

# Detroit Continuum of Care | General Membership

Working to Equitably End Homelessness in Detroit, Highland Park, & Hamtramck

## January 16, 2024, General Membership Meeting Minutes

### Board Members Present

Terra Linzner  
ReGina Hentz  
Kiana Harrison  
Desiree' Arscott  
Tasha Gray  
Alan Rosetto  
Taura Brown  
Lydia Goddard  
Scott Jackson  
Angel Reed  
Lori Kitchen-Buschel

### General Membership

Audrey Jones  
Austin Williams  
Sally Coder  
Shannon Tanis  
Robert Cooper  
Donna L. Price  
Charlotte Carrillo  
Deloris Cortez  
Gina Cavaliere  
Michelle Johnson  
Cassie Weston  
Amanda Sternberg  
Meredith Baughman  
Violet Ponders  
Clay Bell  
April McKeever  
Rachel Szymarek  
Nzingha Masani-Manuel  
Rebecca Tallarigo  
Cynthia Adams  
Thaddeus K. Dean, Jr.  
Virginia Adams  
Steve Van Every  
Gloria White  
Jean Griggs  
Cecelia Caponecchia  
Alan Haras  
Shautoya Redding  
Celia Thomas  
Ki-Jana Malone  
Danita Hunt  
Zienab Fahs  
Zoey Fudge  
Claudia Sanford  
Carolyn Rayford  
Jennifer Tuzinsky  
Christopher Johnson  
Kelly Marietti

Torrey Henderson  
Eleanor Bradford  
Barri Biederman  
Julie Ratekin  
Amy Brown  
Nona Ingram  
Jane Scarlett  
Emily Mueller  
Alesia McGlocton  
Paige Beasley  
Erica George  
Matthew Niemi  
Lois Brown Nelson  
Lori Lewis  
Brandon Johnson  
Kim Conwell-Leigh  
Julia Janco

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Tasha G. opened the meeting at 1:30 pm with introductions – utilizing the chat box.

## *Board Announcements:*

### Summary –

- At the November 2023 GM meeting, CoC Board Elections were held. The results indicated 7 people were elected. The following elected seats are below:
  - MAL: Alan Rosetto, Angel Reed, and Tammy Black
  - HSP: Lydia Goddard, Benne Baker, and Lori Kitchen Buschel
  - CA: Armani Arnold

## *CAM Transition Update*

### Summary –

- There was a soft launch at the NAOH Project site in December to allow employees to get acquainted, build relationships, and work out any workflow issues. This is a hybrid model which will provide in-person and phone services. The NOAH Project Site is now open to the public! Cass Community Social Services have an access point as well which was publicly launched in January.
- **Shelter Access Prioritization Pilot**
  - The system has experienced an increase in bed utilization for all population types, shelter closures for year-round programs, and limitations on overflow.
  - A Shelter Access Planning ad-hoc group formed; they started meeting last fall to develop a proposal for how CAM Manages shelter access due to capacity constraints. The proposal was developed to shift daily first- come- first served model to a tracking shelter request “needs shelter” list with prioritization. This pilot will begin at the end of January.
- The next step for CAM is continuing managing the system capacity and resource availability, strengthening coordination and partnership between the implementing partners, monitoring data quality and reporting, centering PWLEH, and sustainability.
- If you have any questions concerns, please email: [info@camdetroit.org](mailto:info@camdetroit.org). If you would like to subscribe to the CAM newsletter, here is the link <http://www.bit.ly/CAMUpdate>

## *YHDP Update*

### Summary –

- There were several YHDP projects that were selected to be funded.
  - One of the projects surrounds CE and how Youth access care and are referred to housing which is overseen by Methodist Children’s Home Society (MCSH).
  - There is a PSH Project that funded 12 units which is managed by the Ruth Ellis Center.
  - They have a Joint Transitional RRH program which is being managed by MCSH and Detroit Pheonix Center.
  - The Crisis Mental Health Project (CMH) is meant to bridge a gap between mental health care for the youth who are experiencing homelessness.

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### *PIT/HIC*

#### Summary –

- This year HAND will provide recorded training for the providers. They will continue sending out the housing inventory survey as well as meet with the providers directly. For Sheltered PIT, they look at emergency shelters, including hotel motel vouchers, transitional Housing projects and safe haven projects.
- For HIC, they look at RRH and PSH projects, hotel motel vouchers, transitional Housing projects and safe haven projects. Important emails will be coming from the HMIS team regarding training.

### *Governance Charter*

#### Summary –

- The Governance Charter Revision process is upon us. In the past, the timeline for this process typically unfolded with the introduction of proposed changes in January, followed by sharing the GC for public comments in March, and concluding with the vote in May. However, given the influence of the Strategic Plan, we must consider any potential adjustments to the structure of our GC.
- The proposed timeline as follows:
  - Feb-Mar: Review Committee Recruitment
  - Mar- May: GC Review Committee commence
  - June: Review Committee review public comments
  - July: GM will vote on approved revisions
- More details about recruitment will come soon. If you have additional questions, or would like to request more information about upcoming committee recruitment, please reach out to either Chelsea Johnson at [chelsea@handetroit.org](mailto:chelsea@handetroit.org), or Elise Grongstad at [elise@handetroit.org](mailto:elise@handetroit.org).

### *Strategic Updates*

#### Summary-

- The interim report revealed that there are critical improvements needed for homelessness facilities and programs, housing supply, system leadership roles, etc.
  - The data analysis findings include the avg. length of homelessness, which is 109 days.
  - Clients prior to moving into a housing resource (i.e., temporary shelters, transitional housing) experience 471 days of homelessness and 21% of all households ultimately returned to homelessness.
  - There are also challenges with emergency shelters such as poor conditions, lack of staff and many service needs are not being effectively addressed.
- There were 11 community sessions held to develop strategies based on the findings in the interim report. The strategies were then prioritized by community members in a survey released last November.
  - Prioritized strategies include wages/ benefits, standardized internal housing programs, shelter culture, and basic needs.
  - On the housing side, priorities include improving streamline workflows, building a multi-disciplinary coalition, creating landlord incentives, and flex funds.
- Overall, there is an urgent need for additional investment into homelessness and housing systems.
- The next steps will consist of approving and launching the plan in March.

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## *Public Comments*

### Summary –

- The floor was open for public comments. Each participant had 3 minutes to say their comments.

**Tasha G. closed the meeting at 3:00 PM.** *The next CoC General Membership meeting will be on Tuesday March 19th, from 1:30 – 3:00pm. Location will continue to be virtual.*

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