

# ***Power of We Consortium***

## **Meeting Minutes - November 19, 2010**

**Present:** Jon Coleman, Bob Glandon, Joan Nelson, Lynne Martinez, Justin Sheehan, Randy Bell, Alex Bryan, Katie Ellero, Melissa Lott, Rick Boyd, Patricia Wheeler, Louise Wing, Cindy Anderson, Marian Bryant, Todd Tennis, Mary ZumBrunnen, Ken Sperber, John Melcher, Darla Dowker Jackosn, Lance Werner, Olga Hernandez-Patino, Bill Acheson, Marvin Cato, Pauline Pasch, Brad Patterson, Bob Sheehan, Judi Harris, Shirin Timms, Paul Hamilton, Tiffiany Leischner, Tina Matthews, Sergio Ruiz, Angela Austin, Peggy Roberts.

### **I. Welcome, introductions, and announcements**

Co-Chair Jon Coleman opened the meeting and asked for introductions and announcements

### **II. Learning About Our Community**

*"From Unloved to Embraced" - How tax delinquent parcels that go through foreclosure are turned into community assets.*

*Collaboration between County and City government, with a dose of Recovery Act funding, are turning eyesores into assets. Rehabilitation, new construction, demolition, land assembly, gardening and Urban Farming are all tools a Land Bank can use to build community. Join Ingham County Treasurer and Land Bank Chair Eric Schertzing for a look at what is happening in Ingham County.*

Eric Schertzing announced this year's housing recovery funds of \$17 million obtained by the City of Lansing for housing renovation, which allowed the Ingham County Land Bank to hire 8 people. Eric provided a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating various trend lines including the tax burden on the county, foreclosure rate, delinquent taxes, etc. He discussed the new Restoration Works project, in partnership with Lansing Community College and Allen Neighborhood Center. Eric shared that Michigan is now home to 30+ Land Banks, and that Ingham County Land Bank is reinvesting its proceeds back into Land Bank projects, as opposed to having those proceeds go into the general coffers of the County. The program One Church – One Family has been success moving families into renovated properties owned by the Land Bank. Additionally the Land Bank is turning vacant lots into small urban farms and gardens for the benefit of neighborhood residents. The Urban Homestead Project sells old homes with much needed renovation work to folks who can renovate them themselves, which is a new program.

### **III. Action Items**

#### **A. Approval of Ad Hoc Transportation Committee Recommendation**

*At the January, 2008 meeting of the Consortium, an Ad Hoc Transportation Committee was established in response to consensus that affordable and available transportation is critical to assuring equal access to services. The Committee reported initial findings of survey results to the PWC membership in April, 2009, and committee recommendations, based on the data, in June, 2010. Feedback on the recommendations was gathered from the PWC and other groups. Jon Coleman will discuss next steps, including the transition of the Ad Hoc Committee into a Work Group, and request formal approval of the recommendations from the PWC membership. (Attachment A)*

Jon Coleman, Chair of the PWC's Ad Hoc Transportation Committee, utilized a PowerPoint presentation to review the history of the committee and the process used to arrive at its recommendations. Each of the recommendations were reviewed with meeting participants and a 4-part action was requested:

- 1) Approval of the recommendations

- 2) To transition the Ad Hoc Committee to an ongoing work group of the PWC
- 3) That each organization take the recommendations back to their board of directors for formal approval
- 4) That a person from all interested organizations be designated to participate on the work group

**Lynne Martinez moved that the above be approved; Joan Nelson provided the second. Motion approved.**

#### **B. DRAFT 2011& 2012 PWC Work Plan and Report**

*At the January, 2009 meeting of the Consortium, members approved a 2-year Work Plan for calendar years 2009 and 2010. All members, coalitions, and committees have been asked to review this Plan and provide specific updates for the 2011 & 2012 PWC Work Plan. Members are asked to review all draft updates (in red) in the attached document and provide any further updates to PWC staff. Final approval of the Plan is scheduled for January 21, 2011. Also attached is a Report on the outputs of the PWC for 2009 & 2010 (Attachments B & C)*

PWC members were reminded to send any requested updates for the 2011 & 2012 Work Plan to Peggy Roberts over the next month, for final review and approval at the January 21, 2011 PWC meeting.

#### **C. Proposed December Recess**

*We will consider a recommendation by our Co-Chairs to cancel our December meeting, given its proximity to holiday vacation time. Alternate means to conduct business will be utilized (e-mail).*

**Joan Nelson moved, and Lynn Martinez provided the second, to cancel the December, 2010 PWC meeting.**

### **IV. Updates and Dialogue**

#### **A. The Immigrant and Refugee Resource Collaborative (IRRC)**

*Refugees from all over the world are continuing to be resettled in Ingham County on a daily basis. Shirin Timms (Refugee Development Center) and Judi Harris (St. Vincent Catholic Charities – Refugee Services) are active members in the IRRC. They will share recent data regarding the origin and numbers of these new American residents, efforts to support their education, housing, employment and health related needs, and a look at the many challenges they face.*

Shirin Timms and Judi Harris presented an overview of the make-up of the IRRC, YTD resettlement statistics, employment and housing statistics and stories, and the upturn in the development of Mutual Assistance Associations (MAA) of certain refugee populations. After school tutoring, parent support groups, and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are some of the many services provided between St. Vincent Catholic Charities' Refugee Services Program, the Refugee Development Center, and other partner agencies. Areas of need include optimizing transportation access for refugees, improving community interpretation services, and maximizing opportunities for refugees with professional credentials.

#### **B. The Role of Community Mental Health in Supportive Housing**

*The Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMH) is the locally-based, public organization which serves the mental health needs of the tri-county community. CMH has been involved in supportive housing for over a decade, often in partnership with local non-profit housing development organizations, other human services*

*providers, and consumer-run organizations. Bob Sheehan, CEI-CMH Executive Director, will provide a brief update on the role of CMH in this important community issue. (Attachment D)*

Bob Sheehan informed the membership that CEI-Community Mental Health serves 10,000 clients per year in over 70 locations, providing 5 million hours of service hours. CMH serves adults, adolescents, and children with mental illness, emotional disturbance, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse disorder.

CMH is moving into the area of provider of supportive housing in the tri-county region. CMH is becoming a developer of supportive housing structures, as opposed to an owner of these same structures. Housing types include single family homes, apartments and duplexes, multi-unit sites, and mixed use sites. Supportive services are offered to residents, and coordination of needed services not offered by CMH is also provided.

***Next meeting of the Power of We Consortium – January 21, 2011***