



**KENT COUNTY ESSENTIAL NEEDS TASK FORCE
ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
West Michigan Works 215 Straight St.
Thursday August 2nd, 2016
8:30-10:00**

Minutes

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Calvin Center for Social Research- Neil Carlson, Allison Rudi

- Update: Neil Carlson and his team began to go over the data measures we are still trying to finalize. They showed KConnect's dashboard. We then discussed the ALICE threshold. Neil noted that Michigan is currently working on updating that. The con in this number is concern over often will United Way Michigan update this. Also, this number does not allow for comparisons to other metropolitan areas. Pro is that ALICE is very sensitive to cost of living by county, which is much more accurate than the poverty guideline by the federal government. Right now the group is leaning towards 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- Neil also reviewed a GIS map showing the workforce development sites. It was noted that CSR needs to add West Michigan Works sites in Lowell and Greenville

3. Systems Work- Danielle and Shavon facilitation

- Committee Discussion: Danielle and Shavon gave a handout to update the group on their work. They spoke about the ENTIF Advisory Committee that will meet twice in the next two months. This small group of volunteers from the larger committee will complete work in between meetings, as necessary, to present back to other members for discussion/approval. The members of this smaller committee can change depending on the topic being worked and who is interested in participating at the time the request is made.
- Gap Analysis Process: The next update was on the system alignment expansion project. They let everyone know they hope to conduct the interviews during the month of September. During this time CSR asked Danielle and shavon to add 3-5 questions to their interviews from Calvin's project to measure "best practices".

4. **Agency Updates**

5. **Adjourn**