



# Coordinated Entry & HARA 101

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# Training Objectives

- Continuum of Care and Local Planning Body
- Coordinated Entry
  - Access
  - Assessment
  - Prioritization
  - Referral
- HARA
  - Role of the HARA in the community
  - Importance of connecting with the HARA

# Continuum of Care (CoC) Local Planning Body (LPB)

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- Continuum of Care:
  - Communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness:
    - Provides funding for agencies, nonprofit and/or state/local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families in order to minimize the trauma and dislocation caused by experiencing homelessness
    - Promotes access to and utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families
    - Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals/families experiencing homelessness
  - Balance of State Continuum of Care
    - Represents 61 of Michigan's 83 counties
- Local Planning Body
  - Smaller local groups within the Balance of State Continuum of Care
- CoC and LPB Contact List: [MSHDA-CoC-and-LPB-Contact-List-PDF.pdf \(michigan.gov\)](#)

# What is Coordinated Entry?

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- Coordinated Entry is a process that ensures that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs.

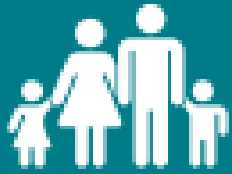
# Coordinated Entry Core Elements

ACCESS

ASSESSMENT

PRIORITIZATION

REFERRAL



Initial Triage

Diversion

Intake

Initial Assessment

Potential Eligibility Assessment

Comprehensive Assessment

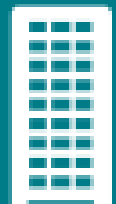
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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_



# Coordinated Entry Basics

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- Access
  - Engagement point for persons experiencing a housing crisis.
  - Looks different depending on the specific community (CoC or LPB)
- Assessment
  - Begin to gather information to assess the person's housing needs, preferences, and vulnerability.
- Prioritization
  - During assessment, the needs and level of vulnerability will help determine prioritization.
  - Process of matching vulnerability to appropriate housing intervention and/or service type needed to resolve housing crisis.
- Referral
  - Matching person to available and appropriate community resources, housing, and services

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## What is a HARA?

- The Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (HARA) is an agency selected and affirmed by the Continuum of Care (CoC) or Local Planning Body (LPB) to facilitate the prioritization and referral of households within the homeless crisis response system or Coordinated Entry system.

# Responsibilities of the HARA:

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- Implement prioritization process as developed by CoC/LPB
- Complete referrals based on prioritization, eligibility, and participant choice to housing resources within the geographic area
- Provide reports to the CoC/LPB on prioritization on referral processes
- Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing
- Enter people experiencing homelessness on the Housing Choice Voucher Homeless Preference waiting list and re-certify homelessness status every 120 days
- Assist developers to ensure that case management services are available to new units made available through Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program and refer applicants to Project Based Voucher waiting lists
- Ensure accessibility in each county served through established office hours



# Connecting with your local HARA

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- MSHDA website has link to list by county:  
<https://www.michigan.gov/mshda/homeless>
- Participate in local CoC/LPB meetings/workgroups to take part in establishing prioritization
- Establish relationships with Housing Resource Specialists/program staff
  - They have knowledge of current housing programs/services and availability
  - Ease of soft handoffs for referrals

# Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness

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- Guiding Principles
  - Strive to address racial disparities across the statewide homeless response system
  - Strive to authentically include the participation of persons with lived experience
  - Strive to effectively leverage cross-sector data to drive results
  - Strive to drive innovation, collaboration and strategic alignment across systems at the intersection of housing insecurity
- 2020-2022 State Action Plan: [MCTEH Action Plan 2020-2022.pdf \(michigan.gov\)](#)

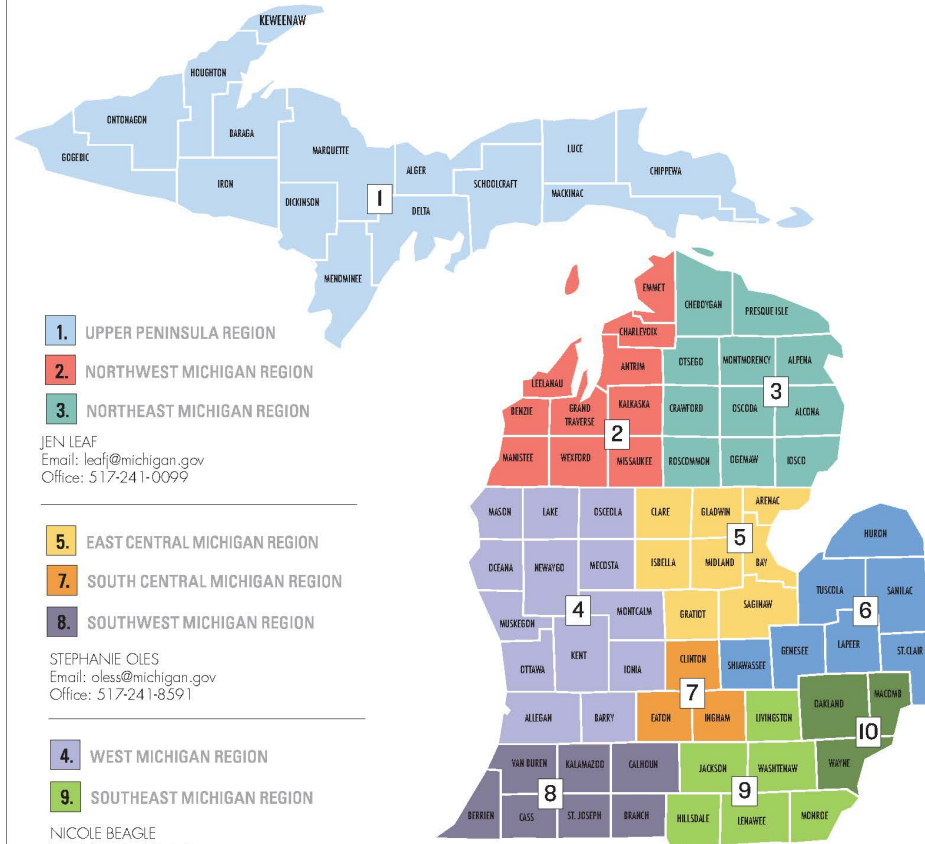
# MSHDA

## Homeless Assistance Specialist Map

Included in the training resources



## Homeless Assistance Specialist Map



- 1. UPPER PENINSULA REGION
- 2. NORTHWEST MICHIGAN REGION
- 3. NORTHEAST MICHIGAN REGION

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# Thank you!

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