



**MICHIGAN INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS AGENDA**  
**September 20, 2021**  
**2:00 p.m., Zoom Webinar**  
**Registration Link: <https://michigan-host.zoom.us/j/84519418891>**

Attendees: Kelly Rose, Erika Hoover, Crissa Blankenburg, Kelly Wilcox, Ryan Hertz, Michelle Williams, Sarah Goad, Kris Brady, Phil Cavanaugh, Paula Kaiser VanDam

Members of the general public: Mercedes Brown, Lisa Chapman, Eric Hufnagel, Christina Soulard, Jason Weller

Regrets: Mark Hoffman

- 1. Approval of Agenda: Meeting started at 2:05 pm. Kris Brad moved to accept the agenda. Ryan seconded. Motion passed.**
- 2. Approval of June Minutes: Ryan moved to accept the minutes. Kris Brady seconded. The motion passed.**
- 3. Public Comment: No comments were made.**
- 4. Review of the 2020 Annual Report – Christina/Jason (45- 60 mins)**  
Christina reviewed the draft of the 2020 Annual Report.

Kris asked about the impacts the changes will have on the 2021 and beyond reports. Christina responded that with the use of the data warehouse there will be an opportunity to highlight new data points and trends, however the data governance group should really talk through what those changes should be.

Michelle asked about the comments she submitted and if there was any need to discuss those during the meeting. Jason responded that the writing team is in the process of collecting all the feedback and will be reviewing them this week and then making edits to the report so there was no need to discuss them today.

Erika said that the report looked good, but she asked if there was a way in incorporate veterans data into the report. Kelly said that it would be good to highlight the data points that we have available as we know that veterans are a vulnerable population and higher risk for experiencing homelessness.

**5. HUD NOFO workgroup – Mercedes (5 mins)**

Mercedes clarified that this is the Notice of Funding Opportunities, and currently there is more than \$80 million flowing through Michigan. She added that Gerry Leslie from MCAH brought the idea to the MHPC to target specific ways that the MHPC could support work that is happening at the local level. The 2 areas in particular are healthcare and housing and racial equity. The MHPC will stand up a workgroup focused on these 2 issues. The group will create some stock language that communities could use in their application to HUD and would ensure that communities are in alignment with what HUD is looking for. She added that from her community based experience it's helpful when the state partners align and provide this level of support. She added that HAND Detroit has been performing annual analyses of the changes in the HUD NOFA/NOFO, and there is interest in connecting with them. Mercedes asked if there was anything she missed and Jason added that we are always looking for additional volunteers to be part of the workgroup. Kelly added that it will be good for the state partners to provide this level of support to local communities.

**6. Statewide Housing Plan update – Mercedes/Kelly/Kris (5 mins)**

Kelly stated that MSHDA has been engaging with Public Policy Associates (PPA) to create a Statewide Housing Plan. She added that Mercedes and CSH has been recently asked to help with engaging service providers and people with lived expertise. She asked if Kris or Mercedes had any additions. Mercedes highlighted the opportunity to engage with people with lived expertise. She also stated that there are a lot of opportunities to align the strategies of the SHP with the 2020-2022 Action Plan and ensure there is overlap. Mercedes added that Tiffany King from MSHDA attended that last MHPC meeting to give an update and invited MHPC members to volunteer to be part of the group. She added that if ICH members are interested in joining they can reach out to Jason. Phil asked who the lead is at PPA? Kelly responded Colleen Graber has been the lead.

**7. 2020-2022 Action Plan Next Steps – Mercedes/Jason (5-10 mins)**

**a. Racial Equity Strategic Plan RFP update**

Mercedes reported that the racial equity workgroup that was responsible for identifying a vendor to take on transforming the service response system from a racial equity lens. The vendor the group identified was C4. Overall the group reviewed 4 proposals. However, C4 has both Michigan specific experience with communities across the state as well as at the national level. The focus of the work will be at both the community level and the statewide level. At the community level C4 will provide support to help communities advance the work at the local level regardless of where they are at in the process. At the state level C4 will work state partners to envision a new system that is more just and equitable. Kelly added that she expects there should be no issues with the MSHDA board. Sarah asked if Mercedes could share more information about C4 and Mercedes dropped this link: <https://c4innovates.com/>

**b. Reflections on first CoC/MCTEH was on August 19<sup>th</sup>**

Kelly stated that we had our first meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> between leadership from the MCTEH as well as CoC reps from across the state. She said that in future meetings there will be discussion on what's working well, what's not, and what can the state partners provide in support of the work.

**i. Next meeting: October 21 3-4:30**

**c. Creation of workplan to track progress**

Jason provided an update on the status of the workplan. He said that with the creation of the new MCTEH structure, the last piece that needs to be developed is a workplan to track progress on the various strategies within the action plan. A small workgroup has formed to create an easy to understand dashboard. ICH members should contact Jason if they are interested in being part of the workgroup.

**d. Update on committee/workgroup progress**

**i. Suspending the VI-SPDAT workgroup**

Jason provided an update that the workgroup has been suspended pending work with C4 in hopes that C4 can provide guidance about how other communities/states have approached this issue.

**ii. Creation of Data Governance committee**

Jason stated that as has been previously discussed, the MHPC has created an Data Governance committee. We are in the process of scheduling the first planning meeting, before formally kicking off the group. Kelly that the purpose of this group will be to create a large data governance committee that has CoC representatives and so that interactive decisions can be made about topics like what data will be used in the annual report.

**8. ARPA funding updates – all (15 -20 mins)**

**a. HOME ARP rule from HUD (click here for [more](#) information)**

Kelly stated that HUD released a notice last week as well as supporting documents to help clarify details about what it can/cannot be used for. In particular, there was a call for public participation and a GAPs analysis so that there is an understanding of why the plan is proposing certain activities. She added that the public participation will mimic the QAP process by holding public hearings, doing the Gap analysis, and then create a plan that meets those needs. And then there would be another round of public meetings in response to the draft. She said that it will likely take a few months to navigate the process. Lisa asked about the timeframe? Kelly responded that the initial public meetings will likely be 3-4 weeks from now. She added that MSHDA would be accepting written comment during that time as well. She added that MSHDA would push to have the draft available for review by the end of the year, with the final round of public input happening in 2022. Ideally, by the end of Q1 2022 there would be a good plan, and outreach with the development community would be happening to create a common understanding. Michelle asked how would this work with folks who are at risk

of homelessness? Kelly replied that the at risk population would qualify under the HUD guidance that has been provided. We also have the flexibility to prioritize certain populations. Michelle asked if any of these funds would be targeted toward unaccompanied youth. Kelly replied that yes there will be discussion around targeting vulnerable populations. Michelle asked about youth programs more broadly, and Kelly replied that she didn't think the funds could be used for that purpose. She added that the regulations do not allow for funding to be used for operating costs. She added that Jason will send out the links to the HUD documents. Crissa asked about accessing these resources, in particular if somebody has been evicted would they be able to access the units created through this program? Kelly responded that there will be conversations with developers about the tenant selection criteria to ensure that everybody is able to access housing. She added that this will be part of the SHP conversation as well. [HUD Issues HOME-ARP Guidance for Assisting Households Experiencing or at Risk of Homelessness — NCSHA](#)

Kelly added that there is another \$100 million in the Housing Trust fund. MSHDA is planning to utilize a similar public input process to identify how these funds would be used. Hopefully the funding will be approved by the end of the year.

Kelly asked if there were any other ARP related updates? There were no additional updates.

#### **9. Roundtable – all (10 mins)**

Erika said that she is working on a campaign called “She is a Veteran” to build awareness about the number of female veterans in the state. She added that given that veterans experience homelessness at a higher rate that she would like to highlight their experiences. Kelly replied that yes we should work with her on creating messaging and amplifying the message via the ICH.

#### **10. Adjourn**

Ryan made a motion to adjourn. Phil seconded the motion. Motion approved. The meeting ended at 3:23 pm.