



Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

Tuesday, May 17, 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?
 - Michelle Salazar, City of Battle Creek
 - James Oonk, Silver Star
- Additions to the Agenda?

2. Training & Presentations

- ~~Human Trafficking / Sex Trafficking – Ellen Lassiter Collier, SAFE Place~~

3. Grants

- MSHDA Emergency Solutions Grant Exhibit 1 is underway – due June 17, 2022
- United Way – coming in September/October

4. Housing Solutions Board Update

- Topics included the new CERT team program with the state, developing a strategy workgroup to update the county's long-term plan, and developing a workgroup to address temporary termination of services policies for emergency shelters
- Next HSB board meeting is May 20, 2022 at 10:00AM

5. New Business

- Direct Services Update – Melissa Smith, Cindy Carrier, Olivia Harvey, Robert Elchert
 - Haven – Inasmuch is full. New group coming into MLRP and WLRP. Men's shelter has capacity. Property beautification project this weekend with volunteers. Roof Sit fundraiser for Inasmuch is upcoming on June 17-18, 2022.
 - Battle Creek Shelter – Taco Tuesday tonight at the shelter with Torti Taco. Two Feet to Shelter the Creek – fundraising walk on June 3, 2022, 3 mile walk, \$20 fee. Not over capacity – 40-45 men at night, 8-9 women at night.
 - SAFE Place – Annual Celebrity Server fundraiser a week ago was very successful. Shelter capacity is very full, only 3 rooms currently available. Screening for high lethality, active situations currently.
 - SHARE Center – new relationships with new funders have been secured. Looking to expand some services outside Battle Creek. Received some APRA funds to expand building services. Participating in Wellness Expo at the Y tomorrow. Have now moved to summer hours, 8AM-5PM. No breakfast during the summertime – St Thomas serving.
- HARA (Neighborhoods Inc.) Update – Whitney Wardell, Kristyn Denison
 - Currently working on TBRA and CDBG grants, partnering with City of Battle Creek. Working with CEO on ALICE pilot program – 2 case managers in Albion on Mondays and Tuesdays from

9:00AM-4:30PM. Bus tokens now available for Marshall/Albion connector. Housing Navigator is putting together pizza party on June 20, 2022 for Calhoun County landlords. CERA program is still accepting applications, but the portal will be closed in June to any new applications. CERA does require arrears prior to March 30, 2022. Vaccinate the Great Lakes program (through United Way) at NIBC is providing bus passes for Battle Creek transit.

- **HC Agencies' Updates**
 - MCAH (Allison Green) – training upcoming (\$45 non-members/\$35 members) for trauma-informed awareness auditing for agency (MCEDSV). <https://www.classy.org/event/how-to-complete-a-trauma-informed-agency-audit-and-what-to-do-with-the-results/e405174>.
 1. June free training event will cover the state's eviction process.
 2. July free training event will be for working with individuals with CSCs.
 - CAA (Gaylene Rowland) – Project for water bills is available. Eligibility includes 150% of poverty line, past due or shut-off status, and \$650 cap currently. Other grants may be available for garbage bill arrearages. Partnership with VOCES is available for Spanish speakers.
 - City of Battle Creek (Michelle Salazar) – received 9 proposals from 8 organizations for ARPA Homeless funds – review is still underway for those awards.
 - Gryphon Place (Renwick Ballew) – trainings coming up for Mental Health Awareness Month. Reviewed extreme heat awareness and services at the most recent CCRC meeting.
 - Volunteers of America (Hannah Patton) – starting a new position with MCAH as a HMIS data system administrator. Applications and interviews are ongoing for her replacement.

6. Updates on collaborative workgroups:

- **HMIS Data Quality User Group** – Whitney Wardell, Nancy Doyal
 - Meetings have resumed first and third Wednesday at 3:00PM each month
 - Nancy is the HMIS Administrator for Calhoun County and the primary contact
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- **Veteran by Name List** – Hannah Patton, Cindy Carrier
 - Thursdays at 12:00PM weekly virtually
 - Randall may be coming on temporarily from VOA/SSVF
- **Interagency Services Team** – Nancy Doyal, Cindy Carrier
 - Need emails of case managers ASAP to Nancy Doyal
 - Maggie to send out Doodle poll for case managers
 - Will start out as Zoom but may move to in-person
- **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Whitney Wardell
 - Upcoming in June.
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- **Income Increase / Employment** – Robert Elchert
 - Available by appointment, 269-964-8133
 - Potential funding opportunity to expand the services
- **Hunger Free Calhoun – Homeless** – Laurel Clark
 - Meeting on the 4th Monday of the month at 3:00PM.
 - Email Laurel Clark at lclark@uwbckr.org if interested in participating
 - Rural communities connections is a focus area. Impacts on the increased costs of food.
- **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
 - Event will be face-to-face this year. Event date is October 21, 2022 at Full Blast.
 - Blanket drive opening soon. Flyers will also be available soon.
- **Street Outreach – PATH and Haven** – Ron Leigh, Christina Morgese, Todd Artis, Mitch Misiasz
 - Please send referrals to Christina.
 - Office Hours on last Wednesday of the month at 10:00AM

- **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker

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7. Next Meeting

- June 21, 2022 @ 12:00PM via Zoom