



**CoC MEMBER MEETING
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

December 15, 2022

9:30-11:00am

Facilitator:	Lauren VanKeulen		
Meeting Attendees:	<p>Lauren VanKeulen (AYA Youth Collective), Casey Gordon (Kent ISD), Dave Gantz (Genesis), Tammy Vincent (City of Grand Rapids), Hattie Tinney (Grand Rapids Housing Commission), Allie Whitman (Mel Trotter), Rebecca Rynbrandt (RGM Solutions, Community Member), Eileen McKeever (YWCA), Shelby Lake (Senior Neighbors), Lisa Cruden (Family Promise), Kimberly Seymour (Wyoming Housing Commission), Cathy LaPorte (61st District Court Eviction Diversion Initiative), Socorro Rodriguez (Cherry Health), Gordie Moeller (Double Up Food Bucks), Bill Weld-Wallis (Community Member), Lee Nelson Weber (Community Member), Erin Banchoff (City of Grand Rapids), Julie Kendrick (Degage), Stephanie Brock-Knoper (City of Wyoming), Wende Randall (ENTF), Ryan VerWys (ICCF Community Homes), Fran Dalton (Garfield Park Neighborhoods Assoc.), Wanda Couch (Grand Rapids Housing Commission), Victoria Sluga (Pine Rest), Karen Tjapkes (Legal Aid), Alonda Trammell (Dwelling Place), Elizabeth Stoddard (Fair Housing Center), Holly Wilson (Safe Haven), Tom Cottrell (YWCA), Mateah Schleben (Exodus Place), Melissa Hoezee (Fountain Street Church), Alyssa Anten (The Salvation Army), Niki Perkins (Access of West Michigan), Carolyn Allen (Covenant House), LoRae Robinson (Covenant House), Jen Colby (Exodus Place), Li Kaplan (AYA Youth Collective), Maranda VanZegeren (Community Rebuilders), Cassie Shugart (MCAH), Susan Sheppard (Arbor Circle), Allie Whitman (Mel Trotter Ministries), Zenaida Jimenez (Safe Haven), Michelle Van Dyke (Heart of West Michigan United Way), Lindsey Reames (Grand Rapids Housing Commission), Crystal Kitten (AYA Youth Collective), Matt Perin (61st District Court Eviction Diversion Initiative), Marcelle Marcelletti (Gerald R Ford Job Corps Center), Tanesha Jordan (Safe Haven), Stephanie Gingerich (LINC UP), Alisha Pennington (MDHHS Regional SOAR Navigator), Hilary Ortiz (Health Net of West MI), Marissa Lee (Degage), Monique Carter (Arbor Circle), Bryan Holt (Pine Rest StreetReach), Marcia Patrick (Senior Neighbors), Doug Booth (Health Net of West Michigan)</p> <p><u>Staff:</u> Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Robach</p>		
Time Convened:	9:34	Time Adjourned:	11:00

Approval of Minutes		October 27, 2022	
Motion by:	Ryan VerWys	Support from:	Tom Cottrell
Discussion			
Amendments	None		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
Steering Council Election			
Discussion			



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Hattie Tinney and Alonda Trammell, Nominating Committee members, presented the slate of Steering Council nominees and called for nominations from the floor. Thelma Ensink of Degage Ministries was added to the slate. Members voted via e-ballot.

Congratulation to newly elected/re-elected members:

- Ryan Kilpatrick, Senior Program Officer at Facing Home Initiative – DeVos Family Foundation
- Charisse Mitchell, CEO at YWCA
- Lindsey Reames, Executive Director at Grand Rapids Housing Commission
- Victoria Sluga, Manager of Homeless and Housing Services at Pine Rest
- Lauren VanKeulen, CEO at AYA Youth Collective

Thank you to our Departing Steering Council Members

Discussion

There are members of Steering Council who have departed or will be departing at the end of this year. Attendees recognized and thanked these members for their contributions and leadership to the Coalition over the years.

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Funding

Discussion

Courtney Myers-Keaton, CoC Director, shared important upcoming dates regarding Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) funding. These funds and technical assistance will support the development of a coordinated community approach to youth homelessness based on the expertise of youth with lived experience of homelessness. The CoC will be hiring a YHDP Coordinator to support this work.

Update on Grand Rapids Chamber Public Health and Safety Letter to City Commission

Discussion

Courtney Myers-Keaton noted that a letter from the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce signed by multiple businesses was submitted as a petition and communication to Grand Rapids City Commission during last week’s meeting. The letter raised concerns regarding public health and safety and included proposed legislation to mitigate these concerns. The matter was referred to the Public Safety Committee; this group noted that there are several existing ordinances addressing concerns. The proposed ordinances are not being considered by City of Grand Rapids at this time.

The increased focus on public health and safety presents an opportunity to discuss viable solutions for vulnerable community members. A group of stakeholders will meet to develop solutions in January. Attendees developed potential short, medium, and long-term solutions in small groups.

Cold Weather Protocols

Discussion

Adrienne Goodstal, Mel Trotter Ministries, and Julie Kendrick, Degage Ministries, overviewed code blue policies at each of their respective organizations. Warming center space is available at both locations and curfew rules are relaxed.



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In addition, a flyer and list of local warming centers is available on the Coalition's website.			
Year End Reflection			
Discussion			
In small groups, attendees reflected on what they see as the Coalition's biggest successes of 2022 and shared responses with the full group. Top successes include YHDP, collaboration, flexibility, and resources.			
Community Partner Announcements & Updates			
Discussion			
Cassie Shugart shared upcoming trainings hosted by the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness.			
Cathy LaPorte, 61 st District Court, shared about their eviction prevention initiative. They are trying to reach landlords and tenants; information will be shared in the weekly newsletter.			
Hattie Tinney, Grand Rapids Housing Commission, shared that they will be releasing an RFP for Project-Based Vouchers. Contact her at htinney@grhousing.org if interested.			
Adjourn			
Motion by:	Tom Cottrell	Support from:	Cathy LaPorte

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