



Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County – MI 506  
Continuum of Care Membership Meeting Agenda  
April 20, 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 March 23, 2023 Minutes\*
3. Approval of the Consent Agenda
  - a. MSHDA HCV Homeless Preference List Information
4. Housing Navigation Program Funding – *The Salvation Army has been selected as the subgrantee for these funds. Attendees will have the chance to discuss how to ensure all populations are able to access these services*
5. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program: Coordinated Community Plan
6. Coalition Staffing & Infrastructure Update
7. Request for Proposals for Non-Congregate Shelter – *informational item; view the Coalition's RFP [here](#).*
8. Community Partner Announcements and Updates
  - a. MCAH Breakfast of Champions
9. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 22nd, 2023, 9:30-11:00am

*\*indicates potential action item*



**CoC MEMBER MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

March 23, 2023

9:30-11:00am

Facilitator:	Casey Gordon		
Meeting Attendees:	Casey Gordon (Kent ISD), Wende Randall (Essential Needs Task Force), Cecilia Rush (Veterans Administration), Kimmy Srihot (AYA), Georgina Guzman (MSU Extension), Tracy Mulvany (The Salvation Army, ESP), Jennie Compagner (Hope Network), Amy West (YWCA), Elizabeth Stoddard (Fair Housing Center of West Michigan), Sam Elliott-Mosley (Community Rebuilders), Inez Escareno (Pine Rest Street Reach), George Banks (Bethany Christian Services), Mike Waldron (HOT), Caity Young (Family Promise of West Michigan), Mateah Wyant (Exodus Place), Jazz McKinney (GR Pride Center), Victoria Arnold (The Salvation Army), Charli Lee (Corewell Health), Lisa Cruden (Family Promise) Trevor (Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center), Elaine Martinez Vasquez (AYA Youth Collective), Shay Kraley (Kent School Services Network), Bill Weld-Wallis (community member), Carolyn Allen (Covenant House), Hilary Ortiz (Health Net of West Michigan), Matt Perin (61st District Court Eviction Diversion Initiative), Shelby Lake (Senior Neighbors), Kimberly Seymour (Wyoming Housing Commission), Melonie Cooper (Pine Rest Street Reach), Catherine Landers (North Kent Connect), Zenaida Jimenez (Safe Haven Ministries), Bryan Holt (Pine Rest StreetReach) Stephanie Gingerich (LINC UP), Emily Apman (Alternative Directions), Wafa Haddad (Noor's Heaven of West Michigan Services), Alyssa Anten (The Salvation Army), Shannon Tanis (community member), Fran Dalton, (Garfield Park Neighborhoods Assoc.), Eileen McKeever (YWCA West Central Michigan), Gordie Moeller (Double Up Food Bucks), Wanda Couch (Grand Rapids Housing Commission), Jeff Dashner (Mel Trotter), Susan Sheppard (Arbor Circle), Molly Perez (Kent County Health Department), <a href="#">Kari Sherman (Urban League of West Michigan)</a> Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Robach		
Time Convened:	9:34	Time Adjourned:	10:50

<b>Approval of Minutes</b>		<b>December 15, 2022</b>	
Motion by:	Elizabeth Stoddard	Support from:	Carolyn Allen
Discussion			
Amendments	None		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
<b>Approval of the Consent Agenda</b>			
Motion by:	Wende Randall	Support from:	Lisa Cruden
Discussion			
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
<b>Community Housing Connect 2.0</b>			
Discussion			



**CoC MEMBER MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

March 23, 2023  
9:30-11:00am

Courtney Myers-Keaton shared that a website with information on Community Housing Connect (CHC) 2.0 is available at [communityhousingconnect.org](http://communityhousingconnect.org) under the CHC 2.0 tab. She walked through the site which includes an overview of CHC 2.0, what to expect, and opportunities to get involved for stakeholders including people with lived experience and services providers. The CHC 2.0 tool is being developed using a community based collaborative process. Community Rebuilders will own the technology and a vendor agreement will be in place to make changes requested by the community. Courtney encouraged attendees to engage with the process through the website.

**Coalition Strategic Plan: 2023 Q1 and Q2 Goals**

Discussion

Courtney indicated that staff are planning to re-invigorate the strategic plan implementation team as goals to increase staffing are underway. An Administrative Coordinator is onboarding soon and additional positions will be posted in the next few weeks.

Courtney overviewed goals set for Q1 and Q2 and the efforts around each goal. She also highlighted the development of a Coordinated Community Plan for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) funding which is not included as a goal.

**Stella System-Wide Data Walkthrough**

Discussion

Courtney indicated that all CoC members can access this system-wide data visualization by creating an account and requesting access to MI-506. She overviewed data visualized in Stella and the ways data can be analyzed.

**Preliminary Point-in-Time Count Data**

Discussion

Courtney indicated that this data set is still preliminary. She presented the preliminary data by household type and demographics and discussed factors impacting this year's data.

**Request for Proposals for Shelter Diversion Pilot**

Discussion

Brianne Robach overviewed the Coalition's recent Request for Proposals (RFP) for a shelter diversion pilot. Responses are due on Thursday, April 13 by 4:00pm. The Coalition is facilitating meetings to develop a collaborative community application.

Courtney Myers-Keaton overviewed upcoming funding opportunities including funding for non-congregate shelter and the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). She indicated that Housing Navigator Program funding through MSHDA (Michigan State Housing Development Authority) will be allocated to The Salvation Army based on limited funding and scope.

**Community Partner Announcements & Updates**

Discussion

Wende Randall encouraged providers to complete the Kent County Community Action's community needs assessment survey for providers.

Stephanie Gingerich shared an opportunity to hold a resource table at LINC UP's Rock the Block event.



**CoC MEMBER MEETING  
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March 23, 2023

9:30-11:00am

Elizabeth Stoddard shared information about the Fair Housing Center's April 27 virtual event "Where We Live matters: Health, Housing and the Environment".

Jeff Dashner provided an update on the re-location and transition for the Heartside Ministries space at 200 S Division. They do not anticipate service distortion during the transition.

Wende Randall shared about the Walk for Good Food which is an opportunity to raise awareness around food justice.

Wafa Haddad shared that today is the first day of Ramadan and highlighted the practices taking place in the Muslim community during this time.

<b>Adjourn</b>			
Motion by:	Molly Perez	Support from:	Susan Sheppard

DRAFT

**Region 4**  
**Number of Homeless on MSHDA HCV WL 3/2/2023**

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 March 2, 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 February of 2023	# of Homeless on Homeless Preference List	# Pulled by Housing Agent in February	MSHDA Voucher Allocation	MSHDA Voucher Leased-Up
Allegan	8	5	8	187	189
Barry	2	0	7	65	65
Ionia	11	51	15	75	75
Kent	63	530	75	1272	1328
Lake	6	9	5	19	19
Mason	13	43	0	48	45
Mecosta	11	6	8	111	126
Montcalm	2	53	13	67	68
Muskegon	38	267	0	463	516
Newaygo	10	33	17	87	90
Oceana	8	26	0	21	27
Osceola	3	13	0	30	34
Ottawa	49	166	48	401	427

**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, Ionia, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo, Osceola and Oceana:**

#### **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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