



OAKLAND COUNTY

# Homeless Healthcare Collaboration

Bringing Community Resources Together

---

## ID Task Force Minutes

Monday, February 27, 2017 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Oakland County Health Division **Room 321**

1200 North Telegraph Building 34 East, Pontiac MI 48341

Conference Call: (248) 454-0579

**Present:** Debra Hendren (CHN-Oakland), Debra Hayes (MBK-Genesee), Shelly Wood (Vital Records MDHHS), Jennifer Grostic (Degage Ministries-Kent), James Fackler (SoS); Ardi Cera (SoS), Angela Alongi (Macomb Homeless Coalition), Connie Lasher (Macomb CMH), Nicole Odom (MDOC Pontiac office), Sandi Elanges (Health Division—Oakland), Elizabeth Kelly (HOPE-Oakland)

### 1. General Discussion on SoS Pilot

Ardi Cera indicated there were three requests in the past month, all from the Share Center in Battle Creek/Calhoun. Ardi indicated that the Bridge card is a good alternate document, but still has to go through Exceptions for approval. These three requests did not have to come through the pilot program and could have been handled by having the individual apply at the local branch office and the documents then being forwarded to Exceptions in the routine way. The services providers are concerned that this will delay the process for the applicant and will continue to require the individual to make multiple trips to the local branch office.

Continued discussion about the request to add a fee waiver to this program. Discussion about alternative ways, not through the pilot program, to request a fee waiver. One of the ways a person can access the SoS Free ID for Me program, is to show their SSI/SSDI benefit letter.

Debra Hayes reported that Genesee has seven agencies trained in the pilot program. Oakland County is going to do another training at the Alliance for Housing bimonthly meeting. Case managers and interested parties from other counties are welcome and have been invited to participate.

James Fackler expressed concern that agencies did not know when to use the pilot so he indicated he would create a decision tree document. He indicated that the branch office can help with uncertainty over which documents are acceptable. There was further discussion contending that the purpose of the pilot was to eliminate unnecessary trips to SOS and so multiple trips to the branch office was not an option for those without transportation.

Nicole Odom stated that a new prisoner re-entry program strives to have all exiting MDOC with vital documents in hand. MDOC is paying for these birth certificates and state IDs. The SOS mobile office



OAKLAND COUNTY

# Homeless Healthcare Collaboration

Bringing Community Resources Together

---

comes to each prison on a regular cycle. Jennifer Grostic indicated that her agency is glad to hear of the MDOC program as many of their services recipients struggle to secure identity documents. Nicole offered to provide her with more information about the MDOC program and provided her phone number for separate meeting.

## 2. Plan for rolling out the SoS ID Exceptions plan statewide

James Fackler indicated that although it has to go through the Exceptions unit, the homeless verification letter can be used by all throughout the state without utilizing the pilot program, simply presenting it at the local branch office. Again there is concern that the applicant will then experience a delay in approval as the documents will be faxed to the Exceptions Unit for review requiring an additional trip back to the local branch office. He was asked by Debra Hendren if there was a list of acceptable *Exceptions* documents that could be provided to agencies so that they didn't need to pre-fax to Tina/Ardi. James stated we should just keep doing what we are doing.

At this point there is no plan to move the SoS ID pilot into general practice instead of a pilot. Both Kalamazoo and Saginaw have asked to come on board but this has not been approved.

## 3. Birth Certificates/Vital Records

- a. **Calhoun and Kalamazoo announcement**—both counties are in the process of launching a fee waiver for vital documents.
- b. **Genesee update**- Debra Hayes reported that she is working closely with John Gleason, the Genesee Co Clerk to help the Board of Commission understand the need for this fee waiver program
- c. **MDHHS Vital Records**- Shelly indicated that their fees are set by the MI Legislature. She outlined their fee structure and indicated that paying an extra rush fee would get the birth certificate to the individual within 1-2 weeks. Usual timeframe is 3-4 weeks. She indicated that the biggest challenge are undeliverable birth certificates

## 4. Other issues/Updates

1. Legislative Day March 2—access to ID/vital documents is one of the agenda items to be discussed with legislators
2. MCAH agency survey on ID access was distributed
3. MI Plan to End Homelessness/Increase Economic Stability Workgroup is also working on ID issues



OAKLAND COUNTY

# Homeless Healthcare Collaboration

Bringing Community Resources Together

---

4. MI Commission on Community Action and Economic Opportunity paper, *State Identification Cards* was distributed.

## 5. Social Security

Dan Bowman was not on the call.

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017      2:00 - 4:00 PM**