

EWR Low Income Workgroup Chat - 12/05/2024

Tonya Swenor (Unverified) 9:01 AM

Snow day in the UP

read.ai meeting notes (Unverified) 9:01 AM

Lisa added read.ai meeting notes to the meeting (recording enabled). Type 'read stop' to disable, or 'opt out' to delete meeting data. View Privacy Policy: <https://www.read.ai/pp>

Sarah Kile (Unverified) 9:01 AM

This is the first real snow we've had up in Gladwin 🤪

Kimberly's AI Notetaker (Otter.ai)(Unverified) 9:03 AM

Hi, I'm an AI assistant helping Kimberly Hill Knott take notes for this meeting. Follow along the transcript here: https://otter.ai/u/A3aT-Qzt-ZfdefWd1_UInm3_b0o?utm_source=va_chat_link_1

You'll also be able to see screenshots of key moments, add highlights, comments, or action items to anything being said, and get an automatic summary after the meeting.

Siemen, Melissa (LARA) 9:06 AM

[Low Income Energy Policy Board \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/energy-policy-board)

[Energy Affordability and Accessibility Collaborative \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/energy-affordability-accessibility-collaborative)

[Low Income Workgroup \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/low-income-workgroup)

[U-20757 COVID-19 Response Docket](https://www.michigan.gov/u-20757-covid-19-response-docket)

Alexis Blizman (Unverified) 9:06 AM

Please put any questions into the chat, and we will collect them for the discussion after all of the presentations.

Armstrong, Anne (LARA) 9:13 AM

Food for thought: What can state agencies do to make coordination of services at the local level easier?

Kimberly's AI Notetaker (Otter.ai)(Unverified) 9:15 AM

Hi, I'm an AI assistant helping Kimberly Hill Knott take notes for this meeting. Follow along the transcript here: https://otter.ai/u/A3aT-Qzt-ZfdefWd1_UInm3_b0o?utm_source=va_chat_link_2

You'll also be able to see screenshots of key moments, add highlights, comments, or action items to anything being said, and get an automatic summary after the meeting.

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 9:16 AM

Has anyone made a unified tool to quickly assess AMI / FPI in a local area?

Siemen, Melissa (LARA) 9:18 AM

[SDOH Hubs \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov/sdo)

Armstrong, Anne (LARA) 9:20 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

anyone made a unified tool to quickly assess AMI / FPI in a local area?

This is a great idea, Brett. LIHEAP - the federal energy assistance program has a eligibility tool, but just for LIHEAP: [LIHEAP Eligibility Tool | The LIHEAP Clearinghouse](#)

Jones, Shatina (LARA) 9:21 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

Has anyone made a unified tool to quickly assess AMI / FPI in a local area?

Brett are you referring to a unified app process across agencies, like data sharing?

Ben Dueweke (Unverified) 9:21 Am

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

Has anyone made a unified tool to quickly assess AMI / FPI in a local area?

Agree for AMI. FPL is static across the country annually: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines>

Siemen, Melissa (LARA) 9:25 AM

[Energy Waste Reduction \(michigan.gov\)](#)

[Good Housing Good Health \(michigan.gov\)](#)

[Weatherization Assistance Program \(michigan.gov\)](#)

[MI Neighborhood \(michigan.gov\)](#)

[Office of Climate and Energy \(michigan.gov\)](#)

Armstrong, Anne (LARA) 9:26 AM

MEAP = Michigan Energy Assistance Program

Siemen, Melissa (LARA) 9:27 AM

<https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/consumer/get-help>

Get Help

Customers who need assistance with their electricity or heating bills because of impacts of the coronavirus should contact their utilities to ask what kind of protections or flexible payment option...

[Energy Assistance Programs \(michigan.gov\)\](#)

Energy Assistance Programs

[Home Heating Credit Information \(michigan.gov\)](#)

Home Heating Credit Information

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is federal money given to each state to assist low-income families with energy costs.

[Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\) State Plans \(michigan.gov\)](#)

[Water Assistance Program \(michigan.gov\)](#)

Water Assistance Program

[Home Energy, Telephone, and Internet Assistance Information for Customers \(michigan.gov\)](#)

utility-customers

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 9:33 AM

Home Energy Score is great to promote for all homes and now is the language shifting to BPI 2400 approved audit to get funds from IRA HOMES rebate?

Sarah Kile (Unverified) 9:33 AM

<https://mi211.org/utility-assistance-programs>

Siemen, Melissa (LARA) 9:33 AM

[Find Help - Michigan 2-1-1 \(mi211.org\)](#)

Find Help - Michigan 2-1-1

Need help with food, housing, or paying utility bills? Need help with a community disaster? Just call, text, or search online to find help.

www.michigan.gov/meetupeatup

MDE Meet Up and Eat Up

[Energy Saver Guide: Tips on Saving Money and Energy at Home | Department of Energy](#)

Armstrong, Anne (LARA) 9:43 AM

Could there be a landlord education effort?

Example of energy assistance/weatherization service coordination: Next year the MEAP Workgroup will hold a training on EWR/Weatherization services to update the human service agency grantees on LI EWR/weatherization services

Can the Detroit Home Repair Fund model be scaled and/or replicated?

Ben Dueweke (Unverified) 9:51 AM

I think it would be a great group of folks to come present to this group in 2025!

(Hi Ashley 😊)

Ashley Zuvernik (Unverified) 9:51 AM

DHRF TA provider here with Green & Healthy Homes - we'd be happy to 😊

(thanks for the shoutouts Ben!)

Tonys Swenor (Unverified) 9:54 AM

Its the Superior Watershed Partnership MEAP Grantee not council that uses the SEAL's UPPCO portal to upload utility referrals for UPPCO after completion of the Department of Energy Home Energy Score.

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 9:55 AM

Not necessarily but that too is important. I just mean I should say I am in Kent Co, I have this income, and this family size and so here is % AMI level and here is my FPL level.

I agree Ben, Happy too.

Zwiebach, Evy (Unverified) 9:56 AM

Ben Dueweke

I think it would be a great group of folks to come present to this group in 2025!

Yes, would be happy to do so! For context to the group, Enterprise Community Partners serves as Program Manager for DHRF

Armstrong, Anne (LARA)

Can the Detroit Home Repair Fund model be scaled and/or replicated?

Would love to see that happen!

Tonya Swenor (Unverified) 9:58 AM

The Superior Watershed Partnership uses the MEAP program intake process to identify homes that are good candidate for the DOE Home Energy Scores and we work with EWR utility implementors SEAL and CLEAResult to provide direct referrals.

Aaron K. Kraft (Unverified) 9:58 AM

I agree lack of Admin/support dollars for coordinating is a huge barrier.

Joel Howrani Heeres (Unverified) 9:58 AM

Has anyone connected with Civilla on process... they did some pretty cool process redesign work for MDHHS and the utilities and I think they could be a great org to bring in if there's the will to build a system that works better.

Ashley Zuverink (Unverified) 9:58 AM

Agree as well, and people with the right expertise/training.

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 9:58 AM

To Karen's point I thought one of the goals of the IRA Homes Rebate intake form from the state was to also mention qualifications for other programs?

Kasey Grieco (Unverified) 9:59 AM

Absolutely, Karen! Slim margin amounts are challenging.

Sasy, Ninah (DHHS) 9:59 AM

[SDOH Hubs](#)

Ben Dueweke (Unverified) 10:00 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

To Karen's point I thought one of the goals of the IRA Homes Rebate intake form from the state was to also mention qualifications for other programs?

That's the plan! The team is working on that with the state now. Categorical eligibility is definitely the goal.

Zwieback, Evy (Unverified) 10:01 AM

Have to drop for another meeting. Thanks for the great presentations!

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 10:02 AM

Sorry Ninah - I do not see the HUB link, may you share again?

Sasy, Ninah (DHHS) 10:02 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

Sorry Ninah - I do not see the HUB link, may you share again?

[SDOH Hubs](#)

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 10:03 AM

Found it <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/legislationpolicy/2022-2024-social-determinants-of-health-strategy/sdoh-hubs>

Nick Dobkowski (Unverified) 10:04 AM

And community navigators so regular people can access these resources

Tonya Swenor (Unverified) 10:05 AM

MEAP Grantees all have these terms and conditions which makes it easier to work directly with EWR programs:

As part of this agreement, I understand that I may be referred to or required to participate in additional services such as budgeting assistance, energy audits, or other programs that will help my household pay energy bills and understand energy consumption. Participation in the activities outlined in this plan/agreement is required in order to receive any additional energy assistance benefits.

➤ I authorize the assisting agency or provider to release my name and address to the local weatherization operator as part of the Weatherization Referral system. I authorize the department to release case and payment information to the Department of Health and Human Services, its affiliates and/or contracted agencies, for the purpose of research, study and evaluation of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and the MI Impact Program.

➤ I authorize my energy company to release by phone, fax, email or their computer web site all available information about my account.

Ben Dueweke (Unverified) 10:06 AM

The Detroit Home Repair Task Force is also a great example of a the development of a 'clearing house' for home repair resources. Heather Z presented earlier this year on that, would be great to have her back next year for an update, and contextualizing her work through the lens of doing a similar thing for statewide energy work.

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified) 10:13 AM

It would be great to see more doctors office recommend home energy / health improvements (as relevant to this group) and even better help people find funds to make them. For example for people with breathing issues they could ask questions about ventilation, cooking, humidity control, etc. Is this being done anywhere?

The Holland Home Energy 101 program, to Ben's point is another too, check out our up coming CEU webinar on it this month <https://givebutter.com/LocalGovtLeadsGreenGHIFreeCEWebinar>

Sarha Kile (Unverified) 10:14 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

It would be great to see more doctors office recommend home energy / health improvements (as relevant to this group) and even better help people find funds to make them. For example for people with breathing issues they could ask questions about ventilation, cooking, humidity control, etc. Is this ...

Where 211 does engage in navigation we can offer broad information and referral services.

Linzy G. Kurdziel (Unverified) 10:15 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

It would be great to see more doctors office recommend home energy / health improvements (as relevant to this group) and even better help people find funds to make them. For example for people with breathing issues they could ask questions about ventilation, cooking, humidity control, etc. Is this ...

Consumers Energy gets referrals from doctor's offices for asthma patients that would benefit from our health & safety single-family program. Have seen a lot of success with this in the Flint area in 2023 and 2024.

Sarah Kile (Unverified) 10:39 AM

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Inside-MDHHS/Policy-and-Planning/Social-Determinants-of-Health-Strategy/CIE/CIE-TF-Final-Report-FINAL-08092023.pdf>

To hear from Andrew: <https://fb.watch/whwy4Jz47O/>

sarah.kile@mi211.org

Hartig, Elizabeth (DHHS) 10:41 AM

hartige@michigan.gov

Andrew McNeally (Unverified) 10:43 AM

amcneally@upppo.com

Nick Dobkowski (Unverified) 10:43 AM
And get people paid

Tonya Swenor (Unverified) 10:45 AM

Brett Little, GHI, He/Him (Unverified)

It would be great to see more doctors office recommend home energy / health improvements (as relevant to this group) and even better help people find funds to make them. For example for people with breathing issues they could ask questions about ventilation, cooking, humidity control, etc. Is this ...

The Superior Watershed Partnership is working with Upper Peninsula Health Care Solutions (UPHCS) which has received funding from MDHHS to collaborate with Community-Based Organizations for involvement in a Community Information Exchange (CIE) pilot project. The purpose of the project is to identify best practices in connecting primary care patients to community-based organization services to meet their social determinant of health (SDOH) needs and tracking referral outcomes.

Aaron K. Kraft (Unverified) 10:45 AM

Hey, Sorry if this was mentioned... but i believe that most/all folks receiving utility assistance also later receive a letter referring them to their local Weatherization program. I'm almost positive this is still happening. (and has happened for years)

Sarah Kile (Unverified) 10:46 AM
More information: www.mi211.org/CIE

Sarah Kile (Unverified) 10:51 AM

Brett, I do see "GHI" now (apologies for missing that), but if you would like to chat more email or schedule time on my calendar at www.calendly.com/sarah-kile

Siemen, Melissa (LARA) 10:52 AM

[Low Income Energy Policy Board \(michigan.gov\)](http://michigan.gov)

[Energy Affordability and Accessibility Collaborative \(michigan.gov\)](http://michigan.gov)

[Low Income Workgroup \(michigan.gov\)](http://michigan.gov)

[U-20757 Staff Report 2023-03-16](#)

[U-20757 12-21-23 Order](#)

[Upcoming Events \(michigan.gov\)](http://michigan.gov)

Yeager, Elizabeth (LARA) 10:53 AM

Referencing health/safety - Is there any collaboration with Office on Aging Agencies, Senior Care of Michigan, Disability Network, Capital Area Community Services, and the like - similar to the already existing relationships with PCP's and hospitals?

Hartig, Elizabeth (DHHS) 10:54 AM

Thank you!

Sarah Kile (Unverified) 10:54 AM

Thanks y'all!