



Share the Warmth OF LENAWEE

Dear members of the Lenawee County Continuum of Care,

I write to request your support. Share the Warmth of Lenawee (STWL) has grown exponentially over the last few years. With the implementation of staffing, we have really been able to grow community partnerships, while diligently working to utilize rapid rehousing programming to house our guests safely and sustainably. STWL houses a vulnerable population that is defined as literally homeless. Some of our guests suffer as chronically unhoused. Our facility has the capacity to shelter 62 persons. For the last year, STWL has maintained a guest count from the mid-50's to full capacity. In May we served over 91 guests. The average amount of guests served monthly is 90.

As the only low barrier shelter in Lenawee County, STWL has the organizational qualities to provide a new case manager for the Housing Navigation Program. All our guests are defined as literally homeless or chronically homeless as defined by the Hearth Act. Many of our guests can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addictions, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse, the presence of youth with disability or other barriers to employment, lack of a high school diploma or GED, illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration, and a history of unemployment.

Case management funding will support us in providing a new case manager to help with housing navigation services for qualifying individuals and families that are searching for housing utilizing the Homeless preference HCV program or other CoC or ESG-funded housing programs. We will aid with paperwork, collecting needed identifications, landlord mediation, ongoing housing stabilization services. As we work through housing our guests, we will also be connecting them to needed outside resources to ensure safe and sustainable housing. All of this will be done utilizing the Minimum Standards for Emergency Shelter as described by MSHDA.

Share the Warmth of Lenawee will receive guests through the coordinated entry system as well as through 211 calls, law enforcement communication, community mental health, outreach work, and other Good Samaritan calls for help. Upon contact, we will invite each guest to participate in the Coordinated Entry Process to help fulfill safe and sustainable rapid rehousing. Each case will be prioritized utilizing the current vulnerability index as well as any other requirements outlined in the Coordinated Entry Process.

Share the Warmth of Lenawee meets all the requirements of the NOFO. With funding we will employ staff that will routinely report to the CoC. All reports will include the number of households identified and served, as well as the status of the funding expenditure. We will maintain knowledge of Housing Navigation and abide by all requirements, regulations, and service standards. We welcome oversight by the fiduciary to execute grant documents, assure proper use of funds, and evaluate the quality of services through ongoing monitoring of at least 10% of the participant files.

The allowed amount to Lenawee County is \$90,000.00. As the largest organization within the CoC to provide intensive housing case management, Share the Warmth is requesting half of the amount allocated in the amount of \$40,500.00 over a two-year period. As outlined in the grant, this will cover the cost of Housing Navigation Case Management. We recommend that \$9,000.00 go to the Lenawee CoC fiduciary for administrative costs, fulfilling the 10% allowed for oversight fees. I look forward to partnering with another agency to fulfill positive Housing Navigation Case Management within Lenawee County.

Best Regards,
Kelly Castleberry
Executive Director