**Greater Lansing Homeless Resolution
Network Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, May 17, 2018**

**9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Advent House Ministries**

 **743 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing 48915**

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order 938 am

**Network Introductions**

See sign in sheets

**Presentation**:

 COORDINATED ENTRY TRAINING

Julie Shaltry VOA

Presentation to be emailed out after meeting

*What is CE?*

A program mandated by HUD. Effectively assess and prioritize individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

*Purpose of CE*:

To ensure all people experiencing homelessness have fair and equal access to housing using standardized tools and practices people are being put where they will be best served based on their skills and abilities.

*CE Design*:

Anyone who needs assistance with a housing crisis is made aware of options

Households who are experiencing homelessness gain access to solutions

Prioritize households

Provide clarity, transparency, consistency, and accountability throughout the assessment and referral process

Facilitate exits from homelessness to stable housing as quickly as possible

*CE Objectives*:

Standard assessment process

Uniform guidelines are established among homeless housing programs

Consistent referral policies and procedures

CE policies are a subset of GLHRN Policies

*CEA (Coordinated Entry Agency)*:

The physical space where the activities take place. This is VOA in mid-Michigan. VOA hosts the CE, it’s not about VOA, it’s the space where the work happens. There are specific CE funds available.

*CEA responsibilities*:

Administering designated funds

Managing the waitlist and policies and procedures

Developing housing relationships and sharing housing resources

Developing CE policies and Procedures with GLHRN

Managing the prioritization list

Assist the GLHRN with training related to CE

Assist the GLHRN with the ongoing programs and training

*Coordinated Intake*:

Centralizing intake and program decisions makes it more likely that homeless persons will be served by the right intervention quickly

Each front door uses the same assessment tool and makes decisions based on many factors.

*Who Funds the CEA?*

MSHDA provides the ESG HUD Entitlement

ESG MSHDA and City ESG

*What the CEA Does?*

Assess a housing situation to alleviate areas of housing instability

Primary tool is the VI-SPDAT

Based on assessment referrals are made

System promotes housing first, funding shelters that are low barrier, meaning we do not keep persons from entering shelters who are carrying a barrier

Services being rendered are not a condition of tenancy. Person can refuse help but still obtain housing. If you are requiring someone get counseling or a job before they get housing, we are no longer doing housing first.

Housing cannot be based on income.

*VI-SPDAT Scores*

These are guidelines, not necessarily a hard and fast rule.

0-4 Referrals to community partners, low vulnerability, housing crisis can be resolved with a minimal touch

5-9 All of what 0-4 gets, but also rapid rehousing and prevention financial assistance

10+ All of above options, plus referrals to PSH, case management under IDT

*CE & The Referral Process*

After SPDAT scores, etc, then we make referrals

Offering the best housing intervention possible, based on multiple factors.

Households are prioritized based on severity of need and Chronically homeless issues.

Could be referred for immediate housing placement, other housing, income resources, food resources, basic needs, transportation help, legal services, substance abuse & Mental health referrals.

*Housing Resources in Ingham County*

Emergency Shelter, Housing Choice Voucher, Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Prevention, HUD VASH

*Rapid Rehousing*

Rental assistance up to six months

Low income

Target population, Certified homeless category 1

Verified income

Priority populations – Homeless with a disability, Chronically homeless, General homeless, History of vulnerability

*Prevention*

Used to serve categories 2-4, certified at risk of becoming homeless. Short term or medium term rental assistance to prevent homelessness.

Eligible costs for prevention: arrearages, utilities, leasing assistance, housing search and placement, housing stability case management, and mediation

*Accessing CE*

Every agency falls into one of these three categories.

Access Points, is an organization that is fully integrated into the CE system.

Referral points is an organization that works with the CE system and is related to a social or community service

Community Knowledge, members in the community who should be educated about CE but are not directly involved in the CE system

*CEA Staff*

Diane Singleton, CE Manager

Sam Makauch, Prevention

Kelly Morris, Rapid ReHousing

Michelle Buck, PSH Referrals, HCV, Network Coordinator

Leslie Sosa, Outreach to shelters, eviction diversion, and HCV sign up

*Supporting the CE*

Collaborate and coordinate with CEA, share your openings

Make referrals to CE

Look for gaps, work to fill them

Enter accurate detailed info in HMIS, be sure to document Chronicity

Attend CoC meetings and participate in activities

*Questions?*

CoC means? Continuum of Care

Hotel program, defined, Staffed by Miss Lucy. Hotel Emergency Lodging Program. Funded By MIDHHS, thru Salvation Army. Only program in Ingham County. Allows persons who cannot get into a shelter in the community, this program is the safety net. Get safety and stay there until there is a shelter opening that is appropriate. Can be accessed thru VOA.

Please send any additional questions to coordinator@glhrn.org

**Announcements**

*City of Lansing* – Mobile food pantry at Cristo Rey Church

Feed the Baby, Keep them Dry program was successful and have a few things left over.

There are some utility dollars for BWL only. Utilizing True North

City of Lansing grants to be given to community will be approved next week. Some agencies weren’t funded, we won’t be duplicate funding programs.

One Church, one family has two vacancies, referral thru Advent House.

*MDHHS* –

Flyers at table regarding Summer EBT for Children. Families that have eligible children will be given an EBT card separate than the other cards. Not an application program. School aged children. Across the state this is available.

*DHHS* does not have furniture money at this time.

CoC needs to address the furniture issue at this time, people are placing kids on the floors on apartments. We shouldn’t be putting people in empty units without furniture. Kids shouldn’t be eating or sleeping on floors.

*CMH* –

Email from Coordinator. Urgent Call for action, regarding the budget. They put some language into budget that would lead the way to privatize CMH instead of keeping it public. There is also a way to give the Medicaid dollars to private therapy. Please call and say take this out of the budget. Put the money back into CMH

Updates will be taken to the Board, from the work you as a committee did last year.

City ESG grant dollars have been assigned. And approved

The Stand Down is next Wednesday.

Move up vouchers are being used in the community. 11 have been accepted.

Membership committee still needs members. Please join us if you would like to help update all of this information or join the committee.

VOA last month with the Holy Cross announcement – there is nothing solid. The press release was just a community service to let everyone know we were in talks. Informal and informative, to let people know there is a change. VOA does not think that location will change or the CE will change. A lot of work internally to ensure that all services at 430 N Larch continue to get done.

COGL prayer team will be praying to the network and homeless population immediately following this meeting.

**Adjournment**

Adjournment at 10:58am