

Region 7 Face-to-Face Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2009
9:00 a.m. – Noon

I. Welcome and Introductions:

Attendees:

**Region 7
County:**

Representative Present:

<i>Clinton</i>	Pauline Baert & Rhoda Hacker
<i>Eaton</i>	Denise Dunn & Nancy Oliver
<i>Hillsdale</i>	Maxine Vanlerberg
<i>Ingham</i>	Angie Mayeaux, Patrick Patterson & Darla Dowker Jackson
<i>Jackson</i>	
<i>Lenawee</i>	Theresa Rupley
<i>Livingston</i>	Lindsay Beaudry
<i>Shiawassee</i>	Becky Zemla & Linda Schonberg
<i>Washtenaw</i>	Julie Steiner

Also Present: Juanita Chapman (Capital Area Community Services for Clinton, Eaton, Ingham and Shiawassee counties), Tanda Reynolds (DHS), Paul Beiring (MSHDA) and Lindsey Bishop (CSH)

Coordinator: Debby Kloosterman

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by State Leadership Team representative, Maxine Vanlerberg.

There were no additions to the agenda. Angie Mayeaux made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Denise Dunn supported. Motion carried.

There were no corrections to the March meeting minutes. Denise Dunn made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Angie Mayeaux supported. Motion carried.

IV. Coordinator Report: Debby Kloosterman reported:

- A. Communication Feedback: There was no communication feedback provided at today's meeting. Debby had promised to provide a conference phone for today's meeting. She was able to borrow the equipment from Clinton County RESA but then discovered that the phone required an analog phone line and that Jackson County DHS had just converted to digital (Murphy's Law)!
- B. Housing First Regional Grant Reporting: As was specified in the Memorandum of Understanding with each of the communities funded, a quarterly report is required. These reports are to be submitted April 15th, July 15th and October 15th. The form that was sent referenced a second page or a spreadsheet. Debby agreed to check into this. Regional members asked if the reporting form could be sent to the lead agency (fiduciary) in each community versus the regional representatives. (Washtenaw Housing Alliance did send out a revised document on 4/22/09, but has not answered my question regarding the second page as yet.)

V. State Leader Reports and Action Items: Maxine Vanlerberg reported:

- A. Homeless Summit Planning: Maxine took part in another planning session for the October 2009 Homeless Summit via conference call on April 20th. The theme for the conference is: "Change That Makes a Difference". The planning committee is working toward 20- 25 break out sessions and is still seeking presenters. If you have, or know of someone who has, a topic or training that would be appropriate, please contact Maxine: mvanlerberg@caajlh.org. Key note speakers have yet to be solidified. Some members also questioned the cost of Summit attendance. Maxine was unable to address this issue.

All CTEH regions will be afforded the opportunity to meet at the end of the second Summit day. Region Seven representatives asked Maxine to convey that this meeting needed to be more productive than the last experience. Maxine was also asked to pass on a request for more dialogue on the Voices for Action poverty initiative efforts.

Former State Leadership Team representative Kim Clementz resigned effective April 1st, 2009. Debby had sent out an e-mail requesting self or other nominations but did not receive any hopeful candidates.

Angie Mayeaux inquired about the Operating Guidelines and asked if an alternate could serve in this capacity. If this idea was acceptable, Angie agreed that she would serve as the second State Leadership Team representative.

The group consensus was that the Operating Guidelines were not yet solidified and, even if they were, changes could be made to reflect the possibility of an alternate serving in this role.

Denise Dunn made the motion to nominate Angie Mayeaux as the State Leadership Team representative for the term ending in December 2011. Becky Zemla supported. Motion carried unanimously.

Angie's nomination also provided the blend of both urban and rural backgrounds for the two State Leadership representatives from Region Seven.

VI. Updates from Collaborative Partners:

MSHDA: Paul Beiring reported:

- His new role is to serve as a liaison to all the MSHDA CTEH regions. As such, he would like to use the State Leadership Team representatives more effectively as a way to disseminate information.
- MSHDA will be receiving \$22m in Federal Stimulus Plan dollars. There is so much activity right now that it is difficult to keep track of it all! The focus of these monies will be on the Homeless Prevention Recovery Program (HPRP) and Rapid Rehousing (RR). The draft Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) is on the MSHDA website. Both Lansing and Jackson will be funded directly by HUD. All other entities will need to apply through MSHDA. A technical assistance conference call will be held in June. Judging by past experience, these calls are not always helpful in addressing the types of questions that communities may have. So, Paul suggested that our May Region Seven meeting be face-to-face with a focus on understanding and meeting the criteria for the NOFA. Tanda Reynolds was able to secure the same meeting room and conference call capacity will be available (See comment above regarding digital capacity only.)
- The HPRP grant is a three-year grant but MSHDA hopes that the money will be spent in two years. The grant specifies that 60% of the money be spent at the end of year 2 and 100% at the end of year 3. The draft NOFA is open to public comment through April 28th, 2009. MSHDA is awaiting HUD approval before it can officially post the

grant on the web. At this time, the grant will be due at the end of July with the intention of implementation by September 1, 2009.

- A question was voiced about whether Lansing and Jackson can apply for MSHDA (not direct HUD funding) dollars as well. Paul stated that he believed that this would be possible but that these two municipalities would still need to meet the MSHDA requirements for a Community Housing Assistance Plan (CHAP) and that funding for year two will be contingent upon goals met in year one of the grant. The grant will require the identification of one lead agency in each community or COC jurisdiction. This agency will serve as the fiduciary but can create MOU's with other local organizations to provide services.
- Another question arose about the use of a centralized intake mechanism. Paul noted that this term could refer to a "no wrong door" approach with common intake forms or a single point of entry model.
- Another point of discussion and item for public comment was on the issue of DHS State Emergency Relief program "denial letter" and the time frame quoted in the NOFA especially in light of the new DHS Bridges system and challenges with data migration. Since changing DHS is not plausible, representatives asked that "denial" be changed to "decision" and that a fall-back plan could be created for a situation that no one has any ability to control at this time.
- Paul suggested that members download the NOFA and read it carefully before the May 19th meeting. Plans created should be mindful that Michigan is one of 16 states chosen to be closely audited for its use of Stimulus dollars and careful outcome and evaluation measures should be considered.
- There will be a one-day convening of MSHDA statewide workgroups. This will be an all-day meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 7th at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

Corporation for Supportive Housing: Lindsey Bishop reported:

- Lindsey has been working closely with Paul Beiring and others to create the recently posted NOFA. Since this has been a huge time commitment, there are no additional items to report.

Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness: Debby reported on behalf of Jason Weller:

- Debby invited Jason to attend the meeting today. He had intended to be at our meeting but sent his regrets. However, Jason asked that Region Seven members let MICAH know about any Project Homeless Connect events or housing-related trainings so that they may be posted on MICAH's website. Any press releases or other promotional news items can also be submitted to share with our statewide partners.

Department of Human Services: Tanda Reynolds reported:

- Tanda indicated that DHS appears to be channeling its energy into the Poverty Initiative instead of the homeless prevention efforts. (Aren't they the same thing in many ways?) Tanda participated in a statewide conference call. It appears that the State may be moving to create regional presentations around poverty issues. More information will follow. The prospective presenter is Donna Beegle.

VII. Campaign to End Homelessness Statewide Workgroup Reports:

The best way to get reports on the progress of the statewide workgroups is to subscribe to the Campaign newsletter. To sign up for the newsletter, go to <http://tinyurl.com/CTEHnews>

VIII. Voices for Action (V4A) Poverty Initiative Update: Paul Beiring noted that an additional \$50,000 was to be allocated to each of the regions to forward the goals of the Summit. Tanda Reynolds' report is combined with the DHS report above.

IX. CTEH Ten Year Plan Presentation: Ingham County

Angie Mayeaux and Darla Dowker Jackson provided an in-depth PowerPoint presentation. Some of the highlights of the presentation included:

- The vision that Ingham has for resolving homelessness issues and the various populations that they target through a myriad of services and approaches
- Five Catalytic Recommendations for their service community:
 - Affordable Accessible Housing
 - Supportive Services
 - Policy Change
 - Public Awareness and Education
 - Clearing House for Resources
- The manner in which they capitalize on the United Way self-sufficiency matrix and use it as a pre and post test measure
- The approaches to consumer involvement that include both natural environments (using a lunch meeting in a day-shelter environment) and special approaches (using a meal in a restaurant setting)
- Mentoring clients who are homeless to integrate them into the community through the use of formerly homeless individuals as mentors (This also takes some responsibility away from case managers and allows for peer mentoring which can be more powerful.)
- The ways in which the members of the Greater Lansing Homeless Resolution Network have been able to approach both chronic and situational homeless issues in creative ways to serve the needs of their community.

X. Operating Guidelines Part Two:

Debby began a brief discussion of the group's vision statement at 11:45 a.m. There was not adequate time to fully develop the ideas that were presented, so Debby asked if she could send them out electronically and continue the work via e-mail. Members agreed. We will revisit this item in future meetings.

XI. Other Items of Concern:

Lindsay Beaudry asked if a calendar of housing-related deadlines was available. Discussion followed to indicate:

- The Campaign to End Homelessness website has a calendar available.
- Each community must create its own calendar to identify their unique planning and funding deadlines.
- Dates seem to change from year to year making a calendar challenging at best.

XII. Adjournment:

With no further business before the body, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 19th, 2009
Face-to-Face Meeting

Louis Glick Building
301 East Louis Glick Highway
Jackson, MI 49201
9:00 a.m. - Noon

Conference Call Dial in: 877-402-9753
Access Code: 2265996