



Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County – MI 506  
Continuum of Care Membership Meeting Agenda  
December 14, 2023 □ 9:30-11:00 am □ Zoom Meeting link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86380795110?pwd=R1N1eFZpWWFmZWZWN2UDdkWmhsVjZjdz09>  
Or dial +1 929 205 6099 | Meeting ID: 863 8079 5110, Passcode: 326434

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of October 26, 2023 Minutes\*
3. Approval of the Consent Agenda
  - a. MSHDA HCV Homeless Preference List Information
4. 2024 Steering Council Election\*
5. 2023 Year in Review - *What we have done this year and where we are headed*
  - a. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project
  - b. Coordinated Entry
  - c. Built for Zero
6. Community Partner Announcements and Updates
  - a. Ride the Rapid Update (*5 minutes*)
  - b. MCAH Update (*5 minutes*)
7. Adjournment

*\*indicates potential action item*



**CoC MEMBER MEETING**  
**MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

October 26, 2023

9:30-11:00am

Facilitator:	Elizabeth Stoddard
Meeting Attendees:	<p>Elizabeth Stoddard - Fair Housing Center of West Michigan          Bryan Holt - Pine Rest          Marissa Lee - Degage Ministries          LoRae Robinson - Covenant House          Carolyn Allen - Covenant House          Kimberly Seymour - Wyoming Housing Commission          Maranda VanZegeren - Community Rebuilders          Danielle Shields - Arbor Circle          Heather Nyenhuis - Arbor Circle          Monique Carter - Arbor Circle          Tanisa Frye - Family Promise West Michigan          Lindsey Reames - Grand Rapids Housing Commission          Jose Capeles - Grand Rapids Housing Commission          Ryan VerWys - ICCF Community Homes          Monique Jackson – Corporation for Supportive Housing          Mary Carter – Youth Action Board          Aalarion Libbette - Youth Action Board          Cassie Clover - Youth Action Board          Stephanie Gingerich - LINC UP          Nicole Hofert - City of Wyoming          Bill Weld-Wallis - Community Member          Joel Britten - Youth Action Board          King Johnson - Youth Action Board          Amy West - YWCA          James Zerka – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services          Li Kaplan - AYA Youth Collective          Abbey Wallace - Family Promise West Michigan          Caity Young - Family Promise West Michigan          Tammy Vincent - City of Grand Rapids          Annaliese Admiral - ICCF Community Homes          Jennie Compagner - Hope Network          Katherine Besaw - Genesis Nonprofit Housing          Jasmine Gaytan Guillen - HealthNet West Michigan          Catherine Landers - North Kent Connect          Zenaida Jimenez - Safe Haven Ministries          Victoria Arnold - The Salvation Army          Berniz Terpstra - ICCF Community Homes          Allyse Whitman - Mel Trotter Ministries          Luann VanHaren - Board of Degage          Elyse Green - HealthNet West Michigan          Lauren VanKeulen - AYA Youth Collective          KJ Tucker - AYA Youth Collective</p>



## CoC MEMBER MEETING MEETING MINUTES - **DRAFT**

October 26, 2023

9:30-11:00am

	Stephanie Collier - AYA Youth Collective Skyler Boeve - Youth Action Board Wende Randall - ENTF Alonda Trammell - Dwelling Place Chris Frederick - Volunteers of America  CoC Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Alyssa Anten, Justin Brownlee, Brianne Robach, Evan Hile, Ronan Parmenter		
Time Convened:	9:46am	Time Adjourned:	11:00am

<b>Approval of Minutes</b>		<b>August 24, 2023</b>	
Motion by:		Support from:	
Discussion			
Amendments			
Conclusion			
<b>Approval of the Consent Agenda</b>			
Motion by:		Support from:	
Discussion			
Conclusion			
<b>Community Partner Announcements and Updates</b>			
Discussion			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grand Rapids Housing Commission opened its HCV waitlist Monday, open until Friday.</li> <li>- ENTF is looking for individuals interested in engaging with the community around food systems work through the Kent County Food Policy Council</li> <li>- Family Promise has purchased Wyoming Park United Methodist Church and preparing it to be the Wyoming Park Family Shelter, anticipated to open in January 2024.</li> <li>- LINC UP is hosting a Feed the Block food distribution event 10/28 from 10am – 2pm at 1167 Madison.</li> </ul>			
<b>Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project Kickoff</b>			
Discussion			
<p>Monique Jackson gave an overview of the YHDP, including objectives, values, and principles. This group reviewed the Coordinated Community Plan, timeline, and had a time for questions and answers. Members of the Youth Action Board were introduced, and YHDP grantees (Arbor Circle, AYA Youth Collective, Family Promise West Michigan) shared their programs and the implementation process.</p>			
<b>Adjourn</b>			
Motion by:		Support from:	

**Region 4**  
**Number of Homeless on MSHDA HCV WL 9/5/2023**

Please see below the number of individuals on the Homeless Preference Waiting List for your county compared to the number of homeless reported or added to the Homeless Preference Waiting List during December, and the number of individuals the Housing Agent has pulled from the Homeless Preference Waiting List as of September 5, 2023.\*

**\*NOTE: These are ‘moving’ numbers. It may appear a housing voucher is vacant (not leased), however it may be ‘under contract’ – i.e. the household is looking for a rental unit. A household has 60 days to locate housing. The HARA would have to check with the MSHDA Housing Agent for precise information. ALL service providers in the community - this is a great opportunity to focus efforts on helping households in locating housing! You may have access to leads that others are not aware of.**

County	# Added to HP List in August of 2023	# of Homeless on Homeless Preference List	# Pulled by Housing Agent in August	MSHDA Voucher Allocation	MSHDA Voucher Leased-Up
Allegan	10	21	0	195	203
Arenac	1	0	1	20	24
Barry	0	0	3	70	81
Bay	33	97	20	238	265
Clare	9	63	0	65	69
Gladwin	5	34	0	53	52
Gratiot	11	4	12	62	55
Isabella	14	81	0	241	255
Kent	100	436	0	1396	1519
Lake	8	28	0	20	19
Mason	3	10	0	55	49
Mecosta	23	48	0	118	145
Muskegon	51	240	10	488	526
Newaygo	15	46	0	98	108
Oceana	8	34	0	23	23
Osceola	8	1	14	44	47
Ottawa	58	198	0	449	514

**Tips for keeping your waiting list full:**

- Work with/at local shelters so that chronically homeless people are entered onto the waiting list;
- If there are zero shelters in your county, speak to your MSHDA Homeless Assistance Specialist regarding counting doubled-up as homeless (for purpose of placement on the HCV waiting list);
- Work closely with your Housing Agent to know when/where turnover is occurring;

- **Ask your Housing Agent about their pull ratio.** Do they pull two names for every vacant voucher available—or three names, or four? Compare that to your ‘waiting list’ numbers.
- Direct persons who are experiencing homelessness or may qualify for the homeless preference to the HARA agency in your community.
- Work with your Housing Agent to help locate persons or identifying housing options.

## **Housing Agent Contact Information**

### **Allegan, Kent and Ottawa:**

#### **Sandra Burky, Community Housing Advocates**

1362 84 <sup>th</sup> Street, SW Byron Center MI 49315	Ph: (616) 277-1272 Fax: (616) 277-1520	May also contact: Robin Acton <a href="mailto:robin@hcv.comcastbiz.net">robin@hcv.comcastbiz.net</a>	Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Friday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
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### **Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Newaygo, Osceola and Oceana, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella:**

#### **Molly Bopp, Community Management Associates**

18051 Northland Drive Big Rapids MI 49307	Ph: (231) 796-8883 (877) 796-8883 Fax: (231) 796-1242	<a href="mailto:Staff@cma-inc.org">Staff@cma-inc.org</a>	Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
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### **Barry and Muskegon:**

#### **Christina Shepard, Pine Grove Housing Services**

5040 Meredith St Portage, MI 49002	Ph: (269) 343-7230 Fax: (888) 779-8933	<a href="mailto:info@pinegrovehs.com">info@pinegrovehs.com</a>	Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Wednesday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
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### **Arenac, Bay:**

#### **Erik Soderberg, BECKA Management**

2621 Bay St # C Saginaw MI 48602	Ph: (517) 669-9706 Fax: (517) 669-2336	<a href="mailto:erik@becka.us">erik@becka.us</a>	Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 12:30pm
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## 2023 CoC Steering Committee Nominations

Incumbents noted by (\*)

### At-Large Positions (Vote for up to 6):

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Declared Affiliation</u>
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<b>Thelma Ensink</b>	Executive Director	- Degage Ministries	- Chronically Homeless Individual, Women Experiencing Homelessness
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Thelma (she/her) serves as the Executive Director of Dégagé Ministries. Prior to that she served as the Head of School and as a High School Principal at Grandville Calvin Christian Schools. She also served as a paramedic for American Medical Response in the City of Grand Rapids for 12 years and as a medical practice Manager at Ionia Family Medicine. She has an undergraduate degree in Secondary Education from Calvin University and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Grand Valley State University. She has served on the Board for Safe Haven Ministries and the CSI Pension Board.

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<b>Tenisa Frye</b>	CEO	- Family Promise of West Michigan	- Family with Children
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Tenisa (she/her) came from a childhood where she personally experienced her mother supporting multiple families who experienced homelessness in her hometown of Flint, Michigan. As a result of that upbringing, she has remained passionate about finding solutions for those unhoused in our communities. For the last 7 years, she has worked with Family Promise of West Michigan (FPWM) in the space of volunteerism, philanthropy, and board membership. Through this relationship, she was able to learn more about the homelessness response system and the resources in place to support the community. Now as the new CEO of FPWM, she is getting a closer look into the collective efforts in place to end homelessness. In her new role, she is now involved with the CoC, Housing Kent, partnering with other service providers like Mel Trotter, Degage, AYA, ICCF, etc. in hopes of intentionally collaborating and expanding her knowledge for the purpose of finding innovative solutions to put an end to homelessness.

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<b>Kenny Garvin</b>	Associate Director of Community-Based Crisis Services	- Network 180	- Substance Use Disorder, Seriously Mentally Ill
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Kenny (he/him) has worked in the field of social worker for over 14 years, with the last four years at Network 180. He holds a master's in Social Work with a minor in Non-Profit Administration from Grand Valley State University. In his current role as Associate Director of Community-Based Crisis Services, he oversees multiple teams that work to promote access to mental health and substance use services for people in crisis. These teams include the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), the New Hope Sobering Center, Network 180's Mobile Crisis Response Team, and clinicians on the GRPD Co-Response Team. He is dedicated to helping people access support, decreasing barriers to care, and providing crisis intervention in the community.

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## 2023 CoC Steering Committee Nominations

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Declared Affiliation</u>
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**\*Adrienne Goodstal**    President - Mel Trotter Ministries - Substance Use Disorder/Families at Risk of Homelessness

Adrienne (she/her) has been an active member of the COC for 9 years. She took part in the development of the COC strategic planning and sits on multiple COC committees that are helping to drive the goals forward. Her tenure at Mel Trotter Ministries has allowed her the opportunity to work directly with all populations and across the entire spectrum of the homelessness response system.

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**Zenaida Jimenez**    Director of Housing Services - Safe Haven Ministries - Family with Children

Zenaida (she/her) is responsible for coordinating emergency safe shelter intakes, supervising staff who work with shelter residents and has developed the agencies HUD funded transitional housing and RRH program. Zenaida is currently the secretary of the Coordinated Entry committee and has participated in the CoC and Coordinated Entry for the past 3 years. Her expertise in the housing, shelter and domestic violence realm will be extremely valuable to the Steering Committee. Additionally, Zenaida is an active board member of the Heartside Downtown Neighborhood Association for the past 2 years.

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**Lisa Knight**    City Commissioner/Executive Director/Director of Programming for Deborah House - Girls Choral Academy - Formerly Homeless Individual, Victim or Survivors of Domestic Violence

Lisa (she/her) has been engaged with the creating and development of the Deborah House, a transitional home for single moms with children. She was the VP and Chief program officer at the Urban League of West Michigan and was instrumental in creating the youth programming and outreach to families. She supports the work of the Housing Department and Rapid Rehousing, has been working with families and organizations in the community for years, as well as advocating for youth and families. Lisa has a passion for this community, and with equity as a guide, has been instrumental with trainings for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the city of Grand Rapids to create system change within organizational structure.

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**Jazz McKinney**    Executive Director - Grand Rapids Pride Center - 2-SLGBTQ+ Community, BIPOC Community

Jazz (they/them) is a Black, Indigenous Two-Spirit individual who is a facilitator of social justice, public speaker, and change agent for liberation. A firm believer in the power of relationships to bring justice to inequitable organizations, Jazz leads with authenticity, listening, creativity, and truth telling. They are an advocate of racial and disability justice, especially within the 2-SLGBTQ+ community, with a commitment to highlighting the importance of education, awareness, and engagement to create change. Jazz is currently the Executive Director of the Grand Rapids Pride Center and Co-owner/Principal Consultant of Paradigm Shifts Consulting.

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## 2023 CoC Steering Committee Nominations

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Declared Affiliation</u>
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**\*Karen Tjapkes**    Director of Litigation - Legal Aid of West Michigan - Chronically Homeless Individual, Eviction Prevention

Karen (she/her) is the Director of Litigation at Legal Aid of Western Michigan, based in Grand Rapids, where she is responsible for overseeing LAWWM's advocacy and service delivery, establishing litigation goals and strategy, overseeing professional development of the LAWWM staff, and assisting with grant management. Ms. Tjapkes is the co-chair of the Justice for All Commission's Summary Proceeding Workgroup, and sits on the Steering Council of the Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness, the State Bar of Michigan's Consumer Law Section Council, the Legal Services Association of Michigan and the Michigan State Planning Body. She has also served as an Expert Advisor with the Center for Survivor Agency and Justice concerning consumer rights for domestic violence survivors. Ms Tjapkes has presented on housing, bankruptcy and mortgage lending issues for many audiences including the Michigan Foreclosure Prevention Project, the Michigan Poverty Law Program, the Debtor's Bar of West Michigan, the Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing and the National Consumer Law Center's Consumer Rights Litigation Conference. She earned her B.A., with honors, from James Madison College at Michigan State University in 1997, and her J.D., cum laude, from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 2000.

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**\*Alonda Trammell**    Chief Program Officer - Dwelling Place - Chronically Homeless Individual, Substance Use Disorder

Alonda (she/her) has been employed at Dwelling Place of Grand Rapids for the past 31 years. Her current role at Dwelling Place is Chief Program Officer overseeing Support Service, Community Building & Engagement and Property Management departments. She currently works with families and individuals experiencing homelessness in our community. Dwelling Place provides affordable permanent housing and support services to individuals who were recently homeless, fleeing domestic violence, and people with disabilities or a mental health condition. Alonda has engaged in advocacy for housing choice across West Michigan through partnerships with community partners and funders. She is a Licensed Clinical Social (LMSW), and an alumna from Grand Valley State University.

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**Maranda VanZegeren**    Chief of Operations - Community Rebuilders - Person with HIV/AIDS, Chronically Homeless Individual

Maranda (she/her) assists with the evaluation and implementation of the agency's HUD and Veteran projects, providing guidance on the delivery of Housing First and Strengths Based services. She has served on multiple different CoC committees and workgroups and has worked closely with the VA on the Veteran Functional Zero initiative. She assists with the development of the Veteran Action Board and with organizing focus groups and feedback surveys to receive valuable feedback from persons with lived experience.

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## 2023 CoC Steering Committee Nominations

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Declared Affiliation</u>
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<b>*Christina White</b>	Clinic Manager	- Pine Rest	- Substance Use Disorder, Seriously Mentally Ill
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Christie White (she/her), LMSW, is the Clinic Manager of Community Services at Pine Rest. Christie is a current Steering member, nominated by the committee to fill out the term of Victoria Sluga. Christie has worked in various communities over the last 19 years, all in community mental health funded mental health or substance abuse programs. Christie has worked for Pine Rest since 2014, starting her career as a therapist on the StreetReach team. She currently oversees the Community Services Division including the Adult Behavioral Health Home (targeted case management), Recovery Management, Street Reach Case Management and Street Reach Outreach programs at Pine Rest. The outreach programs have received funding from PATH, the City of Grand Rapids, and the United Way. Christie has strong relationships with community healthcare organizations such as Network 180 and Hope Network. She can help represent the needs and resources for those with mental health and substance abuse needs.

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