



Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12pm – 1pm
Location: Zoom Call

1. Happy Holidays!

2. Welcome and Introductions – Maggie Honaker, Chair

- Please subscribe to the Homeless Coalition Listserv for the most updated information from this coalition: <http://eepurl.com/cwoyDP>
- New team members?
 - Mitch Misiasz – Kalamazoo IST
 - Alfredia Dysart-Drake – Albion HealthCare Alliance
 - Michelle Frank – community resident
 - Patrick Lothamer – Michigan Works Southwest, BC Office
- Additions to the Agenda?

3. Training & Presentations

- None today

4. Housing Solutions Board Update to General Membership – Maggie Honaker

- 2019-2020 Emergency Solutions Grant Addendum was approved at the November board meeting to move ~\$25K to cover hotel and motel voucher costs that were incurred over the summertime when the shelters were reduced in capacity due to Covid-19 concerns.
- BCHC, TCC, and MDHHS will be pursuing a Youth Foster Initiative for transition aged youth. More details will be shared at our January meeting.
- Next Board meeting is December 18 at 10:00AM.

5. New Business

- **HIC/PIT Count for 2021**
 - Will be moving forward with both sheltered and unsheltered count.
 - Expected date is Wednesday overnight, January 27, and Thursday daytime, January 28.
 - The unsheltered count will be modified this year to promote COVID-19 safety for both our homeless and our volunteers.
 - <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Conducting-the-2021-Unsheltered-PIT-Count.pdf>
 - Volunteers for canvassing today include Patrick, Raul, Mitch, and their teams. Whitney will be leading the event from the HARA. Anyone who would like to volunteer, please contact Maggie at maggie@solveitforward.com.
- Direct Services Update, incl coronavirus action plans – Ellen Lassiter Collier, Daniel Jones, Robert Elchert
 - Haven – Walk-Up to-go Dinner to the public on Christmas Day, Dec 25, from 1:00-3:00PM across from the courthouse.
 - SAFE Place – Shelter residents are staying in hotels right now, due to flooring being installed at the shelter and current COVID-19 accommodations.

- Battle Creek Homeless Shelter – seeing about 50 people/day. 6 shower stalls available. Laundry 3 days/week. Meal service being provided. Men’s shelter only overnight. Men and women during the day. Purchase of the building is complete.
- SHARE Center – Drop-In is still operating at 120 Grove Street. Drop-In is centered around peer support and enrichment activities, clients related to mental health and substance use, clients of Summit Pointe. Women’s group is starting up on Thursdays at 1:00PM.
- HARA (Summit Pointe Housing) Update – Jamie Schook or representative
 - MSHDA Eviction Diversion Program (EDP) is still accepting new applications/assessments through December 18. Call Summit Pointe Housing at 269-966-1538 for next steps.
 - Other eviction diversion and housing assistance programs may also be available. Please have clients call 269-966-1538.
- COVID-19 Grant Funding
 - United Way Disaster Relief Fund program is OPEN. UW reviews applications weekly. For additional information on categories and a copy of the application, please visit: <https://changethestory.org/disaster-relief/>
 - ESG-CV Round 2 Grant Application is underway. The community will be receiving \$415,642. The Housing Solutions Board will vote on priorities for these funds on Friday, in accordance with grant requirements, limits, and proposals received.
 - MSHDA Eviction Diversion Program (EDP) is ongoing through December 30, 2020. Last day for new applications is December 18, 2020.
- Other HC Agencies’ Updates
 - Catholic Charities – Ark services for youth aged 10-17. Youth Independent program for youth aged 17-21. Drop-in services are still suspended due to COVID-19. Intakes via phone. 269-343-8766. Transportation via Uber is available.
 - Albion Health Care Alliance – COVID-19 Testing Center is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:00-7:00PM and Fridays from 9:00AM-5:00PM. 517-629-5080 for appointments. Walk-in is available. Transportation is available on Wednesdays.

6. Updates on collaborative workgroups:

- **HMIS Data Quality User Group** – SP Housing, Tara McKernan
 - Meetings have resumed every other Wednesday at 3:00PM
 - New Level 3 page added for initial record.
- **Veteran by Name List** – Hannah Patton, Cindy Carrier
 - Thursdays at 12:00PM weekly virtually
- **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Alisa Parker or Anna Moss
 - No updates
- **Income Increase / Employment** – Robert Elchert
 - Limited face-to-face contact
 - Available by appointment, 269-964-8133
- **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
 - Meeting cancelled for December 2020
- **Calhoun County Connect & VA Stand Down 2020** – Laurel Clark/Ellen Lassiter Collier
 - Email Laurel Clark at lclark@uwbckr.org if interested in participating
 - Currently on hiatus until February for next year’s event
- **Street Outreach – PATH and Haven** –Patrick Paradine and Todd Artis

- Continuing partnership with Kalamazoo-IST – Deborah Grays has changed positions. Team in transition.
- Mitch is new Housing Supervisor for the IST. Currently short-staffed with 4 of 7 positions filled.
- **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker
 - 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 19, 2021 @ 12:00PM via Zoom