HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019
9:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Rob Piercefield, Matthew Bowen, Joseph Brehler, Lisa Deavers, Blake Mulder and Barbara Rogers

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Terrance Augustine and Brian Droscha; Tammy Lemmer, Sara Lurie and John Fuentes

The May 6, 2019 regular meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee was called to order by Chairperson Pearl-Wright.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Commissioner Mulder moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Commissioner Rogers seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rogers moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2019 meeting, as presented. Commissioner Bowen seconded. Motion carried.

Tammy Lemmer, Tri-County Office on Aging, was present to provide the agency’s semi-annual update. Updates were provided on the agency’s program offerings and the development of the agency’s multi-year fiscal plan. Discussion held.

Commissioner Mulder moved to recommend approval of the resolution recognizing the Tri-County Aging Consortium’s 45th Anniversary, to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Bowen seconded. Motion carried.

Sara Lurie, Executive Director, Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Community Mental Health Authority, was present to provide the agency’s semi-annual update. Service statistics for County residents were reviewed. An overview was provided for new program offerings. An update on the status of changes to the Home and Community Based Services (Transitions) program was also provided. Discussion held.

Information and a resolution from Shiawassee County regarding the creation of a Complete Count Committee related to the 2020 U.S. Census was distributed. Discussion held.

Tammy Lemmer commented that Tri-County Office on Aging will be conducting a public hearing on its multi-year fiscal plan this afternoon (May 6, 2019) at 1:00 p.m. at the Charlotte District Library.
Chairperson Pearl-Wright adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be held on Monday, June 3, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Courthouse, located at 1045 Independence Boulevard, Charlotte, MI 48813.

Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Chairperson
General TCOA update: TCOA is celebrating our 45th Anniversary as of April 4. We thank the County for your ongoing support over the years.

TCOA is in the 3rd and final year of its current Multi-Year Plan, and development of the Fiscal Year 2020-2022 Plan is underway, which will outline proposed program and service goals for the State Commission on Aging approval through the Aging and Adult Services Agency. A needs assessment process was conducted to gather input for the plan. In addition to a paper and electronic survey, a series of community forums were held throughout the service area, including the communities of Bellevue, Delta Township, Sunfield, and Vermontville. Public Hearings on the Draft Plan will be held May 6 at 1 pm at the Charlotte Community Library, May 8, 2019 at 1pm at the Briggs District Library in St Johns, and May 9 at 1 pm at the TCOA main office. The draft plan will be submitted to local units of government for review in June and then presented to the Commission on Aging in August or September.

TCOA continues to monitor the progress of the federal and state budgets. While there was some increase in funding from the State of Michigan for the 2019 Fiscal Year, the status of the FY 2020 budget is unclear. Demand for services continues to rise for most programs and services so it is expected that the budget will continue to remain tight. TCOA’s Consortium Dues proposals to all members reflected a requested increase of 3%. We appreciate your consideration.

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and Long Term Care Collaborative: TCOA is a partner with the ADRC-Capital Area Partnership offering both Information & Assistance/Referral (I&A/R) and Options Counseling to the community. The partnership meets every other month in Lansing. TCOA served 1,789 individuals through I&A/R calls between October 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019, including 245 from Eaton County (an increase of 42 residents.)

Nutrition: TCOA served 61,483 meals to 431 clients in Eaton County clients through the Home Delivered Meals and Congregate Dining Programs October 1, 2018 through March 2019. The Eaton County Meals on Wheels (MOW) office has seen an increase in client referrals since November 2018. While there is no waiting list at this time, some clients are receiving frozen food deliveries due to lack of volunteer support. The Nutrition Program continues to seek out new strategies for recruiting volunteers, and recently began distributing ‘Volunteers Needed’ yard signs. The current focus for recruiting volunteers is for Grand Ledge, Dimondale, Potterville, and Olivet. There is also a need for volunteers at the Senior Dining Sites in Sunfield and Grand Ledge. Vermontville Bible Church also became a much needed cooler drop-off site for that area.
**Health Promotion/Disease Prevention:** TCOA provides several evidence-based programs to help clients self-manage health conditions. From October 2018 – March 2019, TCOA hosted two Diabetes PATH workshops with 24 completers and one Matter of Balance workshop with 14 completers in Eaton County. Additionally, one Matter of Balance recently completed in April 2019 and a Chronic Pain PATH workshop is scheduled to complete in May 2019. Location hosts and additional partnerships are needed to help make these programs sustainable.

**Medicare & Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP):** The MMAP program assisted 1,816 beneficiaries in TCOA’s first two quarters (October-March), with 316 of them from Eaton County (an increase of 118 county residents). The program focuses on Medicare, Medicaid, Supplemental Insurance, Long Term Care Insurance, waste, fraud and abuse prevention, and Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage.

**Waitlists:** As of March 30, the Project Choices (Medicaid Waiver) wait list is down to 76 people. One year ago it was at 168. As of the same date, the Case Coordination wait list is at 200. One year ago it was at 201. Case Coordination is offered when possible to individuals on the Waiver wait list. TCOA continues to advocate for sufficient funding as this program will only grow as the population and needs increase.

**Volunteer Opportunities** – TCOA hosted a volunteer appreciation event on April 26 for all agency volunteers in recognition of their important contributions.

Meals on Wheels continues to be in significant need of additional volunteers. Anyone interested in volunteering may call the Eaton County Meals on Wheels office at 517-541-2330.

Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) is recruiting volunteers to assist individuals, especially in Eaton County. For more information on how to become a MMAP volunteer please call 517-887-1416.

Information on additional volunteer opportunities and sponsorship options for TCOA events are available by contacting Casey Cooper, Fundraising and Volunteer Specialist, at 517-887-1377.

**Upcoming Events**

*Older Michigamians’ Day- Statewide Advocacy event on May 15, 2019 at the Capital.*

*6th Annual Run for the Ages TCOA 5K- May 18, 2019 at Hawk Island Park, Lansing.*

*31st Annual Meals on Wheels Golf Outing - June 11, 2019 at Forest Akers West, Lansing.*

*34th Annual Dinner and Auction- Thursday, November 7, 2019 at Eagle Eye Banquet Center, Bath.*
EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 17, 2019

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE TRI-COUNTY AGING CONSORTIUM’S 45TH ANNIVERSARY

Introduced by the Health & Human Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Aging Consortium was established by Eaton, Ingham and Clinton Counties and the cities of Lansing and East Lansing on April 2, 1974; and

WHEREAS, the original signers of the Consortium Charter included Gerald W. Graves, Mayor, City of Lansing; David C. Hollister, Chair, Ingham County Board of Commissioners; Dale Benjamin, Jr., Chair, Eaton County Board of Commissioners; Derrill M. Shinabery, Chair, Clinton County Board of Commissioners; and Wilber B. Brookover, Mayor, City of East Lansing; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County, Michigan, as a member of the Tri-County Aging Consortium, is committed to supporting older adults as they take charge of their health, explore new opportunities and activities, and focus on independence; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Aging Consortium, doing business as the Tri-County Office on Aging, is the Area Agency serving Eaton County, whose mission is to promote and preserve the independence and dignity of the aging population; and

WHEREAS, meeting and taking care of basic needs is crucial to the livelihood and independence of older adults and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Office on Aging provided information, assistance, referrals, health and wellness programs, housing assistance, care management, home delivered meals, and a wide variety of other in-home supports and services to more than 19,000 individuals in Fiscal Year 2018.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize the Tri-County Aging Consortium’s 45th Anniversary and urge every resident to make themselves aware of the Tri-County Office on Aging, whose work provides meaningful support and service in our community.
Eaton County Update
May 6, 2019

Eaton County Individuals Served
FY15/16 Eaton County 1,603 Tri-County 10,570
FY16/17 Eaton County 1,822 Tri-County 11,735
FY17/18 Eaton County 1,951 Tri-County 12,634

Historical Expenditures for Eaton County Residents
FY 15/16 $15,745,112 County Appropriation $832,997
FY 16/17 $17,780,686 County Appropriation $883,830
FY 17/18 $19,865,561 County Appropriation $790,922

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
Youth
- Truancy Intervention Mental Health expects to serve 50 youth and families this year
- Youth served in programs show significant measured improvements.
- Youth Mobile Crisis services in Eaton County
Jail Services
- Mental Health Therapist works closely with Jail Medical and Jail Command
- Monitors and manages needs of 230-270 inmates
- Currently includes 3 inmates awaiting admission to the Forensic Center and 4 receiving antipsychotic injections
Clinic-Based Services Highlights
- Wellness Program serving 62 unique consumers
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy Group provides an effective year-long skills training program
NEW Eaton County Initiatives
- Treatment Foster Care-Oregon
- Jail Re-entry Services

Home and Community Based Services Rules and Transitions Update
- HCBS are Medicaid services for people with disabilities
- Rules are meant to support full participation in community life with the same access as other individuals in the community
- CMHA-CEI Transitions Day Program is out of compliance with HCBS rules and is being redesigned
- Current program facilities are being phased out and new community based services launched throughout the year
- Updates, monthly HCBS-Transitions Newsletter and other resources can be found at www.ceicmh.org click on the red HCBS link from the home page

OTHER INITIATIVES
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Expansion Grant
- Mental Health First Aid
- Stand Up 2 Stigma
- Life Savers Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition
A message from Karla Block
Director of Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled

As Transitions site shifts take place each month there have been some repeated questions about specific topics. One topic we hope to provide some more information about is about the new Skill Building supports. Medicaid language requires specific things to take place, related to service provision, in order for the agency to bill and receive payment for services. Related to Skill Building, Medicaid requires that clear, definable goals are linked to a person’s desire to gain employment, attend school, or participate in meaningful volunteer related activities. Beyond just having clear goals though, the person must also show the ability to actively work on those goals for several hours in a row (3 or more hours), and do so at least one or more times per week. These requirements for Skill Building shape what the agency’s new supports can, and cannot, look like moving forward. As people shift into new Skill Building services, it’s important for everyone to know that we have to adhere to these Medicaid standards – there is no flexibility surrounding these requirements as there may have been with past services.

The process surrounding the Transitions site shifts remains the same, with individuals preparing to shift out into the community and beginning their pre-planning roughly 90 days prior to the actual transition point. At that time, individuals currently receiving services at Transitions site settings will be assessed for Skill Building needs and participate in the Full Life Level of Care assessment process. These tools will help individuals in planning for needs, and finding clear goals that may tie into the Skill Building services area, as well as other needs, such as Community Living Supports, Residential services, etc.

Transitions Survey Project

We want your voice to be heard! The Quality Improvement team at CMHA-CEI has randomly selected individuals from each Transitions site to complete a survey.

The survey aims to measure consumer quality of life and satisfaction of services through a face-to-face interview before their site shift is complete, and again one year later. The results of the survey will be used to monitor and enhance quality of services of individuals with developmental disabilities receiving CMHA-CEI services.

Individuals randomly selected to be surveyed will be sent a letter and other required forms in the mail in at least one month before their Transition site’s shift to community integration.

Guardians will be required to sign consent forms for participation, and are encouraged to participate in the survey by assisting individuals in answering the survey questions. The letter will contain more information about the survey and contact information for the Quality Improvement team.

Those who are not randomly selected, but who would like to voice their thoughts may contact CMHA-CEI’s Customer Service representatives at (517) 346-8244. Specific questions about services may be directed to the appropriate case manager.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Pre-Planning Begins</th>
<th>PCP/Shift to Community Integration Complete</th>
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<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>Shift completed January 31, 2019</td>
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<td>Grand Ledge</td>
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<td>St. Johns</td>
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<td>North</td>
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Check out these community resources!

Autism Alliance of Michigan (AAoM) is leading collaborative efforts across the state that will improve the quality of life for individuals with autism through education, access to comprehensive services, community awareness, inclusion efforts, and coordinated advocacy.

*True North:* “People with autism will lead lives that meet their greatest potential.”

*Mission:* “We lead efforts to raise expectations and expand opportunities for people touched by autism across the lifespan.”

Contact AAoM or visit their website to get help finding resources. Their Neighborhood Directory is home to over 700 resources based in Michigan, including doctors, summer camps, autism friendly businesses, and more.

**Autism Alliance of Michigan**


Website: [https://autismallianceofmichigan.org](https://autismallianceofmichigan.org)

Email: info@aaomi.org

Phone: 877-463-2266
What is outdated?

- No built in ability to save or put into reserves for future uses.
- Artificial risk limits cap PIHP reserves at 7.5%, far below industry standards and DO NOT include any ability to replenish reserves.
- Rates do not reflect changes in community demand nor expectations, demand and expectations that have grown dramatically over the last 20 years.
- Local match draw down requirements – state uses $25 million of local CMH funds to draw down Medicaid funds (established in the 1980’s).

What has changed?

1997 – FUNDING

Medicaid funding was 65%
State general fund was 35%

1997 – SERVICES

- Adults with serious Mental Illness
- People with Developmental / Intellectual Disabilities
- Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances (examples: Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD))

2019 – FUNDING

Medicaid funding is 95%
State general fund is 5%

2019 – SERVICES

- Adults with serious Mental Illness (demand continues to grow)
- People with Developmental / Intellectual Disabilities (demand continues to grow)
- Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances (examples: Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) (demand continues to grow)

PROBLEM

Trying to fix 2020 problems with 1990’s solutions

DRAMATIC CONVERSION FROM STATE SYSTEM (GENERAL FUNDS) TO MEDICAID-DOMINATED SYSTEM

Michigan’s PIHP system was developed in 1997 when the state moved the Medicaid behavioral health services into managed care. The financing and risk arrangements that were developed 20+ years ago are still in place today and dictate the financial makeup of the system.

A lot has changed since 1997. Behavioral health care has changed dramatically in the past 20 years.
ITEMS THAT CONTINUE TO ADD DEMAND

Demand for Services
- Opioid Crisis
- Autism Services
- Increased staffing costs due to minimum wage increases
- Expanded Medicaid services
- Federal Rules changes for people living independently
- Jail Diversion Programs
- School safety
- Increased state reporting and assessment requirements
- Unfunded mandates, such as new statutory requirements

State Mandates

Employment Costs (direct care wages/psychiatrist costs)

Federal Rules for Living Arrangements

PROBLEM
Demands for services are outpacing funding

MEDICAID/HMP/AUTISM GF REVENUE

CURRENT FUNDING

FUNDS NEEDED TO SUPPORT GROWING DEMANDS

COMPARISON OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FUNDING TO MEDICAL PRICE INDEX FY2010 TO FY2017

ALL PEOPLE RECEIVING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

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**Total State and Federal Net Funding for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services**

**Applying Medical Price Index to FY2010 Revenue Forward on an Annual basis**

0.330,000

[Graph showing annual funds available and number of people served]
Our public mental health system’s funding solutions are 30 years out-of-date. Together, we need to address the ancient funding issues to accommodate new behavioral health care changes, services, and risks.

**SOLUTIONS**

### Set Medicaid rates to match demands & costs.
Reflect the actual and projected growth in demand for and the real costs of providing the services.

### Make it so that Medicaid rates include contributions to risk reserves.
The contributions should be at a level sufficient for fiscal soundness of the public mental health system.

### Allow the public mental health system to hold sufficient risk reserves.
Increase the size of Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) risk reserves to a reasonable level and move to a shared CMH and PIHP savings model.

### Remove the local match draw-down obligation, Section 928 in the appropriations boilerplate.
This language earmarks the $25.2 million local money given to CMH’s by their counties to draw down additional Medicaid funds.

### Restore General Fund dollars to the public mental health system.
CMH’s need a full year of general fund allocation to be a minimum of $170 million.

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**COMPARISON BETWEEN RECOMMENDED INTERNAL SERVICE FUND LEVELS, MINIMAL LEVELS, AND CURRENT LEVELS (FY 2014 – FY 2017)**

- **Recommended Risk Reserve = Two Years of Potential Losses @ 15%**
- **Minimal Risk Reserve for One Year of Potential Liability to Equal 7.5%**
- **Percentage of which Internal Service Funds are to All Medicaid Funding at Year End**

FY2014 | FY2015 | FY2016 | FY2017
---|---|---|---
15.0% | 15.0% | 15.0% | 15.0%
13.5% | 13.5% | 13.5% | 13.5%
12.0% | 12.0% | 12.0% | 12.0%
10.5% | 10.5% | 10.5% | 10.5%
9.0% | 9.0% | 9.0% | 9.0%
7.5% | 7.5% | 7.5% | 7.5%
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## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Why Do We Take The Census?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Are Census Data Used?</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are Census Data Really Confidential?</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Are Complete Count Committees?</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When Should a Complete Count Committee Organize?</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Is the Subcommittee Structure of a CCC?</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary: The Benefits of Complete Count Committees</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: 50 Ways Census Data Are Used</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: Understanding the Language of the 2020 Census</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C. Census Solutions Workshop Overview</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHY DO WE TAKE THE CENSUS?

The U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 2) mandates a headcount every 10 years of everyone residing in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas of the United States. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens, and noncitizens. The first census was conducted in 1790 and one has been conducted every 10 years since then.

The population totals from the census determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. States also use the totals to redraw their legislative and school districts. The next census occurs in 2020.

The U.S. Census Bureau must submit state population totals to the President of the United States by December 31, 2020.

The population totals also affect funding in your community, and data collected in the census help decision makers know how your community is changing. Approximately $675 billion in federal funding is distributed to communities each year.

Will the 2020 Census be the same as 2010?

There are some important changes in 2020:

- We are building a more accurate address list and automating our field operations—all while keeping your information confidential and safe.
- For the first time, you will be able to respond online, by phone, or by mail.
- We will use data that the public has already provided to cut down on in-person follow up visits to nonresponding households.
HOW ARE CENSUS DATA USED?

**Census data are widely and wisely used.**

Census data are used in many ways. Some examples include:

- Distribution of more than $675 billion annually in federal funds back to tribal, state, and local governments.
- Redistricting of state legislative districts.
- Forecasting future transportation needs for all segments of the population.
- Determining areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans.
- Assisting federal, tribal, state, and local governments in planning and implementing programs, services, and emergency response.
- Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, and children.
ARE CENSUS DATA REALLY CONFIDENTIAL?

ABSOLUTELY!

All responses to Census Bureau surveys and censuses are confidential and protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Under this law, the Census Bureau is required to keep respondent information confidential. We will never share a respondent’s personal information with immigration enforcement agencies, like ICE; law enforcement agencies, like the FBI or police; or allow it to be used to determine their eligibility for government benefits. The results from any census or survey are reported in statistical format only.

Individual records from the decennial censuses are, by law (Title 44, U.S. Code), confidential for 72 years.

In addition, under Title 13, U.S. Code, all Census Bureau employees swear a lifetime oath to protect respondent data. It is a felony for any Census Bureau employee to disclose any confidential census information during or after employment, and the penalty for wrongful disclosure is up to 5 years imprisonment and/or a fine of $250,000.
WHAT ARE COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEES?

Complete Count Committees

Complete Count Committees (CCC) are volunteer committees established by tribal, state, and local governments and community leaders or organizations to increase awareness and motivate residents to respond to the 2020 Census. CCCs serve as state and local “census ambassador” groups that play an integral part in ensuring a complete and accurate count of the community in the 2020 Census. Success of the census depends on community involvement at every level. The U.S. Census Bureau cannot conduct the 2020 Census alone.
There are three kinds of Complete Count Committees (other than the State Level CCC):

- Tribal.
- State and local government (regional, county, city, or town).
- Community.

A Complete Count Committee should be formed to:

- Increase the self-response rate for households responding online, by phone, or mailing back their questionnaire through a focused, structured, neighbor-to-neighbor program.
- Utilize the local knowledge, expertise, and influence of each Complete Count Committee member to design and implement a census awareness campaign targeted to the community.
- Bring together a cross section of community members whose focus is 2020 Census awareness.

Let's take a look at these and review the differences between the common types and sizes.

**Tribal and Government Complete Count Committees**

Complete Count Committees are usually formed by the highest elected official in that jurisdiction, such as a tribal leader, a mayor, county commissioner, or regional chairman. The highest elected official may appoint a chair of the CCC and may then appoint members of the community to serve as members of the CCC. Members appointed could be representative of a cross section of the community, be willing and able to serve until the census is over, and help implement a creative outreach campaign in areas that may pose a challenge in 2020. Members could include persons from the areas of education, media, business, religion, philanthropy, and community groups. Most local government CCCs are small to medium size, depending on the jurisdiction. A town may have a small committee with only 3-5 members, while a city may be medium to large size with anywhere from 10 to more than 100 members, depending the size of the city or tribe.

Since state, county, and regional CCCs cover a larger geography, they tend to be larger in size, with 20-50 members. The size and number of members depends on what works best for each jurisdiction and what will make the most effective and successful committee. Mayors, county commissioners, and heads of regional boards understand the importance of getting a complete and accurate census count and how census data impact their communities. In previous censuses, the most productive government CCCs had a subcommittee structure. Examples of subcommittees and what they do are covered under “What Is the Subcommittee Structure of a CCC?”

**Examples of Tribal and Government Complete Count Committee Strategies**

Nationwide, there were over 10,000 Complete Count Committees formed with the Census Bureau during the 2010 Census and the majority of them were local government committees. Here are some of the strategies that worked for them:

- Allocate/obtain funds for the CCC and assign a staff person to work with the committee.
- Set clear, achievable goals and objectives.
- Identify areas of the community that may need extra efforts, either a geographical area or a population group that might be hard to count.
- Use a “grassroots” approach working with community-based organizations and groups who have direct contact with households who may be hard to count.
- Create promotional materials and products customized for the local area.
- Implement special events such as Census Day “Be Counted” parades.
- Build awareness of the census and its benefits and motivate response through social media, newsletters, and other communications.

**Sample Activities of Tribal and Government Complete Count Committees**

**2018-2019**

- Develop a list of barriers, groups, or concerns that might impede the progress of the 2020 Census in your local area, such as recent immigrants, non-English speaking groups, high crime areas, and areas with gated communities.
- Create ways to dispel myths and alleviate fears about the privacy and confidentiality of census data.
• Place census messages on water bills, property tax bills, social media, and local speeches and other correspondence generated by the jurisdiction.

• Host a Census Solutions Workshop (see Appendix C) with others in the community.

• Develop and implement activities to involve local government employees in the 2020 Census Awareness Campaign.

• Encourage corporations to become official sponsors of your census activities.

• Have census posters, banners, and other signage placed in highly visible public locations.

• Include the 2020 Census logo and message on bus schedules, brochures, newsletters, social media sites, and your local jurisdiction Web site.

• Sponsor a census booth at county fairs, carnivals, and festivals (especially cultural or ethnic celebrations).

• Sponsor a contest to design a sticker or poster promoting the 2020 Census.

• Have census information available during voter registration drives.

January–March 2020

• Add a census message during meetings, events, and to written or digital/electronic correspondence like social media.

• Provide information on federally funded programs that have benefitted the community.

• Plan a major promotional event around the start of self-response or when households get their invitation to respond. Advise communities that they can respond to the census online.

• Saturate public access areas with easy-to-read and understandable census information customized for your community.

• Ask elected officials to encourage households to complete the census online, by phone, or return the questionnaire by mail.

• Place a census message on all municipal marquees urging households to complete the questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail.

April 2020

• Place public service announcements in local media encouraging households to respond.

• Have census rallies or parades.

• Urge households who do not respond to cooperate with census takers.

Community Complete Count Committees
Community Complete Count Committees are often formed in areas that do not have a government CCC or areas that may require a more targeted outreach approach. Community CCCs may be formed by a community group/organization or a coalition of several organizations. For example, an organization in a predominately elderly community may want to form a CCC in order to build awareness among that population and encourage them to respond when the invitations to respond are delivered. A tenants’ association may form a committee to educate tenants about the census and help those needing assistance in completing their census. Community CCCs identify their own chair and committee members. They may choose individuals who are influential leaders or gatekeepers in the community to serve as members or others that will help accomplish the goals of the committee. They may also include foundations or philanthropy groups to fund the committee’s activities around a particular audience. Community CCCs are usually small to medium in size with anywhere from 5 to 25 members depending on the sponsoring organization(s) and the size of the community it represents.

Small committees may not need subcommittees, however larger committees may find this structure helps them focus and work more effectively.

Examples of Community Complete Count Committee Strategies
A number of organizations formed Community CCCs in previous censuses. Some examples of these organizations are Community Action Groups, Hispanic Service Center, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and Human Development Commission.
Here are some suggestions that worked for them:

- Set clear achievable goals and objectives.
- Identify what the committee will focus on. Some examples include increasing the response rate in public housing communities among cultural/ethnic groups in your area or among students in colleges/universities, outreach and promotion to youth and elderly in the community, or a global approach if no other CCCs are in the area.
- Develop an action plan that includes activities and events which will support your efforts and help you meet your goals and objectives.
- Create promotional materials that appeal to your community.
- Implement special events that will generate interest and participation in the census.
- Use social media to engage your community.

**Sample Activities of Community Complete Count Committees**

**2018-2019**

- Make a list of community-based organizations in your area. Hold a meeting with leaders of the organizations and solicit their help in creating a census awareness campaign targeted to community members.
- Host a Census Solutions Workshop with other community-based organizations in your area to come up with innovative and engaging ways to reach your communities.
- Check the community calendar in your area for events. Contact organizations to see if you can have a census table to pass out census materials to increase awareness.
- Plan and solicit sponsors for a “Census Day/Night Street Festival” in late 2019. Think of creative games or activities where census information can be incorporated.
- Develop a 2019 Census Activity Calendar, ask organizations to choose a month in which they will sponsor census activities or promote census awareness.
- Ask organizations to include a census article or message in all of their publications and social media channels from April 2019 to July 2020.

**January-March 2020**

- Encourage organizations to include 2020 Census on the agenda of their meetings, workshops, or conferences.
- Distribute/post on social media fliers announcing the invitation to respond to the census at busy locations in the community.
- Make public statements of support and the importance of participating in the 2020 Census.

**April 2020**

- Encourage households to complete the questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail.
- Plan a Census Day event to motivate the community response.
- Look online or check with your census contact person about response rates for your community. If rates are low, plan special events or activities to motivate individuals to respond.
- Remind households if they didn’t respond online, by phone, or mail their questionnaire back, a census worker may come to their home. Encourage households to cooperate with census workers.

**May 2020**

- Continue to encourage community individuals to cooperate with census workers.
- Evaluate what worked best for your community and briefly report this information to your census contact.
- Celebrate your success and thank all those involved in making it happen.
WHEN SHOULD A COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE ORGANIZE?

Get Organized RIGHT NOW!

Although the 2020 Census may seem a ways off, the census awareness campaign should start TODAY. The 2020 Census jobs are being advertised. Households will begin to experience, by the end of 2019, some type of census operation such as address listing. These operations are necessary to verify the accuracy and location of each address in the United States.

The immediate formation of a CCC will ensure that local households are kept abreast of the various census operations before the information is nationally circulated.

The more informed households are about the 2020 Census operations, the better their understanding of the census process becomes, thus increasing their willingness to be a part of the successful enumeration in 2020.
WHAT IS THE SUBCOMMITTEE STRUCTURE OF A CCC?

The Structure

The Census Bureau partnership staff will serve as a liaison or an informational resource.

The operation of the CCC flows from the tribal leader or highest elected official or community leader to the chairperson, the committee members, and/or to the community at large.

The tribal leader or highest elected official or community leader appoints a chairperson. The chairperson is the liaison or main source of contact between the CCC and the Census Bureau.

The chairperson collaborates with the highest elected official or community leader to select subcommittee chairs.

The CCC should involve every aspect of a local community in its subcommittee structure—government, education, faith-based organizations, media, community-based organizations, business, foundations or other philanthropic organizations, and recruiting. The Census Bureau does not manage Complete Count Committees.

The following are examples of a typical subcommittee structure. Other subcommittees may be formed based on the focus of the CCC or the needs of the community. Examples of other subcommittee topics are migrant and seasonal farmworkers, children/youth services, immigrants, senior services, and the disabled community.

The subcommittee chairpersons may recruit members for their respective teams. The ideal candidates for a Complete Count Committee are those community members who have
expertise, influence, and experience in the area of the respective committee. Committees that invest time, resources, and energy in this project are more productive and successful.

**Recruiting subcommittee**—Disseminates information about census job openings for the 2020 Census. Information will include the number of jobs available and types of jobs available.

**Government subcommittee**—Assists in all activities between the Census Bureau and the local government, such as participation in decennial geography programs and identifying other resources for CCC activities.

**Education subcommittee**—Facilitates census awareness for local schools from prekindergarten through twelfth grade, as well as postsecondary education institutions in the area. May also encourage school administrators, teachers, and students to use Statistics in Schools materials.

**Faith-based subcommittee**—Creates and coordinates activities and materials that can be used by any local faith-based institution in the promotion of the 2020 Census awareness and participation.

**Media subcommittee**—Facilitates ways to get the census message to all community households, using all available sources such as local newspapers, newsletters, fliers, local festivals, billboards, social media, radio, and television.

**Community-based organizations subcommittee**—Collaborates with community organizations to inform individuals of the importance of participating in the 2020 Census and the benefits derived from census data.

**Business subcommittee**—Creates and coordinates activities that involve businesses in census awareness, such as distribution of census information and census messages on packaging (grocery bags) and the inclusion of the census logo and message on sales promotion materials.

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*Partnership Specialist is advisor and Census Bureau liaison to Municipal CCCs*
SUMMARY: THE BENEFITS OF COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEES

CCCs speak the language of and know the pulse of its community, therefore establishing an information highway that even the internet cannot rival—neighbor informing neighbor.

The CCCs will help ensure an accurate 2020 Census count.

The CCCs gain valuable knowledge about the census process at the local level and develop a plan to impart that knowledge to each and every household as only neighbors and fellow stakeholders can do.

The CCCs help maximize participation and response rates by increasing awareness throughout the 2020 Census.
APPENDIX A:
50 WAYS CENSUS DATA ARE USED

• Decision making at all levels of government.
• Drawing federal, state, and local legislative districts.
• Attracting new businesses to state and local areas.
• Distributing over $675 billion annually in federal funds and even more in state funds.
• Forecasting future transportation needs for all segments of the population.
• Planning for hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and the location of other health services.
• Forecasting future housing needs for all segments of the population.
• Directing funds for services for people in poverty.
• Designing public safety strategies.
• Development of rural areas.
• Analyzing local trends.
• Estimating the number of people displaced by natural disasters.
• Developing assistance programs for American Indians and Alaska Natives.
• Creating maps to speed emergency services to households in need of assistance.
• Delivering goods and services to local markets.
• Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, or children.
• Planning future government services.
• Planning investments and evaluating financial risk.
• Publishing economic and statistical reports about the United States and its people.
• Facilitating scientific research.
• Developing “intelligent” maps for government and business.
• Providing proof of age, relationship, or residence certificates provided by the Census Bureau.
• Distributing medical research.
• Reapportioning seats in the House of Representatives.
• Planning and researching for media as background for news stories.
• Drawing school district boundaries.
• Planning budgets for government at all levels.
• Spotting trends in the economic well-being of the nation.
• Planning for public transportation services.
• Planning health and educational services for people with disabilities.
• Establishing fair market rents and enforcing fair lending practices.
• Directing services to children and adults with limited English proficiency.
• Planning urban land use.
• Planning outreach strategies.
• Understanding labor supply.
• Assessing the potential for spread of communicable diseases.
• Making business decisions.
• Understanding consumer needs.
• Planning for faith-based organizations.
• Locating factory sites and distribution centers.
• Distributing catalogs and developing direct mail pieces.
• Setting a standard for creating both public and private sector surveys.
• Evaluating programs in different geographic areas.
• Providing genealogical research.
• Planning for school projects.
• Developing adult education programs.
• Researching historical subject areas.
• Determining areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans.
APPENDIX B: UNDERSTANDING THE LANGUAGE OF THE 2020 CENSUS

GLOSSARY
The 2020 Census From A to Z

A

Address Canvassing
The Address Canvassing program implements methods to improve and refine the U.S. Census Bureau’s address list in advance of the 2020 Census enumeration. The Census Bureau needs the address and physical location of each living quarter in the United States and Puerto Rico to conduct and tabulate the census. An accurate list ensures that residents will be invited to participate in the census and that the census counts residents in the correct location.

American Community Survey (ACS)
A monthly sample household survey conducted by the Census Bureau to obtain information similar to the long-form census questionnaire. The ACS is sent to a small percentage of the U.S. population on a rotating basis. First tested in 1995, it replaced the long form for the 2010 Census. Since 2004, ACS has provided annual data for social and economic characteristics for many geographic areas and population groups.

Area Census Office (ACO)
A temporary office established to oversee census operations in a specific area. These operations include address listing field work, local recruiting, and visiting households to conduct the 2020 Census.

C

Census Bureau
An agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce and the country’s preeminent statistical collection and dissemination agency. It publishes a wide variety of statistical data about people, housing, and the economy of the nation. The Census Bureau conducts approximately 200 annual surveys, conducts the decennial census of the U.S. population and housing, the quinquennial economic census, and the census of governments.

Census Day
The reference date for collection of information for a census. For the decennial census, this has been April 1 of the decade year (year ending with zero) since the 1930 Census. April 1, 2020, is the reference date, Census Day, for the 2020 Census.

Census Information Center (CIC)
The CIC program was established in 1988, when the Census Bureau and the National Urban League entered into a joint agreement to create a pilot project to make census data and information available to minority communities. Over the next 2 years, the Census Bureau added four additional organizations to the pilot program; the National Council of La Raza, the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, Americans for Indian Opportunity, and the Southwest Voter Research Institute (now the William C. Velasquez Institute).

In 2000, the CIC network became an official Census Bureau program. That year, the Census Bureau expanded the network to a total of 59 organizations.

Census Solutions Workshop
A Census Solutions Workshop is a creative, collaborative, problem-solving event that brings together diverse thinkers. The Census Solutions Workshop is specifically geared to generate new ways of communicating the importance of census data, reaching hard-to-count populations, and encouraging participation in Census Bureau surveys and programs.
Commitment
An agreement or pledge to carry out a particular task or activity that will in some way help the census achieve its goals.

Complete Count Committee (CCC)
A volunteer committee established by tribal, state, and local governments, and/or community organizations to include a cross section of community leaders, including representatives from government agencies; education, business, and religious organizations; community agencies; minority organizations; and the media. The committees are charged with developing and implementing a 2020 Census outreach, promotion, recruiting, and enumeration assistance plan of action designed to target and address the needs of their communities.

Confidentiality
The guarantee made by law (Title 13, U.S. Code) to individuals who provide information to the Census Bureau, ensuring that the Census Bureau will not reveal information to others.

Decennial Census
The census of population and housing taken by the Census Bureau in each year ending in zero. Article I, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution requires that a census be taken every 10 years for the purpose of apportioning the U.S. House of Representatives. The first census of population was taken in 1790.

Enumeration
The process of interviewing people and recording the information on census forms.

Enumerator
A Census Bureau employee who collects census information by visiting households during census field operations.

Group Quarters (GQ)
The Census Bureau classifies all people not living in housing units as living in group quarters. There are two types of group quarters: institutional group quarters (for example, correctional facilities for adults, nursing homes, and hospice facilities) and noninstitutional group quarters (for example, college/university student housing, military quarters, and group homes).

H
Hard to Count (HTC)
Groups or populations who have historically been undercounted and/or traditionally have not responded well to the decennial census questionnaire, such as ethnic/minority populations, renters, and low income households.

Hard to Enumerate (HTE)
An area for which the environment or population may present difficulties for enumeration.

Highest Elected Official (HEO)
The elected or appointed person who is the chief executive official of a governmental unit and is most responsible for the governmental activities of the governmental unit such as the governor of a state, chair of a county commission, or mayor of an incorporated place, tribal leader, or chairman.

Household (HH)
A person or group of people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. The number of households equals the number of occupied housing units in a census.

Housing Unit (HU)
A house, townhouse, mobile home or trailer, apartment, group of rooms, or single room that is occupied as separate living quarters or, if vacant, is intended for occupancy as separate living quarters.

Master Address File (MAF)
A Census Bureau computer file of every address and physical location, including their geographic locations, that will be used to conduct the next decennial census, as well as some ongoing surveys. This address file is updated throughout the decade and is supplemented by information provided by tribal, state, and local governments.
Nonresponse (NR)
A housing unit for which the Census Bureau does not have a completed questionnaire and from which the Census Bureau did not receive a telephone or Internet response.

Nonresponse Followup (NRFU)
A field operation designed to obtain a completed interview from households where a self-response was not received. Enumerators will make personal visits to these households to obtain completed interviews. The enumerator will collect respondents’ answers to interview questions or information about the status of the housing unit (for example, vacant or nonexistent). If all attempts to contact the individuals of a household are unsuccessful, an enumerator will obtain as much information as possible about the household from a neighbor, building manager, or another reliable source.

Partner
A partner is a group or individual that commits to participate in some way with census activities.

Partnership
An agreement with tribal, state, and local governments, national organizations, and community groups (faith-based organizations, businesses, media, schools, etc.) that allows their active participation in various census activities.

Partnership Specialist
The Partnership Specialist takes a lead role in outreach and promotional efforts before and during census operations. Their main duties are increasing awareness and outreach in communities and gaining cooperation and participation from those communities.

Privacy Act
The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that each federal agency advise respondents of their rights. Specifically, every respondent must know under what law the information is being collected, how the information will be used, whether he or she must answer the questions, and the consequences of not answering the questions.

Regional Census Center (RCC)
One of six temporary Census Bureau offices established to manage census field office and local census office activities and to conduct geographic programs and support operations.

Regional Office (RO)
One of six permanent Census Bureau offices that direct and advise local census offices for the 2020 Census. The Regional Office also conducts some one-time and ongoing Census Bureau surveys, such as the Current Population Survey (CPS), which is used to publish unemployment figures each month, and the American Community Survey (ACS), a nationwide survey designed to obtain information similar to long-form data and to provide communities a fresh, more current look at how they are changing.

Respondent
The person who answers the Census Bureau’s questions about his or her living quarters and its occupants. The respondent is usually the member of the household who owns or rents the living quarters.

Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM)
A Web mapping application developed to make it easier to identify hard-to-count areas and to provide a socioeconomic and demographic characteristic profile of these areas using American Community Survey estimates available in the Census Bureau Planning Database, available at <www.census.gov/roam>.

Self-Response
Self-response is where households complete and return their census questionnaire in a timely manner, directly to the Census Bureau, without requiring a census worker to visit the house to obtain their responses in person. Self-response—by internet, mail, or phone—is significantly less costly than in-person followup.

State Data Center (SDC)
The State Data Center (SDC) program is one of the Census Bureau’s longest and most successful partnerships. This partnership between the 50 states, the
District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the island areas, and the Census Bureau was created in 1978 to make data available locally to the public through a network of state agencies, universities, libraries, and regional, and local governments.

The SDC lead organization is appointed by the Governor of each state/commonwealth, Puerto Rico, the Island Areas (American Samoa, Guam, The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Virgin Islands) or the mayor of the District of Columbia.

Since its creation, the SDC network has provided access and education on Census Bureau data and products as well as other statistical resources to millions of data users.

Statistics in Schools (SIS)
A national program component of the 2020 Census with an emphasis on kindergarten through eighth grade students in schools located in hard-to-count areas. The purpose of Statistics in Schools is to educate all of the nation’s K-12 students about the importance of the 2020 Census.

Title 13 (U.S. Code)
The collection of laws under which the Census Bureau operates. This law guarantees the confidentiality of census information and establishes penalties for disclosing this information. It also provides the authorization for conducting censuses in Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

Transitory Locations
Sites that contain movable or mobile housing that may include transitory units such as boats, motorized recreational vehicles or trailers, tents, or other types of portable housing.

Transitory locations also include hotels or motels if being occupied on a transitory basis because the occupants have no other residence.

U
Update Enumerate (UE)
The UE operation is designed to update the address and feature data and enumerate respondents in person. UE is designated to occur in areas where the initial visit requires enumerating while updating the address frame, in particular in remote geographic areas that have unique challenges associated with accessibility.

Update Leave (UL)
This operation is designed to update the address and feature data and leave a choice questionnaire package at every housing unit (HU) identified to allow the household to self-respond. UL is designed to occur in areas where the majority of HU do not either have mail delivered to the physical location of the housing unit, or the mail delivery information for the HU cannot be verified.

V
Value Added
Refers to any service or activity provided by partners that would ordinarily require payment such as room/space for training, use of staff time, and use of other business resources.
What Is A Census Solutions Workshop?

A solutions workshop is a creative, collaborative, problem-solving event that brings together diverse thinkers. A Census Solutions Workshop generates new ways of communicating the importance of census data, reaching hard-to-count populations, and encouraging participation in Census Bureau surveys and programs.

Why It Matters

A complete count ensures accurate census data that is critical for government programs, policies, and decision-making, but participation in Census Bureau surveys has declined in recent decades. We want to support your efforts to generate innovative and engaging ways to reach your communities.

How Can You Host A Workshop?

Businesses, city officials, community-based organizations, or anyone else can host a workshop. We created a toolkit to give you step-by-step guidance on how to host one. The toolkit is available at: www.census.gov/partners.

For more information, please contact us at: census.partners@census.gov.
CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional information about the Complete Count Committee Program, please contact your regional census center.

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<th>Please contact:</th>
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<td>PHILADELPHIA&lt;br&gt;Philadelphia.rcc.partnership&lt;br&gt;@2020census.gov</td>
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John Fuentes

From: Joni Risner <j.risner@micauw.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 10:10 AM
To: John Fuentes
Subject: CAUW Census 2020

John,

In 2020 we are at risk of a significant undercount in the decennial census that will have a grave impact on the political representation and federal funding of local communities. The Michigan Nonprofits Count Campaign is a collaborative, coordinated, statewide effort to encourage participation in the census in communities that are at significant risk of being undercounted. The campaign will mobilize nonprofits to encourage participation in the 2020 census, provide trainings and tools for nonprofits on effective outreach tactics, assist nonprofits in identifying hard-to-count communities, award mini-grants to local nonprofits, support a coordinated statewide communications plan and work with government officials to avoid duplication of efforts and enhance governments’ communication and outreach efforts to ensure a complete count.

Capital Area United Way is one of ten census hubs, selected by the Michigan Nonprofit Association, strategically located across the state. The census hubs support fieldwork at the grassroots level. Among their many functions, census hubs develop regional service area-specific plans to reach the hard-to-count populations and help administer mini grants.

Purpose
The Capital Area United Way, Census Hub Advisory Committee, provides guidance to the CAUW nonprofit outreach efforts including, but not limited to, grant making, advocacy, media and community outreach.

Responsibilities
• Provide input on distribution of mini-grants to local nonprofits for get-out-the-count efforts.
• Review and provide local/culturally sensitive changes to standard messaging about the census for your community.
• Serve as spokespersons and champions encouraging those in your community to complete the census.
• Advocate with local officials to encourage a fair and accurate census count.
• Conduct outreach to nonprofits to encourage their participation in the campaign.

The committee will be composed of individuals and organizations that represent communities that are traditionally hard-to-count in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties.

Traditionally Hard to Count Populations:
• Communities of color
• Non-English speakers
• Low income persons
• Persons experiencing homelessness
• Undocumented immigrants
• Young children
• Persons with mental or physical disabilities
• Persons who do not live in traditional housing
• LGBTQ persons
• Highy mobile persons
• Geographically isolated persons
• Physically isolated persons
• Persons who distrust the government
I hope you will accept this invitation to make a difference in our community by being a part of the Census Hub Advisory Committee for Capital Area United Way. If you know of an organization that should be invited to join, please let me know!

If you have any questions, please call me at 517.203.5028. I look forward to hearing from you by March 8, 2019.

*If you are not the individual who should be a part of this group please pass along.*

Joni Risner  
VP Community Outreach & Engagement  
Capital Area United Way  
330 Marshall St., Ste 203  
Lansing, MI 48912  
Lansing Main: 517.203.5000  
Lansing Office: 517.203.5028  
Cell: 517.983.9626

[100 YEARS 1919-2019]  
Capital Area United Way  
Clinton | Eaton | Ingham

https://www.facebook.com/micauw/  
https://www.facebook.com/powerofweconsortium/

“The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.” — Helen Keller
WHEREAS the U.S. Census Bureau is required by the U.S. Constitution to conduct a count of the population and provides a historic opportunity to help shape the foundation of our society and play an active role in American democracy;

WHEREAS Shiawassee County is committed to ensuring every resident is counted;

WHEREAS federal and state funding is allocated to communities, and decisions are made on matters of national and local importance based, in part, on census data;

WHEREAS census data helps determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and is necessary for an accurate and fair redistricting of state legislative seats, county and city councils and voting districts;

WHEREAS information from the 2020 Census and American Community Survey are vital tools for economic development and increased employment;

WHEREAS the information collected by the census is confidential and protected by law;

WHEREAS the Census count requires extensive work, and the Census Bureau requires partners at the state and local level to insure a complete and accurate count; and

WHEREAS a united voice from business, government, community-based and faith-based organizations, educators, media and others will enable the 2020 Census message to reach more of our citizens;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Shiawassee County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes a “Complete Count Committee” for the 2010 Census as a temporary special committee of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the county’s Complete Count Committee:

- Will bring together a cross-section of community members who will utilize their local knowledge and expertise to reach out to all persons of our community; and

- Will work with the Census Bureau and the State of Michigan to strive for an accurate count.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will appoint a Board member as Chair of the committee and will thereafter approve other persons as may be deemed appropriate for the committee’s effective operation and service.

__________________________________  ___________________________ _______
Caroline Wilson, Clerk    Jeremy Root, Chairman
Shiawassee County      Board of Commissioners
Shiawassee County
WHEREAS, Health care costs continue to rise for all Americans and, for some Americans, this increase can be devastating; and

WHEREAS, Medicare is the focus of many lawmakers who portray it as an "entitlement" program that costs the Treasury too much money. Technically, the term "entitlement" is correct but it has an unfortunate connotation; and

WHEREAS, Medicare is an essential medical plan that millions of seniors and disabled individuals depend upon to stay alive. Medicare is not a gift, as the term "entitlement" suggests. Many of the beneficiaries have worked their entire adult life and paid into the system in order to receive this crucial medical plan; and

WHEREAS, Due to spiraling costs largely associated with the price of prescription medications, our elected officials find themselves passing on increased costs to those who can least afford that increase, namely senior citizens and disabled individuals who are on Medicare's Part D drug program; and

WHEREAS, When congress enacted Medicare Prescription Drug Bill they enacted a law that does not allow Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for drug price the way Medicaid and the Veterans Administration does; and

WHEREAS, One economist, Dean Baker, estimates that Medicare could have saved approximately $332 billion dollars between 2006 and 2013 (approximately $50 billion a year) had the Department of Health and Human Services been permitted to negotiate prices of drugs with the drug companies, as federal agencies do in other programs; and

WHEREAS, Rising prescription drug costs have been the primary reason for the increase in health benefit costs; and

WHEREAS, The increasing cost of prescription drugs and outrageous profits made by pharmaceutical companies is a systemic problem that significantly affects our state and our nation. It deserves non-partisan effort; and

WHEREAS, We must prevent our elected officials from balancing the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it, the elderly and disabled. Increases in premiums and drug costs are unacceptable, Ways to deal with a flawed Medicare Prescription Drug Bill; and

WHEREAS, We must preserve the Medicare program as it currently exists and to do so requires immediate action to cut unnecessary costs, particularly in the area of prescription drug coverage; and

WHEREAS, We must revise the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill of 2003 to allow negotiating lower drug prices and the importation of identical, cheaper, drugs from Canada and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, We cannot allow the previously approved bill to stand as adopted at the risk of having the Medicare program be the cause of a staggeringly increasing deficit which will require tax increases or cuts to the rest of the government, nor can we allow the continuance of price increases to our citizens cause many to contemplate discontinuing medically necessary drugs in order to pay their bills, heat their houses and have food on the table. Therefore, Be It Further...
RESOLVED That the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners goes on record urging our Legislators to immediately commence the process of revising the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill of 2003 to allow negotiating lower drug prices and the importation of identical, cheaper drugs from Canada and elsewhere; Be it Further RESOLVED That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our area Federal and State Legislators, the National Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of Counties and the other Michigan Counties.

John B. Wallace, Chairperson
Cheboygan County Board

I, Karen L. Brewster, Clerk of the County of Cheboygan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting on March 12, 2019.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the County of Cheboygan on the 12th day of March 2019 at Cheboygan, Michigan.

Karen L. Brewster
Cheboygan County Clerk/Register
ALGER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Mary Ann Froberg, Clerk
101 COURT STREET, MUNISING, MI 49862

RESOLUTION #2019-02

WHEREAS, Health care costs continue to rise for all Americans and, for some Americans, this increase can be devastating; and

WHEREAS, Medicare is the focus of many lawmakers who portray it as an "entitlement" program that costs the Treasury too much money. Technically, the term "entitlement" is correct but it has an unfortunate connotation; and

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WHEREAS, Due to spiraling costs largely associated with the price of prescription medications, our elected officials find themselves passing on increased costs to those who can least afford that increase, namely senior citizens and disabled individuals who are on Medicare's Part D drug program; and

WHEREAS, When congress enacted The Medicare Prescription Drug Bill they enacted a law that does not allow Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for drug price the way Medicaid and the Veterans Administration does; and

WHEREAS, One economist, Dean Baker, estimates that Medicare could have saved approximately $332 billion dollars between 2006 and 2013 (approximately $50 billion a year) had the Department of Health and Human Services been permitted to negotiate prices of drugs with the drug companies, as federal agencies do in other programs; and

WHEREAS, Rising prescription drug costs have been the primary reason for the increase in health benefit costs; and

WHEREAS, The increasing cost of prescription drugs and outrageous profits made by pharmaceutical companies is a systemic problem that significantly affects our state and our nation. It deserves non-partisan effort; and

WHEREAS, We must prevent our elected officials from balancing the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it, the elderly and disabled. Increases in premiums and drug costs are unacceptable ways to deal with a flawed Medicare Prescription Drug Bill; and

WHEREAS, We must preserve the Medicare program as it currently exists and to do so requires immediate action to cut unnecessary costs, particularly in the area of prescription drug coverage; and

WHEREAS, We must revise the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill of 2003 to allow negotiating lower drug prices and the importation of identical, cheaper, drugs from Canada and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, We cannot allow the previously approved bill to stand as adopted at the risk of having the Medicare program be the cause of a staggering increase deficit which will require tax increases or cuts to the rest of the government, nor can we allow the continuance of price increases to our citizens causing many of them to contemplate discontinuing medically necessary drugs in order to pay their bills, heat their houses and have food on the table; Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Alger County Board of Commissioners goes on record urging our Legislators to immediately commence the process of revising the Medicare Prescription Drug Bill of 2003 to allow negotiating lower drug prices and the importation of identical, cheaper drugs from Canada and elsewhere; Be It Further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our area Federal and State Legislators, the National Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of Counties and the other Michigan counties.
CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Alger County Board of Commissioners at the time, date, and place specified above pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Froberg, Alger County Clerk

Dated: February 19, 2019