



NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

HOUSING and HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE

www.endhomelessnessnmi.org



Overview and Structure

Led by the Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness, the City of Traverse City, and Grand Traverse County, the Housing and Homelessness Task Force is an initiative designed to develop a comprehensive plan to prevent and end homelessness in our communities. It brings together representatives from government, homeless and social service providers, healthcare, housing development, law enforcement, and other key sectors to align efforts, maximize resources, and drive long-term solutions for safe and stable housing.

From May through September 2025, work groups will focus on three key areas: emergency shelter, safety net services, and housing solutions. These groups will assess current gaps, identify best practices, and develop actionable strategies. The resulting plan will guide implementation efforts starting in 2026, ensuring a coordinated, sustainable approach to addressing homelessness.

Goals

1) Develop a Unified Strategy

The Task Force will align efforts across agencies, ensuring shared goals, streamlined services, and the most effective use of resources to prevent and end homelessness in our region.

2) Address Systemic Barriers to Housing

By tackling systemic factors such as housing affordability, mental health services, addiction treatment, and economic stability, the Task Force will work toward long-term solutions that reduce the risk of homelessness.

3) Maximize Funding and Resources

The Task Force will strengthen coordination of federal, state, and local funding to enhance efficiency and close service gaps. It will also advocate for additional resources to meet the growing demand for housing and support services.

4) Enhance Service Coordination

Bringing together housing providers, healthcare systems, and social services, the Task Force will improve collaboration and accessibility, ensuring that individuals receive the right support at the right time.

5) Track Progress and Accountability

By setting measurable goals and regularly evaluating outcomes, the Task Force will promote transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in local housing and homelessness initiatives.

6) Incorporate Community Perspectives and Stakeholder Input

Through targeted engagement efforts, including public input sessions and collaboration with community leaders, the Task Force will promote awareness, education, and support for effective strategies to address and end homelessness.

7) Advocate for Policy Solutions

To create lasting change, the Task Force will champion policies that expand deeply affordable housing, increase funding for services, and remove regulatory barriers that impact those experiencing homelessness.

Duration

March 1 - December 31, 2025

Focus Areas

Crisis management/ Safety

Prevention and Diversion

Access to the Homeless Response System

Basic Needs

Emergency Shelter and Day Shelter

Housing Navigation Services

Housing With and Without Supports

Development of Deeply Affordable Housing

Supports that Enhance Housing-Based Case Management

Leadership Team



The Leadership Team will provide strategic direction, oversight, and accountability for the community-wide Task Force's efforts to address and end homelessness. They will be responsible for setting the overall vision, guiding the development of the community plan, and ensuring that Work Groups have the resources and support needed to succeed.

Nate Alger, Grand Traverse County

Ashley Halladay-Schmandt, NW Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

Ryan Hannon, Central United Methodist Church

Benjamin Marentette, City of Traverse City

Christie Minervini, NW Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

Sakura Takano, Rotary Charities

Advisory Council



The Advisory Council will include the Leadership Team, Work Group chairs, community leaders, local and state officials, and subject matter experts. They will review progress from each work group, offer input on proposed solutions, and help secure the necessary resources and policy support to implement the community plan.

Nate Alger, Grand Traverse County

Chris Barsheff, Garfield Township

Nikki Basch, Great Lakes Housing Services

Becca Binder, Northwest Michigan Supportive Housing

Dan Buron, Goodwill Northern Michigan

Warren Call, Traverse Connect

Randy Fewless, Grand Traverse County Sheriff Dept.

Karl Fulmer, Traverse City Housing Commission

Ashley Halladay-Schmandt, NW Coalition to End Homelessness

Ryan Hannon, Central United Methodist Church

Jennifer Holm, Traverse City Police Dept. Social Work

Michele Howard, Traverse Area District Library

Sarah Hughes, Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency

Terri LaCroix-Kelty, Munson Medical Center

Deb Lake, Goodwill Northern Michigan

Bailey LaPan, Goodwill Northern Michigan Street Outreach

Jen Leaf, Michigan State Housing Development Authority

Pat Livingston, Safe Harbor of Grand Traverse

Benjamin Marentette, City of Traverse City

Alison Metiva, Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation

Angela Mikula, Lived Experience of Homelessness

Connor Miller, Aspire North

Christie Minervini, Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

Chief Matt Richmond, Traverse City Police Dept.

Kendall Rodriquez, Networks Northwest Offender Success

Sakura Takano, Rotary Charities

Chief Jim Tuller, Traverse City Fire Dept.

Megan Wick, Community Cares Coalition

Working Groups



Under the guidance of the Leadership Team, nonprofit leaders, service providers, and subject matter experts will collaborate in three work groups:

Safety Net Services

Strengthens support systems that prevent homelessness and assist those currently experiencing it. Focus areas include access to healthcare and mental health services, crisis intervention, diversion and prevention efforts, and essential resources.

Jennifer Holm, Traverse City Police Dept. Social Work - Co-Chair
Bailey LaPan, Goodwill Northern Michigan Street Outreach - Co-Chair
Joe Barkman, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health
Ryan Hannon, Central United Methodist Church
Dr. David Klee, Munson Family Practice
Paula Lapinski, Addiction Treatment Services
Tara Peck, Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency



Emergency Shelter and Services

Improves crisis response systems to ensure immediate, safe, and supportive shelter. This includes enhancing emergency shelters, day services, and housing navigation efforts.

Dan Buron, Co-Chair, Goodwill Northern Michigan
Patrick Livingston, Co-Chair, Safe Harbor
Ryan Hannon, Central United Methodist Church
Jessica Hamilton, Community Cares Coalition
Mike McCrary, Safe Harbor
Jason Parks, The Salvation Army
Rev. Jim Perra, Grace Episcopal/ Jubilee House



Housing Solutions

Expands affordable housing options for people exiting homelessness by securing funding, partnering with developers and landlords, and advancing supportive housing models like Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing and other innovative housing solutions.

Becca Binder, Northwest Michigan Supportive Housing - Co-Chair
Dan Buron, Goodwill Northern Michigan
Karl Fulmer, Traverse City Housing Commission - Co-Chair
Maxwell Cameron, Grand Traverse County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
Shelly Charron, Housing North
Catherine Distelrath, Corporation for Supportive Housing
Nora Dunlop, Goodwill Northern Michigan
Julie Ellalasingham, St. Vincent DePaul
Sarah Hughes, Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency
Seth Johnson, Cunningham-Limp
Claire Karner, East Bay Township
Paula Lapinski, Addiction Treatment Services
Tony Lentych, Michigan State Housing Development Authority
Craig Patterson, Woda Cooper
Juliette Schultz, Women's Resource Center
Jon Stimson, Homestretch
Shawn Winter, City of Traverse City

Facilitator

Dr. Richard (Rick) Bellingham, Ed.D., is an organizational psychologist who has spent the last 40 years creating healthy, innovative, and productive work environments in over 200 organizations worldwide. The purpose of his work is to re-examine, redefine, and reform how we look at the meaning of community, leadership, and wellness in corporate culture.

10-Month Timeline



Meeting Schedule

Leadership Team

March 13th 11:00 – 12:30 pm
April 17th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
June 27th 9:00 – 10:00 am
July 31st 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
August 19th 9:00 - 11:00 am
September 9th 1:00 - 2:00 pm
October 17th 9:00 – 11:00 am
November 20th 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
December 18th 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Advisory Council

May 8th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
July 17th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
September 18th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
November 20th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Housing Solutions

May 1st 10:00 – 11:30 am
June 5th 10:00 – 11:30 am
August 7th 10:00 – 11:30 am
September 4th 10:00 – 11:30 am
October 2nd 10:00 – 11:30 am

Emergency Shelter & Services

May 1st 1:00 – 2:30 pm
June 5th 1:00 – 2:30 pm
August 12th 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
August 20th 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
September 4th 1:00 – 2:30 pm
September 25th 1:30 - 3:00 pm
October 2nd 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Safety Net Services

May 1st 3:30 - 5:00 pm
June 5th 3:00 - 4:30 pm
August 7th 3:00 - 4:30 pm
September 4th 3:00 - 4:30 pm
October 2nd 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Listening Sessions

July 17th 8:30 - 9:30 am
September 11th 10:30 - 11:30 am

Public Input Sessions

October 16th 1:00 – 2:30 pm
October 16th 5:30 – 7:00 pm

For more information

Ashley Halladay-Schmandt at 231-499-1019 or ashley@endhomelessnessnmi.org

Christie Minervini at 231-218-4421 or christieminervini@gmail.com