Ministries
- Open position available – accepting referrals – gap area for Youth Homelessness
- New member – Arturo Puckerin, CEO, Neighborhoods Inc.

### 5. New Business

- Direct Services Update – Ellen Lassiter Collier, Daniel Jones, Olivia Harvey, Robert Elchert
  - Haven – Inasmuch House continues to run close to capacity. Warm shelter is available and families will be assessed for hotel rooms on a case by case basis after capacity is full. Some space remaining in the men's shelter.
  - SAFE Place – Shelter is full. Services continue. Reminder that there will be DV Crisis Training in January.

- Battle Creek Homeless Shelter – 13 bed spaces are now available for women. Have been full every night. Continue to have space on the men’s side. Using the front building as quarantine space for Covid currently.
- SHARE Center – Continue to collect items for new resource room at the Center, will include clothing items, diapers, formula, and other essentials. Meals continue to be served daily. Check the website for times. <https://sharecenterbc.org/>
- HARA (Neighborhoods Inc.) Update – Whitney Wardell, Kristyn Denison
  - Case managers are meeting weekly at the shelters to take intake applications for ESG and ESG-CV programs. Hotel voucher funding has been expended.
- HC Agencies’ Updates
  - No updates today
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  - 1.

## 6. 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
  - Rental Housing Roundtable was held on Wednesday, 12/15 and Thursday, 12/16 via Zoom. Topics covered included evictions, CERA, and introducing the new HARA. Will plan to meet quarterly.
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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 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.
  - Email Laurel Clark at [lclark@uwbckr.org](mailto: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](mailto: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
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- **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker
  - TEMP Plan will be implemented as needed, pending weather conditions. SHARE and BC Shelter continue to be open during the day.
  - Hotel Ordinance meeting held with City of Battle Creek on 11/23. 100% compliance with hotel owners. 100% inspections completed. 2 are permitted and 11 are in process. 100 households across 3 complexes. Estimating 300 across 13 complexes. Looking at possibilities for communal kitchens – 1 kitchen per 8 long-term units. Programs are still being developed.

- HUD PIT Count coming up on January 26 (overnight) and January 27 (daytime). Battle Creek Shelter, Salvation Army, and SHARE Center will be participating during the daytime. Recruiting enumerators to canvas overnight on January 26 for our unsheltered residents.
- 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>

## **7. Next Meeting**

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