



## Homeless Coalition of Greater Battle Creek & Calhoun County

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Tuesday, March 16, 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?
  - Nancy Doyal
- Additions to the Agenda?

### 2. Training & Presentations

- Marc Stanley, Southeastern Dispute Resolution Services (SEDRS)
  - Handouts, brochures to be sent with meeting minutes

### 3. Housing Solutions Board Update to General Membership – Maggie Honaker

- Board discussed the CERA program overview, CERA budget, 2020 disparity report, and general updates from members.
- Next board meeting on Friday, March 19, will focus on HARA application process.

### 4. New Business

- 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/>
  - CERA (Covid Emergency Rental Assistance) program has officially started, and will continue through at least September 2021. Partners include Summit Pointe, Community Action, and Neighborhoods, Inc. **Call 269-966-1538 for assistance.**
    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. Up to 80% of Area Median Income
    4. Up to 150% of Fair Market Rate
    5. Up to 10 - 12 months of rental assistance, based on eligibility
    6. Up to \$1500 - \$2500 of utility assistance, based on eligibility
    7. Up to 6 months of internet stipend, based on eligibility
    8. Application forms may be found at <http://www.tcccalhoun.org/cera/> .
- Direct Services Update, incl coronavirus action plans – Ellen Lassiter Collier, Daniel Jones, Robert Elchert
  - Haven – Reaching capacity. 3-4 single beds open to women. Working closely with Grace Health on Covid-19 testing within 24 hours. Kiosk available for telehealth appointments. No cases at InAsMuch House. Men's shelter working closely with BCHS to maintain health. Stays are being extended 60-90 days, due to lack of affordable housing, lack of landlords working with vouchers. Please forward housing resources to Lola at [L.Hatcher@thehavenbc.org](mailto:L.Hatcher@thehavenbc.org). Street Outreach team to connect on resources to connect people to vaccine clinics.

- SAFE Place – Capacity still available, lower level of lethality on assessment. Call hotline at 269-965-7233.
- Battle Creek Homeless Shelter – 35-40 people at day shelter. About 40 men overnight. One Covid case, one in isolation. Working on food menus for diabetic population. Vaccines are expected later this week or next week at the shelter through the CCPHD.
- SHARE Center – Covid vaccinations underway. Cafeteria is open now at 120 Grove Street, limited capacity of about 20 people at a time, promoting community while social distancing. MCAH Legislation Day - Affordable Housing topics. New music program. New men’s program. Women’s and Vets programs also available. Streamlined scanning program for data collection, through partnership with the Music Program.
- HARA (Summit Pointe Housing) Update – Whitney Wardell
  - Summit Pointe Housing now located at 47 North Washington Ave, shared with NIBC.
  - Housing Choice Voucher program is OPEN.
  - ESG, City (CDBG and TBRA), and CERA funding programs are available for application. Prevention and rapid rehousing programs available.
- Other HC Agencies’ Updates
  - MCAH – Allison Green
    1. Legislative Action Day is today.
    2. Webinar on Coordinating Covid Vaccinations for workers, volunteers, and residents in local homeless shelters is upcoming on March 18. Go to the following link to register: (<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4005691697811158029>)

## 5. Updates on collaborative workgroups:

- **HMIS Data Quality User Group** – SP Housing, Whitney Wardell
  - Meetings have resumed every other Wednesday at 3:00PM
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- **Veteran by Name List** – Hannah Patton, Cindy Carrier
  - Weekly, Thursdays at 12:00PM weekly virtually
  - 19 people on the current list
- **Interagency Services Team** – Ashley Andrews, Cindy Carrier
  - Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, virtually
  - Next meeting is 3/31 – topic will be HMIS training
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- **Rental Housing Roundtable** – Alisa Parker or Anna Moss
  - No update this month
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- **Income Increase / Employment** – Robert Elchert
  - Limited face-to-face contact
  - Available by appointment, 269-964-8133
  - Assistance with stimulus payments, social security, and other needs
- **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
  - Goal is focused on mobile access to food – like meal kits, leveraging “Meet Up Eat Up” sites
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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
  - Tote bag model again this year expected
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- **Street Outreach – PATH and Haven** – Ron, Todd Artis, Mitch Misiasz
  - No update this month
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- **Coordinated Entry System** – Maggie Honaker
  - HARA Application process is under development and will be announced shortly. Tentative timeline is as follows:
    - Board guidance – March 19 meeting
    - Application Packets available – March 29
    - Applications due – April 28
    - Board presentations and Board Vote – May 21 meeting
  - 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>

## 6. Next Meeting

- April 20, 2021 @ 12:00PM via Zoom