



## Economic & WFD Subcommittee

### Meeting Minutes

9/6/18

8:30 – 10:00 AM

**Attendees:** Allison Rudi, Betty Beth Johns, Cassandra Wolf, Chad Patton, Lynne Bosma, Deb Martis, Lisa Derr, Michelle Bryk, Milinda Ysasi, Shannon Harris, Tawana Brown, Lorena Marquez, Valerie Butler, Amanda Reimink, Josh Koning, Tammy Britton, Stacy Stout

Staff: Kyle Johnson

#### I. Welcome/Introductions

- a. Name/Organization/What are you looking forward to in autumn?

#### II. ENTf Updates and Housekeeping

- a. Program Allocation Data Review Process collaboration led by IPS, Data & Equity Action Teams. They are developing a decision tree to review data. There will be an open meeting on September 28, 9:30-11:30.
- b. Notes on Data Collection- CSR's last Outcomes Analysis was not complete because of lack of outtake data. To combat that, IPS is implementing 'progress points.' These collect updated data at whatever interim point you have access to clients and clients have experienced a change in status. CSR can work with varied progress points of different agencies- better than no 'post' data at all!

#### III. Neighborhood Match Funds (NMF) Presentation- Stacy Stout, Assistant to the City Manager

- a. The purpose of the NMF is to invest strategically in resident and neighborhood leadership. An emphasis on communities with the greatest need to leverage these small contracts to identify resident leaders, build stronger relationships among residents and their neighborhoods, promote equitable outcomes, and have a public benefit. Contracts between \$200 and \$2,500 are awarded for collaborative community projects. There is \$75K awarded annually. The projects must be led by GR denizens from the community where the project will impact. There is a 1:1 contribution for the contract amount. It can be volunteer hours (\$20/hr), in kind donations, and cash. It is hoping to change the conversation, thicken networks, augment leadership, and lift-up resident voices. Examples of past projects are murals with social justice themes, community gardens with a twist. The projects must incorporate social justice or racial equity. The pitch can be written or through a video. Each project needs to have a lead and a fiduciary. Projects will be notified if approved by October 11. Some support that is still needed are coaches, free fiduciaries, match dollars.

#### IV. Action Team Update: Engaging External Systems

- a. The Action Team presented who they are and what they do. Updates included a Local First Anti-Gentrification panel September 19. Someone shared that while these events

are good, they should incorporate employers who think Local First is for “big” employers like Mercy and not for these smaller businesses.

- b. Public Works Project- A large population of GR workforce will be retiring soon. The Project is a multi-week onboarding operation that builds skills. There will be another pilot program for already employed individuals.
  - c. Wheels to Work- A large barrier to joining the workforce is transportation. Wheels to Work had 7,587 rides in July and August is anticipated to break 8,000 rides. Some riders chose it for convenience but the majority use W2W because they lack or do not want a vehicle. There are spikes in the winter months.
  - d. EES will be merging the Communication of System Resources group with the Engaging External Resources. The next meeting will be October 3.
- V. **Communicating System Resources Activity: Brainstorming Communication Briefs**
- a. In groups, participated picked the top three audiences, brainstormed key messages consistent to all groups, and messages specific to each group.
- VI. **Agency Updates**
- a. The Urban League is looking for two housing counselors. An announcement will be sent out.
  - b. The Urban League and Literacy Center of West Michigan will having an info session for a construction program that will last ten weeks.
  - c. LINC is hosting their quarterly job fair September 20.
- VII. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

To be announced

8:30-10:00

West Michigan Works!