



## Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

---

**Tuesday, October 15, 2019 12pm – 1pm**

Location: United Way Lower Level Meeting Room

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Maggie Honaker, Co-Chair
2. **Housing Solutions Board Update to General Membership** – Maggie Honaker
  - New board members have been elected: Ellen Lassiter Collier from SAFE Place, Jamie Schook from Summit Pointe, and Jessica Cummins from The Ark of Kalamazoo. One position remains open.
  - HUD Combined CoC grant application was submitted on-time on September 24.
  - Temperature Emergency Mitigation & Provisions (TEMP) Plan was presented on 10/02 at the 2019 Summit on Ending Homelessness. We will use multiple communications systems to notify agencies, volunteers, and the public (including homeless individuals) during extreme weather emergencies. This includes press releases, Nixle, and HC listserv. Full update next month.
  - Board members will be in attendance at the Homeless Health Fair on Friday, 10/18, to help you with volunteer activities. More details on the fair below.
3. **Updates on collaborative work:**
  - **HMIS User Group** – SP Housing
  - **HARA Update** – Trish Winchel
  - **Veteran by Name List** – Hannah Patton VOA – meets at 11am on Wednesdays
  - **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Alisa Parker or Ann Moss – Sept 26 meeting had about 50 attendees. Event was coupled with housing resource hour; however, only 3 landlords stayed for that event. 10-12 people seeking housing attended.
  - **Income Increase / Employment** – Robert Elchert – Employment Benefits Coach hired through Americorps. She will work 3 days/week at the SHARE Center, starting Nov 18, on MWF 8:30am-12:00pm. Walk-ins are welcome. SHARE Center will start winter hours on Nov 1, 7:00am-9:00pm.
  - **Hunger Free Calhoun – Homeless** – Laurel Clark – United Against Hunger event held on 10/15. Next meeting is Oct 28 at 3:00pm at Food Bank. Talked about emergency food boxes.
  - **Homeless Health Fair 2019** – Elaine Hunsicker or Lora Stevens – packing bags at Food Bank on Wednesday from 10:00-12:00pm. Setup is 4:00-6:00pm on Thursday or 6:30am on Friday. Friday event - Presentation is 8:30am from the Colorguard, opens 9:00am-1:00pm. Volunteers to be guides needed. Post-meeting note: Event was a success! Thank you to everyone who participated. Debrief meeting will be held on Nov 6 at 1:30pm at the United Way. If you have any feedback, please feel free to reach out to Maggie Honaker.
  - **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker – no updates this month.
  - **Street Outreach – PATH and Haven** – Ahja Surratt, Patrick Paradine, and Cindy Kerr – Debra providing update on behalf of Ahja. Discussion about Branch Co homeless (which currently has no shelter) – continuing to try and connect with Branch HARA. Can bring to Haven, call first to check space availability. Matt at Willard is onboard. Cindy at Albion is onboard. Salvation Army may be able to facilitate as well to coordinate PATH teams. Outreach times may need to be modified to reach unsheltered women, more evening hours.
4. **New business, Training, and Presentations**
  - SAFE Place Training – domestic violence awareness month.

- SAFE Place presentation deck available by request. Contact [msmith@safeplaceshelter.org](mailto:msmith@safeplaceshelter.org) or [maggie@solveitforward.com](mailto:maggie@solveitforward.com) for a copy.

#### **5. Next Meeting**

- November 19, 2019 @ 12:00PM at the United Way.
- Reminder: Interagency Services Team (IST) workgroup meeting will immediately follow the Homeless Coalition meeting. If you are a direct-service agency, please plan accordingly.