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Q1

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Q3

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Michigan State House HD 41

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Q4

In 2018, there were 65,104 individuals who experienced literal homelessness in Michigan, including families with young children, unaccompanied youth, veterans, and seniors. What can you tell us about the issue of homelessness in your district (causes, related issues, and solutions)?

While it is estimated that nearly 4,000 individuals in Oakland County are homeless, there are not widely available statistics or reports regarding the homeless population in Michigan for individual communities, particularly for my district of Troy and Clawson. This is very much a part of the problem of why homelessness persists throughout Michigan. If people were better informed about how homelessness affects their own communities, I believe they would be more motivated and better prepared to combat the issue and dispel the myths and stereotypes about homelessness.

The truth is, homelessness affects us all, and understanding it better will allow us to pinpoint causes and identify possible solutions. One thing we know about the causes of homelessness is that there is not enough affordable housing, especially in Oakland County. Another predictor of homelessness is mental health complications. We need to do more to support the mental health of Michigan residents and create more affordable housing to support the wellbeing of all members of our community by preventing people from facing homelessness.

Oakland County stats (from 2013 article - <https://patch.com/michigan/royaloak/bp--ten-things-you-didnt-know-about-homelessness-in-o7c99cd8345>)

Forty-one percent of homeless individuals in Oakland County suffer from mental illness. (Oakland County Task Force on Homelessness and Affordable Housing, OCTHAH)

There are more than 3,782 homeless individuals in Oakland County, including more than 750 families. More than 700 of those homeless individuals are children. (Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness)

From U of Mi -><https://www.usich.gov/homelessness-statistics/mi/>

Q5

How important do you feel it is to find solutions to housing insecurity and homelessness for your district?

(no label)

Very Important

Q6

Each Michigan county develops its own plan to end homelessness and provides services that assist those at-risk of, or currently experiencing, homelessness. Check as many local resources used to assist those experiencing or at-risk of homelessness that you are familiar with

- Continuum of Care/Local Planning Body,**
- Eviction diversion programs,**
- Energy assistance and/or home weatherization programs**
- Food Banks,**
- Homeless and/or domestic violence shelters,**
- Legal Aid**

Q7

Homelessness can happen to anyone -- with many households just three paychecks away from losing their home. Select the top 5 issues that you believe are causes of homelessness:

Addiction and/or substance use disorder,
Domestic abuse and/or personal situation,
Inadequate income,
Lack of safe, affordable housing units,
Mental health disorder

Q8

MCAH supports solutions to prevent and end homelessness that will assist as many people as possible, but also recognize that certain demographics may require unique solutions to preventing and ending their homelessness. If elected, what are the top 3 subpopulations you would prioritize?

I would focus on solutions for everyone

Q9

While Congress guides much of the funding and solutions for homelessness, Michigan's legislature has the opportunity to enact proven policy to make it easier for individuals and families to have access to safe and affordable housing. If elected, which of these potential state-level legislative solutions to preventing and ending homelessness would you support (select all that apply):

- Champion anti-poverty solutions, including expanding EITC, SNAP, CHIP, TANF, Medicare/Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, etc**
- ,
- Create and expand eviction diversion programs,**
- Create avenues for formerly incarcerated individuals to access housing**
- ,
- Create new renters tax credit,**
- Create source of income protections and mobility opportunities**
- ,
- Declare housing as a human right / create a homeless bill of rights**
- ,
- End the criminalization of homelessness,**
- Expand job training programs,**
- Increase funding for Emergency Shelter Programs,**
- Increase funding for homeless service providers,**
- Increase minimum wage,**
- Provide protections against discriminatory practices for those experiencing homelessness**
- ,
- Reform eviction practices, including record sealing, credit reporting, establishing right to counsel, and/or creating an eviction database**
- ,
- Remove statewide prohibition against rent control,**
- Reinstate individual tax deductions for shelters and food banks**

Q10

We are in the middle of an Affordable Housing crisis. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines Affordable Housing as a unit that a household can obtain for 30% or less of its gross income. The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) annually reports the number of households that are 'cost burdened,' or paying more than 30% of their income on housing (2020 Out Of Reach). In 2020, NLIHC found there were only 9 counties in Michigan where a full-time worker earning minimum wage can afford to rent a 2 bedroom unit at Fair Market Rent without being cost burdened. Select the top 5 solutions you believe will increase access to affordable housing, including developing new units, expanding access to new rental units, and/or increasing access to home ownership:

Other (please specify):

I think we must identify solutions that are rooted in context. Each community is different.

Q11

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| The government is sufficiently addressing the issue of homelessness in my district. | Disagree |
| Communities are sufficiently addressing the issue of homelessness in my district. | Disagree |
| People who work full-time have a right to affordable housing for themselves and their families. | Agree |
| People have a personal responsibility to work and be self-sufficient in order to obtain affordable housing. | Disagree |
| There is a role for government to increase the availability of affordable housing in the United States. | Agree |
| Federal policy should move towards deregulation to increase local innovation with initiatives like Section 8 and Fair Market Rent. | Undecided |
| The inclusion of strict work requirements to receive certain benefits (housing vouchers, SNAP, Medicaid) will have a positive impact on homelessness. | Disagree |
| The United States has the tools to help the people experiencing homelessness out of poverty. | Strongly Disagree |
| The free market is the most effective tool to address homelessness. | Disagree |
| The government has a responsibility to reverse the impact of historical housing policies targeting Black communities. | Agree |
| Non-governmental service providers are adequate in dealing with homelessness. | Disagree |

Q12

COVID-19 will have a long-term impact on low-income households. The state allocated \$60 million from the CARES Act to support rental assistance and eviction diversion programming. MSHDA estimates this will only provide assistance for 20,000-25,000 households through December 2020. What additional actions would you support the state take to make sure low-income households are able to stay in their homes?

Other (please specify):
I don't know. I would work with partners and legislators across the state to find solutions.

Q13

Please share any additional thoughts or concerns with regards to housing instability, homelessness and affordable housing availability in the state of Michigan, specifically any additional state level solutions you would be interested in championing in the state legislature.

We must have people in the legislature who are advocates for addressing homelessness. My first term in the legislature has left me very concerned about how we set the agenda, because Democrats, who are champions of this issue, are a minority in both the House and Senate.

Q14

Yes

If elected, I will champion the issues of housing affordability and homelessness:
