



**CoC MEMBER MEETING
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

April 29, 2021
9:30-11:00am

Facilitator:	Karen Tjapkes		
Meeting Attendees:	<p>Alisa White, Dan Baker (network180), Jinnifer Ortquist (MSU Extension), Karen Tjapkes (Legal Aid), Shaun Lee (Mission Matters), Allyson Voss, Lisa Cruden (Family Promise), Melissa Mikel, Tanesha Jordan (Safe Haven), Dreyson Byker (Community member), Emily Orr, Jamiela (Access), Lauren VanKuelen (AYA), McKenna Covey, Darius Mitchell (Urban League), Jeffrey King (Community Rebuilders), Zac (NURS), Stephanie Gingerich (LINC UP), Abby, Adrienne Goodstal (Mel Trotter), Lee Nelson Weber (Community member), Sherrie Gillespie (KCCA), Alyssa Anten (The Salvation Army), Jennie Compagner (hope Network), Tammy Yeomans (Kent RICC), Todd Furlong (The Salvation Army), Victoria Sluga (Pine Rest), Amanda Tarantowski (network180), Annemarie McElheny (Community Rebuilders), Berniz Terpstra (ICCF), Casey Gordon (Kent ISD), Patrick Buhay (Community Rebuilders), Britt Scholten, Joe Olwig (Mission Matters), Julie Kendrick (Degage), Lydia Carrion, Melissa Barnes (InterAct), Alex Nix (GRHC), Brian Bruce (Dwelling Place), Elizabeth Stoddard (Fair Housing Center), Bill Weld-Wallis (Community member), Laurie Morse-Dell (GLIDE), Wanda Couch (GRHC), Dave Gantz (Pine Rest), Jaymie, Katelyn Schuer, Tom Cottrell (YWCA), Allison Kleinsasser (Senior Neighbors), Hilary Ortiz (Health Net), Wende Randall (ENTF), Hattie Tinney (GRHC), Rebeca Venema (Wyoming Housing Commission), Reniery Triminio, Stephanie Westing, Tricia Smith-Mulder (Exodus Place), Cecilia Rush (VA), John Wynbeek (Genesis), Lexi, Sydney Segard, Kathy Besaw (Genesis), Niki Perkins (Access), Paula Brown (Great Start), Pilar Meyer-Dunning (The Salvation Army), Mary Engle (Mel Trotter), Emily Schichtel (United Way), Johanna Schulte (City of Grand Rapids), Zenaida Jimenez (Safe Haven), Niki Perkins (Access)</p> <p><u>Staff:</u> Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio Robach</p>		
Time Convened:	9:33	Time Adjourned:	10:57

Approval of Minutes		February 25, 2021	
Motion by:	Adrienne Goodstal	Support from:	Tom Cottrell
Discussion			
Amendments	None		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
Approval of Consent Agenda			
Motion by:	Tom Cottrell	Support from:	Victoria Sluga
Discussion	A consent agenda is used when a group approves a set of documents without reviewing each one during the meeting. Courtney overviewed each of the documents included in the consent agenda.		
Amendments	None		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
Strategic Planning: Process Update and Findings Overview		Shaun Lee and Joe Olwig	



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Discussion

The Coalition has been undergoing the strategic planning process with a consulting team, Mission Matters group. Shaun and Joe from Mission Matters attended this meeting to overview the process and their findings to this point.

Over the past few months, Mission Matters has been in the discovery phase they have conducted done 35 interviews and received 42 surveys response. They will be continuing to meet with community members to get feedback throughout the process. The team is currently in the iterative plan development phase where they bring iterations of the plan back for feedback. Today's meeting is one of these iterations. They will also be presenting at the Steering Council meetings in May and June with the plan to present the final plan for adoption in July.

Discovery Findings

Through interviews and surveys, they have identified shared vision and beliefs and common issues.

Shared vision and beliefs include:

- Housing is a fundamental human right
- 2-fold overarching goal to reach functional zero and be a thriving CoC
- The perspective and leadership of people with lived experience is critical
- Need for a common vision and understanding
- Trust will require accountability and transparency
- Need to adopt a common data set to hold ourselves accountable
- Communication, collaboration, and coordination will be required to reach functional zero
- Need to embrace the mindset that data is imperfect

Common issues include:

- Lack of understanding and alignment around the role of the CoC
- Unclear of impact of CoC as a convening entity given limited capacity
- Lack of engagement of people with lived experience
- Lack of trust amongst partners (although this is improving)
- Difficulty in leveraging data due to perceived integrity issues and state-run HMIS model
- Opportunity to improve Coordinated Entry
- Misalignment between aspirations and capabilities

In breakout rooms, small groups discussed what resonates and is missing with the shared vision and which issues are the most important to address in the next 12 months. Groups reported agreement around housing is a basic human right. Groups also discussed data and the need for more input across the community.

Agile Strategy

The agile strategy process and approach is different from the traditional strategic planning process and views a clear direction and criteria for success as more beneficial than detailed strategies. In addition, the approach focuses on action. Throughout the discovery phase, Mission Matters heard desire for emphasis on clarity and alignment of CoC identify leading to them prioritizing the creation of a coalition compass as the foundation for the plan and hosting a core values session. They have



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also seen a desire of inclusion of those with lived experience and coordinating with other efforts. This led to them exploring creating advisory council and prioritizing meetings with leadership.

Coalition Identity:

The Coalition Compass is a 2-3 page strategic orientation tool that will provide direction and clarity. Once finalized, the document will identify the mission, beliefs, values, outcomes, capabilities, focus, and vision of the Coalition. The team deconstructed a mission statement into 2 components – mission and theory of impact. The mission is a statement that defines what an organization exists to achieve. The theory of impact defines how the mission will be reached. These were deconstructed to be deliberate in including both components:

- Draft mission: “make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring throughout Kent County”
- Draft theory of impact: “To provide community leadership and build capacity through cross-sector systems engagement, collaborative planning, and equity-focused solutions.”

Breakout groups discussed the draft mission and theory of impact, what resonates and what changes they would make.

Core Capabilities

These are defined as a specific ability or function of an organization/coalition. From discovery process, Mission Matters identified 9 core capabilities of the CoC – coalition health, education and resource hub, facilitation, continuous learning and action, advocacy and policy, communication and PR, equity lens, data leadership, and HUD optimization. Strengthening these core capabilities will lead to the CoC meeting its mission most effectively. In breakout groups, attendees discussed the capabilities and which ones they would prioritize. Attendees reflected that a common vision amongst a comprehensive set of stakeholders will contribute to the CoC’s success.

Next steps:

- Complete the form to provide input: <http://bit.ly/GR-CoC-InputForm>
- Join the core values session on May 12 at 10am. [Register using this link](#). This session will help define the values of the CoC.
- Connect with Joe (joe@missionmattersgroup.com) or Shaun (shaun@missionmattersgroup.com) at any point to share questions or feedback.

Built for Zero Update

Discussion

The Built for Zero team held onboarding sessions over the past few months. If you were not able to attend, the slides from the session were included with today’s agenda packet. Today’s slides include an overview of the Built for Zero process and the roles on the improvement team. The expected time commitment is 3 hours/month in meeting and 1-2 hours in projects. Courtney encouraged everyone to review the slides to get familiar with the process.

If you would like to be involved with the Built for Zero improvement team, connect with Courtney (cmyers-keaton@hwmuw.org).



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Community Partner Announcements and Updates			
Discussion			
<p><u>LINC</u> - Eastern Lofts has eight (8) 4-br townhouse units at 616 Charles Ave SE to 632 Charles Ave SE. They will be taking applications soon for lease in July/August. Request info at: mvahpartners.com/properties/eastern-lofts. Units will be for 30%, 40%, 60%, and 80% of AMI. Mailing list input form at bottom of screen - sign up will get info about how to apply. LINC is a partner in the project.</p> <p>The remaining units - 4 story building at 623 Eastern SE (62 1 & 2 br units) will be complete in Spring 2022. These units will have a range of AMI limitations and vouchers will be available through MSHDA.</p> <p><u>Safe Haven:</u> They are hosting a one-hour virtual Domestic Violence Seminar on Tuesday, May 4 from 12-1pm. This is an opportunity for our community partners, donors, and volunteers to learn more about domestic abuse, what the organization has been working on over the last year, and their goals for the future, so together we may create a safer community. Register at safehavenministries.org/spring-appeal-seminar-registration/ by May 2.</p> <p><u>Grand Rapids Housing Commission:</u> they will be doing an RFP for Project-Based Vouchers in May. Further communication to follow.</p> <p><u>MSU Extension:</u> they have free financial capability webinars available at www.mimoneyhealth.org</p>			
Adjourn			
Motion by:	Lisa Cruden	Support from:	Hattie Tinney