

CENTRAL MI LPB AGENDA

Balance of State Continuum of Care Local Planning Body
Third Thursday Every Month
Covering Gratiot, Isabella, Montcalm, and Ionia counties

LPBs are the lead local workgroups responsible for managing community planning, coordination, and evaluation to ensure that the system of homeless services and housing resources makes homelessness rare, brief, and one time.

Welcome and Introductions

Rachel Pung, Have Mercy; Marni Walker, GIRESD; Kris Lindsey, MAISD; Jennifer Butler, RAVE; Holly Baker, EightCAP; Glennes Page, Region 4 Offender Success; Kaylan Rauch, EightCAP; Erin Rubingh, Listening Ear; Louanne McIntyre, EightCAP; Jake Campbell, EightCAP; Tara Herald, Isabella Citizens for Health; Jessica Oswald, Gratiot County Hope House; Audrey Fleming, MAISD; Annie Sanders United Way G/I; Ryanne Jaime, Disability Network; Rhonda Pagel, EightCAP; Shanna Smith, MMDHD; Kim Cain, Have Mercy; Christa Jerome, MMDHD; Sydneigh Lantzer, EightCAP; Alyssa VanStrien, Jake Gregory, Gratiot County Hope House; Penny Denis, EightCAP; Samantha Mitchell, EightCAP; Tasha Britton, MDHHS

LPB Committee Reports:

- Access Improvement-Call Center/Shelter Diversion/Housing Navigation

Lori Johnson provided an update on the last meeting of the access improvement committee. EightCAP, RISE, GCHH, Have Mercy, and ICRH have met twice to discuss how individuals are getting into the housing response system and how quickly are we able to respond. Working toward revamping the “housing hotline” to include additional prompts for callers to identify their need and to triage calls more efficiently. EightCAP is working on updating our staffing capacity to include additional assessors. The shelters are working on a new process to apply for shelter in all three counties that will utilize an application built on the Have Mercy webpage but will have its own URL: www.gimishelter.org This will help shelters have access to an application from wherever they are if they have access to the internet. This application will also be sent automatically to EightCAP to increase speed of contact for those who are homeless. Dee Obrecht from ICRH is going to work with CMU to help develop a Logo for the CM LPB.

All updates and changes to the system have a kick-off date of April 1. Regular check-ins will happen to make sure that the process is doing what is intended and not causing additional barriers to get services. This meeting will meet monthly/bi-monthly depending on the workload.

EightCAP is also going to investigate hosting a website for the CM LPB so that meeting minutes and recordings are available outside of the meeting days.

- By Name List

Rhonda Pagel provided an update of the first By Name List meeting using the new HMIS By Name report. The report helps to automate the client sort to be able to prioritize according to the BOS priority policy much more easily. Agencies who have access to HMIS are present at the meeting to ensure that everyone we think should be on the By Name list is on the list and that we aren't missing individuals who are known to be homeless. Completing this process together will help increase communication between partners who know where our homeless community members are and hopefully increase our ability to pull only those who are still currently homeless for program slots.

At this meeting, we were able to pull every client for a housing program slot. Rhonda and her staff will work on communicating with individuals to work on enrollments.

The By Name List meeting will be held monthly at 9am on the morning of the LPB meeting.

- Housing and Support Intervention

Not currently meeting.

- Communications/Marketing/Partnerships

Not currently meeting.

- ESG Committee (only Jan-funding deadline)

Not currently meeting.

Lori Johnson sent a survey for LPB members to volunteer to join a LPB committee.

Community Housing Initiatives Reports:

- Housing Resources/Solutions
- County Human Resources Collaborative Bodies

Lori Johnson discussed an initiative in the Montcalm Human Services Collaborative that will fund a Navigator position. The purpose of the position is to bring alignment to all of the CNAs and Strategic Plans within the organizations in the collaborative. Many organizations are working toward many of the same needs and goals, the Community Navigator will start to draw connection line between these commonalities. Housing has been identified in most of the CNA's across the community.

Annie Sanders provided an update of the Isabella Collaborative which meets the first Friday of every month. Housing is a topic but not the only topic.

Isabella Transitions Meeting meets on the 2nd Friday of the month as a spinoff of the ICRH Transitional meeting. There are three workgroups dedicated to after homelessness but before stable housing, which is a need in Isabella County. Currently working to understand the community systems already in place for individuals who need resources in the transitional housing space. Anyone is welcome to attend. In March the Salvation Army Pathways to Hope program will present and in April CMA will provide a presentation. Future organizations will be CMH and DHHS to discuss how they respond to housing needs.

Gratiot County Collaborative Meeting meets monthly. Housing is discussed but not the only topic.

Email Annie Sanders to be put on the distribution list for participation at those meetings.

BOS Reports (Calendar with links on <http://www.miboscoc.com/>):

- Governance Council (Rhonda Pagel, Jacob Campbell, Louanne McIntyre, Kim Cain) –

The meeting minutes for the Governance Council can be found on www.miboscoc.com . Louanne provided an update that the BOSCOG is talking about access and providing a lot of training on the new recommended actions for LPBs and the tools available on the site for training. There is a link in the chat for a list of the MIBOSCOG committee meetings or you can find links on the website.

- Coordinated Entry

- o HARA (Rhonda Page, Louanne McIntyre, Lori Johnson)

- o Shelter (Kim Cain, Rachel Pung, Dee Obrecht)

This was the first shelter committee meeting since switching to the new rotation. Trying to build a foundation on how the committee will be organized and moved forward. Members had time for discussion to identify problems that prevalent and help find solutions.

- Performance and Outcomes

Rhonda and Donna from EightCAP attend and will provide future updates at the meetings.

- Funding (HUD and ESG funding and processes)

None at this time.

- Domestic Violence Sub-committee

Discussion was how to prioritize DV survivors on the By Name list.

- Veteran Sub-committee: Jacob Campbell

Developed goals for 2023, main focus for outreach and educating partners about SOAR. Talked about issues with the Squares system; second focus housing development; third focus, veteran specific discussion on the By Name list. Discussed veteran eligibility and the use of the Squares system to run veteran eligibility. Staff will review the DD-214 for better eligibility efficacy with Squares.

- Youth Sub-committee (Erin Rubingh)

Discussed a statewide GAP or Youth Advisory Board, of those with lived experience, to help take stories to a new outreach level to paint the picture of what Youth Homelessness looks like.

- Finance (Planning Grant-BOS staffing/operations)

Data/Program Reports:

- LPB Data

HARA report was included in the meeting packet.

- Funding Reports (Quarterly)

EightCAP can bring the financial reports to the March meeting for the last quarter.

- HCV/PBV Reports

In the HARA report. Isabella, Gratiot, and Ionia counties just had a pull for HCV. More vouchers are expected to be allotted to counties through new MSHDA funding.

New Business:

PIT Count Update—Forms have been collected and are currently being reviewed for data entry. Rhonda and Rachel will get the data entry into HMIS by the deadline in March. They will provide an update at March meeting. Finding encampments was difficult this year, which means that people are being resourceful when the weather is very cold. There was some duplication between partners who completed forms, indicating that our community partners are completing the forms and people are reaching out for resources. Felt that the search was effective, but are anticipating smaller numbers than last year. Weather likely played a role in the lower numbers.

Louanne McIntyre provided an update on Housing Stability Services. Currently EightCAP has a presence in all four county court systems to help with mediation between landlords and tenants. Additionally, case management services are available to get connected to available resources. There is not financial assistance funding in Housing Stability Services. However, EightCAP did apply and will be awarded a small grant for rental arrearages.

Listening Ear is looking for host homes homeless youth. Contact Erin at Listening Ear for more information on the program needs.

Next Meeting Date: March 16, 2023 @ 10:00 am