



## CoC MEMBER MEETING MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2020

9:30-11:00am

Facilitator:	Casey Gordon		
Meeting Attendees:	Alisa White (LINC UP), Alisha Pennington (MDHHS), Becky Diffin (YWCA), Brandon Frierson (VOA), Catherine Landers (North Kent Connect), Cathy LaPorte (Salvation Army), Casey Gordon (Kent ISD) Elizabeth Stoddard (Fair Housing Center), Erin Banchoff (City of Grand Rapids), Erin Donnelly (Consumers Energy), Eunice Link (MCAH), GRFD Lts. Mike and Erik (HOT Team), Emily O'Brien (Salvation Army), Emily Schichtel (HWMUW), Jeffrey King (Community Rebuilders), John Bosma (GRPL), John Wynbeek (Genesis), Kaelin Hopson (Sacred Beginnings), Kat Griffith (Sacred Beginnings), Kate Soul (Pine Rest), Kathy Besaw (Genesis), Kristi VanderWoude (Sacred Beginnings), Lauren VanKeulen (3:11), Lisa Cruden (Family Promise), Marissa Lee (Degage), Sarah Weir (Kentwood PS), Sherrie Gillespie (KCCA), Stephanie Gingerich (LINC UP), Stephanie Brock-Knoper (City of Wyoming), Tammy Britton (City of Grand Rapids), Wanda Couch (Grand Rapids Housing Commission), Wende Randall (ENTF) Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio Robach		
Time Convened:	9:35	Time Adjourned:	10:55

Approval of Minutes		February 27, April 23, June 25	
Motion by:	Lauren VanKeulen	Support from:	Elizabeth Stoddard
Discussion			
Amendments	None.		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes		
CoC Updates			
Discussion			
<u>Program Competition Update</u>			
There are no updates from HUD, but it seems that HUD is working on alternate plan for a simplified local competition. Staff will share all updates as they become available. Grant Inventory Worksheets were recently finalized and returned to HUD.			
<u>Meeting Guidance</u>			
Casey Gordon overviewed the virtual meeting document. Given the current situation, virtual meetings will be best for all committees through the remainder of 2020, with re-evaluation of the situation in January. Virtual meeting guidance is detailed in the document. Feedback and suggestions for the document can be sent to CoC staff ( <a href="mailto:brobach@hwmuw.org">brobach@hwmuw.org</a> )			
<u>Dashboard Walkthrough</u>			
Courtney overviewed the dashboard with CoC data from the Longitudinal Services Analysis (LSA). This data represents those who are entered into a program. Daniel Gore, HMIS Administrator, is working to make updates to the dashboard so it is easier to view. The dashboard can be found at: <a href="http://endhomelessnesskent.org/about/data/dashboard/">http://endhomelessnesskent.org/about/data/dashboard/</a> . If you have questions or feedback on the dashboard, please share with CoC staff ( <a href="mailto:brobach@hwmuw.org">brobach@hwmuw.org</a> ).			



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### Data Reports

Courtney overview recently released reports for the 2020 Point in Time Count and 2019 Annual Count. Thanks to Emily Madsen, Data Analyst with ENTF, for her time in putting these reports and visualizations together.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### **MSHDA Eviction Diversion**

#### Discussion

Funds available for eviction diversion from the state. These funds require a notice to quit or court summons and have a few other eligibility parameters. Salvation Army is processing applications and provide funds for the landlord. Landlords must forgive 10% of back rent that is due to receive payment. This has been an emerging issue, especially with larger management companies. Community members can call 2-1-1 if they receive notice to quit for help with the screening process and application. CoC staff will share written update from Salvation Army when the minutes are sent to the group.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### **Strategic Plan Update**

#### Discussion

Recognizing that we are in a pandemic, want to ensure that work is focused on tangible activities and outputs. Staff have drafted priority areas.

Draft priority areas:

1. Develop plan for communication and coordination of various funding resources coming into the community
2. Decrease # of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness
3. Increase access to housing
4. Coordination of prevention resources and establishing a coordinated approach for consumers to access them

Attendees broke into smaller groups to discuss:

- If these key priority areas make sense and/or should be edited.
- What activities and/or outputs should fall under these priorities?

If you have any thoughts or feedback on the priority areas or activities, please send to CoC staff ([brobach@hwmuw.org](mailto:brobach@hwmuw.org))

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### **CE Flow**

#### Discussion

Courtney shared call and referral numbers from HAP over the course of the pandemic. Call volume has increase. Volume dropped in the middle of the pandemic with eviction moratorium and shelter in



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place order. There has been a large increase in prevention calls in the previous 2 weeks, which likely due to the end of the eviction moratorium.

Many referrals over the past few weeks have been for prevention, due to eviction diversion funding. RRH referrals have fluctuated based on the openings available, low numbers over the past month may be due to the end of the program year. PSH referrals tend to be particularly low, which is concerning given the rise of chronic homelessness numbers. Conversation is needed around how to classify openings, as well as the numbers from CE and the needs to address a bottleneck.

Jeffrey asked how 'other permanent housing' is classified. CoC staff will get this information from Salvation Army.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Agency Updates</b>		
Discussion		
<p><b>Essential Needs Task Force</b> – is going through a strategic planning process. Wende thanked all who participated in a focus groups or surveys. An email update will be shared broadly next week with a large stakeholder meeting planned for the end of September.</p> <p><b>KCCA</b> – is the hub for mask distribution in Kent County. Masks available for neighbors and providers. To access, call 616-632-7950 and let the receptionist know your needs.</p> <p><b>Disability Awareness Day</b> – is happening in a virtual format instead on September 18th. You can register at <a href="https://disabilityawarenessday2020.eventbrite.com">https://disabilityawarenessday2020.eventbrite.com</a></p> <p><b>Consumers Energy</b> – home energy assessments available for community members. Please connect with Erin Donnelly (<a href="mailto:edonnelly@seelllc.com">edonnelly@seelllc.com</a>) to get clients set up for an assessment.</p>		
<b>Adjourn</b>		
Motion by:	Stephanie Gingerich	Support from: Lisa Cruden