



Hunger Free Lenawee!

Minutes from January 3, 2023

- Attendance: Amy Shovels (MSUE), Andy Piatt (I92), Rosemary (City of Refuge), Vickie Pfeifer (MSUE), Cari Rebottaro (Dept. on Aging), Madeline DeMarco (LCMHA), De'Angelo Boone (Meal Assistance Program), Spencer Ruffner (Tecumseh Service Club) Colleen and Mike Sunderlund (Tecumseh Service Club)

- December minutes were approved. Motion by Amy and second from De'Angelo

- Spencer and the Sunderland's gave an overview of their pantry which is housed in a building on the St. Elizabeth's campus. The service club has existed for 90 years and is financed mostly through donations. They not only have food but they also offer help with utility bills and have some clothing, the limit of assistance is \$500 per year. For Christmas they do an "Adopt a Family program through local churches. This past year they serviced 110 families with food, clothing and toys. They are working on meal kits that would include a recipe that would use the food they are given.
They also passed out a sheet of information on their group.

- Collective Impact Core Discussion
This month Vickie passed out papers listing the 6 Principles of Trauma-Informed Care. For the next several meetings we will be talking about these principles and how they affect our pantries.

This month we discussed "Safety" both physically and mentally. One of the issues discussed was confidentiality. Clients not wanting to give out personal info for fear of getting into the system. Andy shared that some kids who could really use his weekend backpack are not getting them because for whatever reason the parents will not sign up for them. De'Angelo has seen some of the same with his collage program. This is an ongoing struggle that we all are facing. We need a certain amount of information while still not scaring off the clients who need the help.

- Cari Rebottaro from Dept. on Aging shared that she was going to a meeting with the state where they will be discussing how their clients are counted. The state is thinking of counting a drive-through or pick up clients the same as a home delivered client. That would necessitate a home visit. Right now the clients that pick up or come to the Centers for their meals are not subject to the home inspection. More info as it becomes available.

- The question was asked of what is the progress of a county wide central hub. We need members to gather more info on issues that need to be addressed. So there is no definite answer in the immediate future.

- Those who had the time were able to visit the Service Clubs site and ask questions.

- Next meeting is February 7 at the Salvation Army