



Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

Tuesday April 17, 2018 12pm – 1:30pm

Location: United Way Lower Level Meeting Room

1. **Welcome and Introductions – Lee Talmage**
2. **POLICE Officers to give Homeless Update (Officer Martens)**
 - **Folks will be removed from under the bridge and Dickman; new signs to go up saying No Camping;** M-66 and Dickman – cleaned up by city and MDot
 - Anyone living there be removed – starting process
 - They will give us a timeline
3. **Housing Solutions Board Update to General Membership – Nicole DuPont**
 - No report
4. **Updates on collaborative work:**
 - **HMIS User Group, HARA Update, HCV, Veteran by Name List** – Victoria Huntington
 - Down to 2 staff
 - HCV is still being added to; please update info with us to check on the list
 - Security deposit program that helps with HHAP
 - PIT/HIC ready to finalize with MCAH; SPM due end of May; User Group May 15th
 - Vet by Name April 25th at 9am; at VA
 - **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Alisa Parker
 - April 26 at Salvation Army; flyer going around
 - Building more comprehensive landlord list
 - **ID Task Force** – Robert Elchert
 - Homeless Advocacy Day; very successful, lots of support
 - **Homeless Health Fair** – Elaine Hunsicker
 - 2nd Monday of the month at 10:30am
 - Job training flyer to pass out
 - **Coordinated Entry System** – Nicole DuPont
 - **nothing to report**
 - **State and Federal Funding 2018** – Nicole DuPont
 - State (MSHDA) ESG NOFA Released
 - Calendar of events
5. **New business, comments, and organization update**
 - Kelly Masley and Chad Timmerman. MiWorks
 - PATH Program (prior was Jet Program)
 - Assist with work experience and barriers
 - Provide trainings; referrals; resumes, housing, GED help
 - Have community sites that we work our of ie Share Center

- This is a career minded skill building opportunity; long term
- Employment specialist; will pay for training of employee in the first few weeks
- Soft skills workshop; they want someone who can get along (team oriented) over hard skills
- After graduate 21 days; Assist with purchasing a car (\$2000) and car repairs
- Employment rate 65%; completion rate 60%
- Amanda Southerland – Service Center; program for dislocated workers; training for re-training if job ends; youth training/schooling; not a staffing agency but a resource center. Computer lab open 8am-5pm. Workshops also provided. All services are free.
- Help folks get a job and keep a job.
- Sharlee Coffman-Cook, Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan
 - Annual Conference May 4th
 - Equal access to housing; not limiting housing choices to a protected class
 - Civil Rights Act
 - Slide show presentation handed out
 - Large pop is disabled
 - Service animal vs. emotional support animal (not a pet); can facilitate
 - Reasonableness and not a blanket decision
 - Verbage changing in the mission statement; policy changing around deadlines for Cities re City Plans; guided by Fed law – an act of Congress; can't overhaul the program.
 - Discussion of new rule; setting goals may not be reasonable to achieve – another unfounded mandate. Date due in 2020.

6. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 21, 2018