

McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness

Community Awareness Committee Minutes – January 22, 2024 at 11:00 AM



To attend virtually: <https://meet.goto.com/880550957>

To attend by phone: 1-571-317-3122 Access code: 880-550-957

Next meeting date: Monday, March 18th

Meeting called to order by Brandon Kyker at 11:00 AM.

Members Present: Brandon Kyker, Gina Zinck, Auri Wetzel, Julie Davis, Kristin Miller, Lindsay Kellner, Liz Heneks, Nada Lunsford, Aly Gutierrez

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

2.0 Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1 November 11, 2023 – Community Awareness meeting minutes

- The Committee decided to table the minutes until next meeting due to not having enough members that were present at the November meeting to approve.

3.0 Public Comment

4.0 Old Business

4.1 World Homeless Day

- The committee discussed several possibilities of ways to bring awareness for World Homeless Day. N Lunsford suggested offering a showing of the movie, “The Public”. J Davis suggested a possible youth event to educate high schoolers and the younger generation to get them involved with homeless issues. N Lunsford stated that she would be open to a realistic food demonstration at the event to showcase what it is like to cook food out in the elements for someone experiencing homelessness.

4.2 Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program (LEAP)

- L Kellner spoke to how useful the incentives have been for onboarding additional landlord rental units to their clients by using the State’s Rapid Rehousing Grant. She continued explaining to the Committee how Home of the Sparrow has been using incentives for landlords. L Heneks stated that Home of the Sparrow is in the process of hiring someone to oversee the Landlord Engagement and Assistance program.

The committee continued to discuss possible incentives and what the spend down of incentives have been for Home of the Sparrow. K Miller spoke to what the State's RRH program incentive eligibilities are. K Miller said that a vast majority of the incentives have been nonrefundable signing bonuses for landlords. B Kyker said he would review other grants to see where incentives would be eligible. K Miller spoke about Home of the Sparrow applying to the Community Foundation for their Transformational Grant.

5.0 New Business

6.0 Member Announcements

- N Lundsford reminded the group that Stevens Home is a meal delivery program that can meet people where they are.
- The committee agreed to meet monthly while program building the Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program.

7.0 Adjournment

- G Zinck motioned for adjournment and L Heneks seconded. All in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:11 PM.