



**Strategic Planning, Funding and Advocacy Committee (SPFAC)
Meeting Minutes
7.12.2021**

Present: Elizabeth Kelly, Marc Craig, Ashley Burton, Tiffany Jones, Julia Steinberg, Eric Burton, Melanie Grund, Kathy Williams

Advocacy and Public Awareness

New Assessment Tool Update

- No update on choice of new assessment tool to replace SPDAT.
- Alliance is working with a workgroup, creating focus groups with partner agencies to obtain feedback from those who use the VI-SPDAT regularly for their input with regard to the new tool.

Report from Racial Disparities Workgroup

- Met with Regina recently and currently focusing on setting up data to find what we specifically need to work on.
 - HMIS doesn't offer some of the things we want.
- Planning to schedule the next group meeting soon.

Report from ID Taskforce

- June meeting had new attendees join.
- Legal groups have reached out to ask why the fee waiver for ID is limited to category 1 homeless individuals.
 - There is a push for state IDs to be free for anyone that doesn't have a driver's license.
 - New Jersey has already done this, so there is a template.
 - The movement is growing elsewhere.
 - The Sec of State website hides availability of fee waived IDs.
- Taking a hiatus in July. Next report out will be at September meeting.

Oakland County Update –Fair Housing Initiative—Landlord Mitigation Fund/Homeless Blueprint/Source of Income Discrimination, Rent, Mortgage, Utility Assistance, Southeast Michigan Regional Refugee Resettlement Collaborative

- Landlord Mitigation Fund, Source of Income Discrimination, and other Affordable Housing initiatives are held up with the Board of Commissioners.
- Rent, Mortgage, Utility Assistance launched early June.
 - Finished programming last week, and starting to make payouts this week.
 - Focusing on mortgage assistance since rental assistance is available elsewhere.
 - Language, graphics will be made available this week for sharing on listservs, networks, newsletters, etc.
- Received grant from Housing Solutions Collaborative/Change Lab for 18 month program along with CHN and ARC.
 - Focused on more accessibility, inclusivity, equitability for people with disabilities (physical, mental/emotional impairments).



- Change Lab team working on data, strategy, and legality with the group.
- There are 8 cohorts around the country.
- Blueprint meetings regularly, moving forward toward timeline for September 30th.
 - Very productive, collaborative meetings.
- Southeast Michigan Regional Refugee Resettlement Collaborative has sent invitation for larger participation in ongoing meetings by category: housing, transportation, and workforce development/education.

CERA roll out

- CHN hiring process has been challenging, but now they are close to being fully staffed.
 - As of July 2nd almost \$1 million in financial assistance was paid out in 1 week.
 - 2,000 applications received, 700 of which have been paid out.
- MSHDA redistributed funds statewide based on applications received in portal.
 - Oakland County saw a reduction in funds allocated.
- As of June 30th OLHSA paid out ~\$1million, and Lighthouse paid out ~\$1.5 million.
- MSHDA has made available the application for recertifications in paper format.
- Self-attest documentation is not needed in certain zip codes which speeds up processing time.
- Hoteling and relocations are allowed for those that are eligible.
- Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program Owners Damage Claim Payments:
https://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-5555_41270-546899--,00.html
- Eviction moratorium is expiring end of July.

Legislative Action- SOI Discrimination HB 4553, 4554 and SB 254, 255

- No update.

PR

CERA marketing plan – King Media

- King Media has created strategic logo/ad design for buses and marketing campaign.
 - They are creating a vanity URL that redirects to the oaklandhomeless.org website.
- King media is doing a great job working quickly within budget, negotiating rates for ads.
- Using Basecamp as the hub for sharing communications.
- Launching campaign in August.

Strategic Plan & Funding

Service expansion and funding opportunities

- Discussions at county level of expanded voucher program that has fewer restrictions than current MSHDA vouchers, and the need for data quantifying shortages of affordable housing in Oakland County.
 - We may need to create a workgroup, contract with someone, or make it a part of the Blueprint to achieve.
- CHN working with U of M on data which falls within the project scope of looking at needs in Oakland County.



- Will try to connect and incorporate them as a resource, and include the Alliance to be involved.

Next meeting: August 9, 2021 at 9:00am – 11:00am