#### September 2021

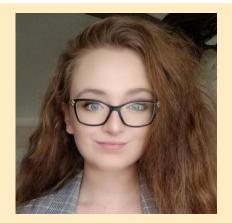
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# THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the Detroit Continuum of Care

#### COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) info <u>here</u> CAM (313) 305-0311 Hours: M-F 9:00am - 6:00pm, Sat & Sun Closed -Read more about CAM's recent changes below

# **Transitions**



Congratulations to Lauren Bianchi HAND's Data Analyst/HMIS System Administrator. She is moving on to a much-deserved role with another agency. We value her major contributions to HAND and wish her well.



And Hip Hip Hooray to our CoC Coordinator, Kaitie Giza, as she changes roles within HAND. She will be our Engagement Coordinator. Her passion for working with those with lived experience makes her perfect for this position!!

# HUD Releases the FY2021 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

**On August 18,** HUD released the Notice of funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) competition. The NOFO may be accessed <u>here</u>. HAND staff provided an update on the status of the CoC competition and an analysis of the NOFO at the September 13 Detroit CoC board meeting. The recording for the first part of the presentation is viewable <u>here</u>.



(click the image for the full analysis)

### Youth Homeless Demonstration Project Award



**The Detroit CoC** was awarded \$5.7M in Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) funding. After two previous unsuccessful attempts, it is exciting to have these resources to advance the goals of ending youth homelessness. The funds will be utilized to build partnerships across systems (e.g. homeless, education, foster care, criminal justice) to better identify homeless youth and coordinate care and quality, safe, and stable housing. Over the next 6 months, the CoC will develop a Coordinated

Community Plan and youth will an integral voice in the planning process.

To learn more about the award, click here.

# Detroit at Work Workforce Pilot

**Detroit at Work** is calling for Detroit CoC emergency shelter and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) providers to partner in the planning and implementation of a 100-day pilot in Detroit at Work to improve clients' employment and income outcomes.

The goals of the pilot are to increase employment and/or income for people in shelter and RRH programs, understand the populations served, and use lessons learned to create a broader workforce and homeless system collaboration. There



are spaces for up to 3 emergency shelters providers and up to 3 RRH providers

View the full description of the project <u>here</u>. Submit your responses via this <u>form</u> Letter of Interest submissions are **due Monday September 27, 2021**.

# Now Hiring

# Landlord Engagement Consultant

You can find more information along with the application <u>here</u>.

**HAND** is seeking an experienced leasing agency or professional to develop and implement landlord engagement strategies to increase safe and affordable rental housing in Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park. The consultant will perform landlord outreach and recruitment to develop a portfolio of available housing units for people experiencing homelessness.

The request for proposal will be accepted via email to *jasmine@handetroit.org* until **5pm October 13, 2021.** Any questions regarding the opportunity should be directed to Jasmine Morgan.

# HMIS IS HIRING!

### Data Analyst

HAND's HMIS team is looking for a fulltime dynamic data analyst to assist with various CoC projects that require a deeper-dive into workflow, trends, outcomes & more.

If you are interested please submit your

### **HMIS System Administrator**

We are seeking a data-driven candidate that would like to delve into the Detroit Continuum of Care's Homelessness Management Information Systems world. If you are interested please submit your cover letter and resume to cover letter and resume to <u>hand.employment@gmail.com</u>

You can read the full description *here.* 

hand.employment@gmail.com

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# Upcoming Conferences & Trainings

### Navigating Change and Transformation: Michigan's Virtual Summit on Ending Homelessness October 4 & 5



Registration for the 2021 Virtual Summit is now open and available! Please join the Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness (MCTEH) online October 4 & 5 for two days of learning, sharing, and connecting with our community as we navigate change and transformation together. Features include:

- 20+ educational sessions: covering topics such as highlighting best practices in service delivery, increasing access to affordable housing, and creating cross sector system alignment,
- Daily wellness-focused sessions,
- Special awards presentation.

View the full schedule <u>here</u> & Register <u>here</u>



 Navigating the Affordable Housing
Search: Finding,
Applying, Moving-In & Maintaining
Virtual Meeting

Join Detroit Action Commonwealth (DAC) *Thursday, September 23rd* from 6pm to 7:30pm for a community conversation on finding affordable housing. Their panelists will discuss, how to find and apply for housing as well as discuss the moving in process and how to maintain the house.

#### Register here.



### Poverty Solutions Eviction Report

MCAH hosted a webinar highlighting University of Michigan's Poverty Solutions report on pandemic-related evictions in Michigan in June 2020 (later updated in June 2021). You can view the webinar on MCAH's YouTube <u>channel</u> or <u>website</u>.

You can also sign up <u>here</u> to receive updates on future MCAH webinars, trainings, and legislative updates.

# **Change to CAM Hours**



**CAM** resumed seeing clients in-person on August 2nd at Southwest Solutions' Housing Resource Center (HRC) and Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV), while also continuing to staff the CAM Phone Line.

As CAM transitioned from operating solely a phone line to a hybrid model with both inperson and phone line access, we made some staffing adjustments. At the end of the month, CAM will be *eliminating* Saturday hours in order to add capacity Monday-Friday, when demand is highest.

#### New Hours of Operation Effective Monday, September 27, 2021:

- CAM Phone Line: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm; Sat-Sun Closed
- HRC in-person: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm; Sat-Sun Closed
- HCHV in-person: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm; Sat-Sun Closed
- Details on CAM locations and the latest updates can always be found at <u>www.camdetroit.org</u>

Clients who do not have a safe space to stay and are in need of shelter on the weekend may call the CAM Phone Line for shelter information.

You can read more about CAM Governance's rationale in making this decision by clicking <u>here.</u> If you have any questions feel free to contact CAM at <u>camdetroit@swsol.org.</u>

# COVID-19 Resources

(These will also be posted on the resources page)

# COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA)

Rental and Utility Assistance is available for residents in Detroit, Highland Park, and Hamtramck. Read more about eligibility requirements <u>here</u> & apply <u>here</u>. For assistance navigating the application, call 866-313-2520. Landlords can also apply.

# 2021 Advance Child Tax Credit Payments

File your tax return as soon as possible. You may qualify for the Advance Child Tax Credit & Economic Impact Payments. For people not required to file a tax return and who didn't file in 2019 or 2020, quickly register using the IRS Non-filer Sign-up Tool.

Wayne Metro offers free virtual tax preparation assistance. <u>Link</u>

- Help those experiencing homelessness access the advance child tax credit using the IRS Toolkit <u>here</u>
- View a pdf of free filing resources <u>here</u>.
- Poverty Solutions at UofM created a website to learn about accessing child tax credit <u>here</u> and the stimulus <u>here</u>.
- IRS.gov <u>guide</u> for using the IRS Non-filer Sign-up Tool
  - Frequently Asked Questions link

\*If you haven't received a previous stimulus payment, you may be eligible for a <u>*Recovery*</u> <u>*Rebate Credit*</u>. To claim the rebate, you must

### **Funeral Assistance**

If you paid for funeral expenses after January 20, 2020, for an individual whose death may have been caused or likely the result of COVID-19 you can apply for up to \$9,000 for funeral assistance.

Start the process by calling FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line at **844-684-6333**; TTY 800-462-7585, Monday-Friday, 9 AM - 9 PM ET. No online applications accepted. Multilingual services available.

For more information please go to this link

### Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)

The American Rescue Plan allocated \$5 billion to target specific populations to allow individuals and families to choose and lease safe, decent, and affordable housing. It is expected that individuals are housed quickly. Detroit CoC was awarded 160 vouchers from MSHDA and DHC. For information about Detroit's EHV program, please click <u>here</u>.

# Emergency Broadband Assistance

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC)



file a 2020 tax return. Details are available here. program that provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying lowincome households. More information here Masks for Homeless Service Providers & Clients request\_form The final narrative consensus will describe how the funds Veteran Housing Fund were spent. Be on the watch for more data information to be shared in the coming weeks regarding the demographics of the veterans that we served. Narrative Consensus Veteran Flex Funds 2020 - 2021 Built For Zero. ROCKET More HAND Reports are available <u>here</u>. To submit a resource, article, event, or other CoC-related information Resource for the upcoming newsletter click <u>here</u> to access a submission form. For general feedback, contact kimberly@handetroit.org. You can view past newsletters here. Visit HAND's Website Follow us on social media