

# CAPITAL REGION HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

*We partner to prevent and end homelessness.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

April 17, 2020

**CONTACT:** Susan Cancro

*Chair, CRHC*

517-285-3988

## **Homeless shelter and outreach service providers join to promote safety and health among homeless amidst COVID-19**

*CRHC members open temporary shelter for street homeless*

**LANSING, Mich** – Capital Region Housing Collaborative (CRHC) members joined Friday, April 17, 2020 to open a temporary COVID-19 Homeless Outreach Intervention Covered Enclosure (CHOICE) project at Lansing’s Gier Community Center. “It has been a delicate balance to assure the safety of our sheltered as well as our unsheltered. We are grateful to finally have a place for all,” said Tracie Baise, director of Homeless Angels.

“Our local Street Outreach Program has seen nearly 50 homeless people in the greater Lansing area sleeping outside since the outset of the COVID-19 crisis,” said Susan Cancro, executive director of Advent House Ministries. The CHOICE project will be open 24/7 and include three meals a day to those living on the street during the COVID-19 crisis. Sleeping and seating areas are set up to observe recommendations for social distancing and promote control of the spread of COVID-19. All guests will be provided personal protective equipment, including masks and gloves.

The unsheltered remain a focus for CRHC members who are collaborating with city and county officials to limit the spread of COVID-19. Shelter providers continue to work to decrease the risks of congregate setting and keep those on the street safe and healthy.

“Over the years, as we’ve partnered with government, medical and homeless services, many struggling lives have been saved. We’ve teamed together for the greater good and are depending on our community to help make this possible,” said Sharon Dade, director of Holy Cross Services’ New Hope Community Center. Community members looking to support the CHOICE project are encouraged to make donations at the CRHC website at [www.capitalregionhousing.org/giving](http://www.capitalregionhousing.org/giving).

“We’ve used our resources wisely and carefully as we put this plan together. We will continue our cooperative work after this crisis ends,” stated Mark Criss, director of City Rescue Mission. The CRHC is a collective of community partners working together to fight homelessness more effectively. Members coordinate resources and services to ensure support for the homeless in Ingham County. Families and individuals can find more information on homelessness and resources available by calling the Coordinated Entry hotline at 517-292-2940.

###



# CAPITAL REGION HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

*We partner to prevent and end homelessness.*

## **About CRHC:**

The Capital Region Housing Collaborative is a nonprofit collaborative working to identify and address gaps in services and barriers for homeless individuals and families. CRHC functions as Ingham County's Continuum of Care (CoC) Program to promote community wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. Formerly the Greater Lansing Homeless Resolution Network, the CRHC has been uniting community partners to fight homelessness more effectively. Learn more at: [www.capitalregionhousing.org](http://www.capitalregionhousing.org)

## **Member Agencies:**

Advent House Ministries  
Big Brothers Big Sisters – Michigan Capitol Region  
Capital Area Community Services  
Capital Area Housing Partnership  
Child and Family Charities  
City of Lansing  
City Rescue Mission of Lansing  
Community Mental Health of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties  
The Davies Project  
Eaglevision  
End Violent Encounters (EVE), Inc.  
Haven House  
Helping Women Period  
Holy Cross Services  
Homeless Angels  
Ingham County  
Lansing Housing Commission  
Lansing School District  
Legal Services of South-Central Michigan  
Loaves and Fishes  
Mid-Michigan Recovery Services  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

