

RECOVERY HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE

Kimberly L. Murphy
County Administrator

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MEMBERS

Claudia Annoni, Nancy Jenkins-Arno, Francine Zysk, Gary Clift, Jackie Bradley, Jacqueline Wyse, Troy Bevier, John Glaser
301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221

MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

Minutes: Wednesday, June 26, 2024

I. Call to Order- Reading of Mission Statement

With the Community Needs Assessment results of using the Opioid Settlement Funds, the data guided a need for Recovery Housing for Lenawee County. The subcommittee will explore the best options for creating Recovery Housing to offer stable, safe, and substance-free housing alternatives for those in recovery in Lenawee County.

Present: Commissioner Nancy Jenkins-Arno, James Van Doren

Also Present: Community Development Coordinator Francine Zysk, Garry Clift, Sheriff Troy Bevier, Community Outreach / Compliance Director for Lenawee Community Mental Health Jackie Bradley, Administrator Kim Murphy, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Marketing & Communications Jen Ambrose, Administrative Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Deputy Prosecutor Allison Arnold for Jacqueline Wyse, Public Defender Carly Zilke for Chief Public Defender John Glaser

Absent: Chief Prosecuting Attorney Jacqueline Wyse, Chief Public Defender John Glaser

Comm. Jenkins-Arno opened the meeting by reading the mission statement at 1:30pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes: May 22, 2024

III. Presentation- Paula's House - Lisa Young, Operations Manager

A. Presentation

Lisa Young is the Operations Manager at Paula's House, a non-profit agency in Monroe County. Paula's House is a long-term transitional home for women recovering from substance-use disorder, offering accommodation for a 12 to 24-month period. The focus of the agency is living life in recovery, not a short-term solution. The organization opened the first home to women only in 2004, and it was discovered that women left the agency prematurely due to the need to care for children. In 2013, Paula's House II opened its doors to women in recovery, both with and without children. It can accommodate up to 42 people, typically consisting of 24 women, and the remaining space is allocated for children. Referrals to the transitional housing are accepted from the courts, self referral, CMH,

Salvation Army, and even out-of-county referrals. Prior to admission, a phone interview is done to ensure they are currently in treatment and understand admission rules. Requirements include 18+, homeless and/or at risk, alcohol & drug free at intake, demonstrate a commitment to recovery, being diagnosed with substance-use disorder, and agreeing to follow all house rules. Over the years, they have learned it is very important to require treatment first prior to admission.

In addition to housing, chores and cooking are shared by residents. Assessments are done to determine the women's other needs, such as life skills training, Adult Education, financial responsibility, restoring parent-child relationships, parenting classes, therapy dog visits, self-esteem groups, school, health insurance and collaborating with many other local organizations. Further into the program, family visitations are scheduled. The ultimate goal is to ensure that all women leaving the facility have housing secured.

Paula's House is Level 3 Certified with MARR (Michigan Association of Recovery Residences). Staff members are hired to work regular business hours, while a house manager is available after hours to address and report any issues or concerns. If women are discharged, re-enrollment can not occur for at least 30 days, and they are referred to other community resources instead.

Funding for their agency comes from various sources; HUD for operations under \$20,000, United Way, Salvation Army/ DHHS, and they host various fundraising events. Some years they have received state funding. However, if grants are not received, the women pay 30% of residential rent. During the years Paula's House is fortunate to receive state funding, the women work with a coach to establish a savings account instead of paying rent.

In 2023, Paula's house provided 5,129 sober resident days, supported 39 women, and 55 children.

IV. Existing Business

Comm. Jenkins-Arno discussed there being one more presenter in July. The subcommittee will come together in August for discussions and planning for Lenawee County, covering three primary topics:

- What do we currently have in Lenawee?
- What is needed/what are gaps?
- What is our solution?

Recommendations would then be presented to the Board of Commissioners.

V. New Business

Coordinator Zysk shared the current Community Book Read is "Prescription for Pain", by Philip Eli. A Zoom discussion will be held on July 18th at 6pm. Further information can be found on the County's website.

VI. Public Comment

No public comment.

VII. Adjournment

Recovery Housing Subcommittee
6/26/2024

Motion by Bevier, Second by Zysk to adjourn the meeting at 02:13 PM. Motion carried.