

Detroit Continuum of Care | General Membership

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

March 19, 2024 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present

Terra Linzner
Taura Brown
Tania James
Erica George
Kiana Harrison
Tasha Gray
Lydia Goddard
Benne Baker
Amy Brown
Michelle Parker

General Membership

Kimberly Benton
Steve Van Every
Lori Lewis
Anthony Boyd
Cynthia Adams
Meredith Baughman
Renee Bryant
Claudia Sanford
Austin Williams
Audrey Jones
Sydney Ponder
Jenny Poma
Michelle Johnson
Jessica Bembas
Rachel Szymarek
Robert Cooper
Shautoya Redding
Violet Ponders
Virginia Adams
Jean Griggs
Viki DeMars
Japheth Agboka
China Aquino
Donna L. Price
John Stoyka
Dr. Topeka K. Sam
Zoey Fudge
Cecelia Caponecchia
Carolyn Render
Brittany Watson
Arieona Branch
Amanda Sternberg
Kaitie Giza

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

Board Meeting Updates:

Summary –

- New Board Chair
 - Erica G. announced that Candace Morgan will assume the board chair, while the vice chair position remains open.
- Governance Charter Update
 - The GCRC has finalized its recruitment for the annual Governance Charter Review process, which commenced its meetings several weeks ago. The revision process is now underway, with scheduled weekly meetings over the next two months. In mid-May, the Review Committee plans to release the Governance Charter revisions to the public for comment. Following this, the committee will review the public feedback and provide input. The final revisions will then be presented to the General Membership for a vote in July. This update aims to inform stakeholders that the process is progressing, with a dedicated team working on the revisions, and further updates can be expected in the coming months.

CAM Update – Tasha Gray

Summary –

- Tasha Gray steps in to provide a CAM update, filling in temporarily as the CAM manager due to Scott Jackson's departure from HAND. Scott has moved on to pursue other opportunities. HAND is currently in the process of selecting a new Coordinated Entry Manager, having received applications and begun scheduling interviews. Updates regarding the new team member are anticipated to be shared at the next meeting.
- In the interim, Tasha encourages anyone with questions or concerns related to coordinated entry to reach out to her directly or utilize the organization's general email address, which is monitored by several staff members. She emphasizes the importance of utilizing these channels for expressing concerns, asking questions, and receiving prompt feedback.
- Additionally, Tasha informs the group that as the CAM transition moves into the operational phase, the CAM Governance Committee will be revived. This committee oversees CAM's resources and policies, and Tasha invites those interested, particularly from the shelter work group, outreach, transition, or rapid rehousing providers, to express their interest in joining the committee. The aim is to relaunch the CAM Governance Committee by May 1st.

CoC Competition

Summary –

- Amanda discussed the upcoming release of the notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which will determine the funding for new projects. She outlined a timeline of events, including the release of draft renewal project criteria by the end of the month and the release of renewal project application materials in May. New project funding applications are anticipated to be released in June, with final funding recommendations expected in September. Amanda encouraged agencies to stay informed by signing up for the email listserv and promised more detailed information once application materials are released. In response to John's question, she confirmed that data related to gaps and needs will be analyzed to inform funding priorities.

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Public Comments

Summary –

- Kiana announced that Miss Merchant was unable to attend, and the meeting proceeded with public comment. Dr. Tippiga, the founder, and CEO of Ladies of Hope Ministries introduced her organization's mission to end poverty and incarceration of women and girls globally. She also shared that they are expanding to Detroit, Michigan, and invited collaboration. Lydia expressed concerns about the current tense situations and emphasized the importance of respecting each other's humanity. Lastly, Jenny from Lighthouse Michigan introduced her organization's work in affordable housing, particularly in partnering with Co. Detroit to provide PSH services. The conversation ended with Erica thanking everyone and looking forward to their next general membership meeting.

Erica G. closed the meeting at 2:15 PM. *The next CoC General Membership meeting will be on Tuesday May 21st, from 1:30 – 3:00pm. Location will continue to be virtual*

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