



**Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness
 Legislative Action Committee**

Monday, June 26 2017
 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Meeting Attendance:

Kate White	Michigan Community Action
Rachel Richards	MLPP
Lyn Raymond	Greater Ottawa County United Way
Elizabeth Kelly	HOPE
Terri Ariss	Livingston County CoC
Dena Nagarah	Blue Cross Complete
Robert Elchert	United Way of the Battle Creek & Kalamazoo Region
Desa Farr-Lowery	COTS
Zena Fara	HUD Detroit Multifamily office
Michelle LaJoie	CLM Community Action Agency
Amanda Ruehs	EightCAP
Angela Gougherty	Community Housing Network
Eric Hufnagel	Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness
Laurel Burchfield	Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness
Nick Kipper	Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness

**LAC Agenda
 6.26.17**

Call to Order: Eric Hufnagel called the meeting to order at 12:04

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Housekeeping**
 - a. Calendar invite sent twice-sorry!
 - b. [Dropbox](http://bit.ly/LACDropBox) is now available for LAC: <http://bit.ly/LACDropBox>
- 3. Policy Priorities 2017-2018**
 - a. Spotlight on State ID work. [Summary of survey results](#)
 - i. Elizabeth Kelly: ID committee has some significant changes, anticipating more this summer:
 1. Social Security Administration: National office put in request to use HMIS ID card to get social security card if they lack state id. Approved with

expected pilot in Midwest. Instead it is now national law. Not used as primary doc, but still included in the dropbox. SSA is currently training staff on this. May be another couple of months (or more) before things are ready to be used everywhere.

2. Secretary of State: Pilot with certain counties for use of HMIS ID as a document for a homeless verification letter and allows use of the exceptions unit (2 people in MI). Concern about exceptions unit being overwhelmed, but would like to see this formalized. Made request last week for SoS to include these documents as accepted documents so that we don't have to do the exceptions process. SoS is agreeable, but needed formal request. Will continue to monitor and report—circling back with SoS this week. Also trying to get vaccination records to be included as accepted document.
3. Several counties working to get county clerks to do a fee waiver. Genesee county presentation before Board of Commission. Seemed favorable towards idea. Timeline is before end of summer for return to school. Calhoun and Kalamazoo county are also going through similar process. Ottawa county is also looking into process.
 - a. Robert: currently fee waivers in Calhoun county. Currently they sent about 20 people. Kalamazoo county working towards fee waivers, but hampered through county ID effort-made final pitch last Tuesday. Commissioners suggested they supported fee waiver and hope to get it on agenda for July/August. Created FB page to share info and show support for statewide effort. (<https://www.facebook.com/calhoukzoooidtaskforce/>)
4. Free birth certificates and vital documents through clerks office or state vital records office-white paper by MI ICH is in progress that identifies need and recommends money set aside to pay for birth records that have to be accessed through the state. Same recommendation for money set aside to access State IDs from SoS. Currently Free ID for me covers low income or disability but doesn't cover no-income clients. This expense is usually covered by agency/faith based org.
5. Free ID for me-bill to expand to include veterans. SB404. Concerns about costs, covers more than just homeless veterans. Outreach to Sen O'Brien (sponsor) to expand bill to include homeless, but Sen office has limited interest to veterans right now.
 - a. Robert: met with O'Brien's office and agrees with Elizabeth's summary. O'Brien wants to start with veterans and then incrementally expand to others.
6. MI Association of United Way conference. Paula Kasier Van Dam (MDHHS) was there and supportive of our efforts to make scan point ID an accepted document.
7. Questions for the group?
 - a. Lyn Raymond: What is happening in Ottawa county? Elizabeth-Lisa Brown (Oakland County clerk) was approached by Ottawa County clerk to discuss Oakland County fee reduction and waiver. May be time to organize meetings with the Ottawa County clerk. Lyn: could they have access to those documents. MCAH will connect.
8. Next meeting for the task force: July 17: 248-454-0579. Third Monday at 2:00

4. State Updates

- a. State Budget:
 - i. Budget passed, currently sitting on Gov desk.
 1. At-risk school aid line item. Approved at \$120 million (original Gov request was \$150 million)

2. ESP DHHS line item. Increase from \$12 to \$16. Funding sources from TANF and General Fund. Application through DHHS now open, deadline is July 7.
 - b. State ID legislation:
 - i. Sen O'Brien: [SB 404](#): Will continue to reach out to this office and try to educate Sen's office on bigger issue.
 - ii. [HB 4795](#): ID access for undocumented residents. Opportunity to continue education?
- 5. Federal Updates**
- a. Summer of HUD Budget Advocacy. [Summary](#)
 - i. Laurel reviewed the Summary document, highlighting the July 26 event in Lansing and asking for participants and speakers.
 1. Robert: Is there a document that can be shared that could be sent out. Laurel will re-share summary document and provide additional information.
 2. Terri: Interested in speaking
 3. Lyn: Has someone who might be interested in speaking: Send out some more information
 - b. National Conference on Ending Homelessness attendance
 - i. Is anyone registered to attend? Registration is now closed. Less than 24 people from Michigan are attending this year.
 - ii. [NAEH Top priorities](#):
 1. McKinney-Vento homeless assistance grants
 2. Medicaid
 3. Affordable Housing
 - iii. Messaging on this needs to be happening multiple times. Capitol Hill visits with letters to hand deliver, Call-in Day, In-District meetings in August.
- 6. Calls to Action (if any)**
- a. [Coalition on Human Needs](#): Sign the letter calling for a fair budget.
 - b. [National Low Income Housing Coalition](#): Sign the letter requesting that Congress lift spending caps on affordable housing.
 - c. [Housing Not Handcuffs](#): Endorse the national campaign fighting against the criminalization of homelessness.
- 7. Advocacy Updates from the Field**
- a. Terri: talks with Rep Hank Vaupel on mental health for those experiencing homelessness. Regular meetings
- 8. Next meeting: July 24**