



Advocacy and Public Awareness
Meeting minutes
4.8.2019

Present: Leah McCall, Eric Burton, Angela Gougherty, Maddie Jaks, Marc Craig, Debra Hendren, Elizabeth Kelly, Rebecca Mix

Absent: Ryan Hertz, Debbie Brinson, Deborah Busch, LaMontre Harris

Follow Up: Policy Agenda

Leah will be taking the policy agenda to the Alliance Board and work with them to figure out what will be in the committee's work officially and what will be completed by other committees. The Alliance Board meeting is on 4.17.19, feedback will be given at our next meeting.

Follow Up: FMR Exception

The letter was approved by the Alliance Board, we received feedback from MCAH. Leah sent to HUD on April 4, 2019.

Committee discussed impact of how this letter may affect the number of people served, however we typically over serve. Further discussion about involving PHA's.

Follow Up: Legislative Action – Fee Waiver for Vital Docs at State Level

On 4.8.19 Elizabeth and Debra have gone to testify in Lansing for Gov. Whitmer's 2020 state budget that would include 226000 to cover the cost of providing copies of vital records that individuals experiencing homelessness need to apply for other ID docs and access services and supports.

Updates to come.

PR for Functional Zero Veterans/ PR Sub-committee

- Want to put together a statement before Memorial Day (May 27) about our efforts in reaching Functional Zero for Veterans.
- Elizabeth will share HOPE's Communication Plan with the committee to help us brainstorm
 - Look at lessons learned with past events (West Manor)
- Elizabeth will Chair the PR sub-committee
- Becca will reach out to professor about potential intern to create a draft communication plan.
- Deb will connect Elizabeth, Becca & Leah to Janet

Citizens Advisory Counsel

- Marc or Elizabeth will give Leah the date for when the Alliance will attend for public comment. We will draft talking points for Leah to present.

Rent Right and Landlord Incentives

The group discussed different types of housing/ financial counseling focused on home ownership

- Rent Well Program (in Oregon & Washington)– Certification
 - 15-hour tenant education program, taught in 3 to 6 weeks

- Counties and agencies pair the Rent Well courses with a Landlord Incentive Fund. This provides landlords with an insurance-like coverage if they choose to rent to a Rent Well graduate with a current certificate.
- Website for more detailed information: <http://www.rentwell.org/>
- Ideas for Funding
 - MI Health Endowment Grant
 - Religious Entities
 - Corporations
- Strategize with partners and discuss what money in the landlord litigation fund could cover
 - Co-pays, application fees, etc.

Discussion about inspections

- Landlords have issues with the multiple inspections they need to pass when working with housing programs. Maybe there is a way to coordinate inspections?
 - Leah will send Jess an email about inspections

The Outcomes Committee send out a Landlord survey, **Angela will bring the results to the next Advocacy and Public Awareness committee for discussion**

Follow Up: Tools CoC Analysis Tool

Angela reported on using the tool a way to measure racial disparity. Uses homeless data and state and local trends.

- This will be incorporated in this year's annual report
- Would like to create a 1 page fact sheet: Face of Homelessness in Oakland county
 - Angela can make this using the Annual Report Executive Summary