

EAAC – Education & Outreach Subcommittee Meeting

April 14, 2022
Noon – 1:00 PM

Welcome & Group Agreements Review – Briana Parker

Announcements

- CERA & Assistance Programs Update – Anne Armstrong
Email follow-up: MSHDA projected CERA application will close for new applications in June. Applications submitted before June will still be processed. Full funding has been appropriated to the program.
- LIHEAP State emergency relief caps have been increased (listen to recording for details).
- MEAP program funding update (listen to recording for details)

Discussion – Energy Assistance Events & Listening Sessions

- Gaylord Energy Assistance Fair & Listening Session – April 18 from 3-8pm
- Any additional outreach ideas?
- Any topics you would like us to ask the customers at the listening sessions?
 - Communication – how much do you know about what is available to you?
 - Process – what do you know about the assistance sign up process from beginning to end? You need to start by applying for SER.
 - Barriers - what barriers the customer experiences so we can work to remove them?
 - Denials – what can I do If I have been denied assistance?

Discussion – Committee Goals (slide 12)

- Proposed 2022 Goals and Additions
 1. Establish a process for stakeholder and community-based input re: materials and communications channels
 - a. Combined powerpoint presentation with additional information from committee members.
 2. Review and provide input for improving the Commission’s Energy Assistance Toolkit which will be updated and reissued Oct. 1, 2022, for the 2022/2023 heating season
 - a. Where can people go when they hit barriers?
 3. Identify community-based groups, not already a part of the Commission’s outreach, that will partner with the Commission to disseminate assistance information for the 2022/2023 heating season

Discussion – Proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule & Workplan – Slides 14-16

- May: discussion of survey and powerpoint.
- June: Factor in information gathered from the listening sessions.

Next Steps & Conclusion

- The next resource fair/listening session will be in May in Benton Harbor (Date TBD). Send any suggestions for event outreach to Reka (HolleyR@Michigan.gov) by April 29.
- Share any additional feedback on the Listening Session questions via e-mail with Mary (WilkinsM3@michigan.gov) ASAP.
- Share any additional feedback on the Sub-committee Goals and Workplan via e-mail to Reka (HolleyR@Michigan.gov) by April 29.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 19 @ Noon