



OAKLAND COUNTY Homeless Healthcare Collaboration

Homeless Healthcare Collaboration Meeting Minutes May 14, 2021

Welcome & Introductions – Elizabeth Kelly, HOPE

- Meeting commenced at 9:03 a.m.

Featured Speakers

Representative Brenda Carter, 29th House District & Senator Rosemary Bayer, 12th District

- Representative Carter is the chair of the Poverty and Homelessness Caucus which is bipartisan and bicameral. Senator Bayer is the co-chair of the Poverty and Homelessness Caucus. The Caucus has five subgroups – education, benefits, criminal justice, economics, and health, housing and safety.
- In Oakland County, a pilot project has begun to create a research report with recommendations of actions to take in eradicating homelessness across the County.
- The remainder of the CARES 2 funding, \$446 million is being released from the State of Michigan specifically for housing assistance.
- HB 4259 – Eviction moratorium only during a State of Emergency.
- HB 4073 – Electric and natural gas shutoff prevention. As part of this bill, the person with back debt and the utility company would enter into an agreement to prevent a shutoff.
- New bills being introduced in Lansing:
 - The landlord must include other sources of income than just job income when calculating income for housing.
 - Local communities can create their own community trust funds. Businesses giving funds to local housing trust funds can get income tax breaks.
 - Businesses and companies will receive tax incentives to refurbish community housing and compact development to adjacent infrastructure.
 - A landlord must give a 30 day notice to tenants when the building is closing.

- Contact Information:

Representative Brenda Carter
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brendacarter@house.mi.gov

Senator Rosemary Bayer
517-373-2417
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Laurel Burchfield, Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH)

- The Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness is dedicated to creating a sustainable statewide voice and the infrastructure and systemic change needed to empower communities to end homelessness.
- The Michigan Housing and Community Development Fund was created in 2004, but has only received funding twice. The Fund supports programs for affordable housing and homeless prevention programs across Michigan. MCAH is advocating to create a permanent funding source for the Michigan Housing and Community Development Fund (MHCDF).
- In Michigan for every 1000 extremely low-income renters there are only 40 affordable and available units.
- MCAH is advocating support for source of income protections which would prevent landlords from rejecting potential tenants based solely on their source of income, including vouchers, SSI/SSDI, veteran's benefits, and any other legal form of income.
- MCAH supports an appropriations increase for the Emergency Shelter Program of \$2 million (or equivalent of just over \$2 per night).
- Join MCAH's source of income organizing call every other Thursday at 10:00am. Register at: bit.ly/MCAHSOIMeeting
- Join MCAH's Legislative Action Committee: bit.ly/LACregistration
- Vaccine brochure - <https://bit.ly/3fmn6yA>
- Contact Information:

Laurel Burchfield
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Agency Updates

Ernestine McRae, HAVEN

- HAVEN partnered with Honor Community Health to vaccinate clients, volunteers, and staff.
- When COVID-19 started, HAVEN transitioned to a lower client capacity. They are transitioning people from the shelter to a hotel and then to a new home. They opened three transitional housing homes and looking to open another. The transitional housing is for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. HAVEN's building never closed during COVID-19. Counseling is available in-person and virtually.

Dallas LaCross & Angela Gill, Lighthouse

- Throughout COVID-19, Lighthouse as increased their capacity up to 100 clients who are living in motel style housing. Old transitional housing space is being shifted into an emergency women and children shelter. They will have 16 units dedicated to children and women. The Coolidge Place project has continued and now is comprised of 64 units of supportive housing. Sixteen units are designated for people who are chronically homeless and have another disability. The remaining 48 units are for people who have an income that's 50% or below the medium area income.
- Drive-up food pantries are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at their Clarkston and Pontiac locations. Lighthouse has stated a food delivery program. For more information, visit <https://mycovidresponse.org/volunteer/food/>.

Elizabeth Kelly, HOPE

- HOPE opened a housing site at the Rodeway Inn in Auburn Hills for people who were COVID-19 positive, exposed to COVID-19 or worked in a high-risk environment like a grocery store.

Next Homeless Healthcare Collaboration Meeting

Friday, September 10, 2021 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom