

MACOMB COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATING BODY FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE WORK PLAN

I. HISTORY

In 2015, the Macomb HSCB completed a re-organization of its Committee structure, disbanding some Committees and establishing an Inter-Agency Initiatives Steering Committee (ISC). The purpose of the ISC to share information, identify and to outline issues/projects needing inter-agency collaboration for inclusion in the HSCB Annual Working Agenda.

The Inter-Agency Initiatives Steering Committee held its first meeting on May 5, 2015. It successfully launched the Portal of Service and Domestic Violence/Safe and Together Implementation Committees and started a list of other needed services; one of the needs identified was financial empowerment services.

In 2018, the ISC reviewed the list of community needs and a survey of financial empowerment services available to Macomb County residents. The survey showed that although many services exists in this area, they appear to not be well known, with little collaboration occurring across the public and private human service networks within the community. The ISC members then reaffirmed that financial empowerment services was an important community need and one that all the public partners saw as having significant impact on the families they serve.

As such, the ISC recommended to the HSCB Executive Council that this need area be included in its 2018 HSCB Annual Working Agenda. The Executive Council agreed that financial empowerment services are critical to the consumers served across the human service system and included it as a new goal in the Working Agenda.

II. LEAD AGENCIES AND CO-CHAIRS

The Department of Health and Community Services has taken on overall lead agency responsibility for this financial empowerment services goal area within the 2018 HSCB Working Agenda. It has designated two of its county agencies with the task of Co-Chairing this Subcommittee.

The Lead Agencies will have the shared responsibility to convene Subcommittee meetings; prepare meeting agendas, reports and related materials; record and maintain the minutes of Subcommittee meetings; further develop, coordinate and implement the recommended activities and strategies in this Work Plan; and provide periodic reports to the HSCB Executive Council on its progress. Macomb Community Action and MSU Extension are the recommended Lead Agencies.

A. Co-Chairs

The recommended Co-Chairs of this Subcommittee will come from Macomb Community Action and MSU Extension.

B. Core Members

The Financial Empowerment Services Subcommittee may be composed of representative(s) from the following organizations that provide and refer to financial empowerment services within the community:

- Community Housing Network
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Disability Network Oakland Macomb
- Health Department
- Jewish Vocational Services
- Macomb Community Action
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services
- Michigan Works!
- MISD
- MSUE
- Social Security

C. At-large Members

At-large members may include representatives from other agencies, the private sector, community organizations, etc. (Mass Mutual, Turning Point, Macomb Community College, Offender Success, banks)

D. Staff Support

Staff support for this Subcommittee shall be provided by Roger Facione, HSCB Consultant and Madeline Habib, CMH Prevention Coordinator.

III. ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES

- A. Identify and assess service gaps and service opportunities to strengthen the level of financial empowerment services in specific geographic areas of Macomb and among specific client populations.
- B. Develop a collaborative plan that assesses and prioritizes ways to promote financial empowerment services throughout Macomb County.
- C. Increase the number of staff who provide financial empowerment services in the county and the number certified by a nationally-recognized accreditation agency such as AFCPE[®] or CESP[™] (for professionals working with individual with disabilities).
- D. Examine how to make financial empowerment services accessible and effective.
- E. Identify barriers to financial security for individuals/families (e.g., transportation).

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTING TIME LINE

The Subcommittee, through the Lead Agencies, will report back to the HSCB Executive Council within 120 days of being established, providing information on its preliminary action plan.

*Approved by the HSCB Executive Council
June 5, 2018*