

Midland County Local Planning Body

2-1-1 Northeast Michigan
Affordable Housing Alliance
American Red Cross
Arc of Midland
Center for Civil Justice
Cleveland Manor
Community Volunteer Representative
City of Midland Community
Development
CMH for Central Michigan
Dept. of Health & Human Services
Disability Network of Mid-Michigan
Faith-based Representative
Home To Stay Housing Assistance
Center
Legal Services of Eastern MI
McKinney-Vento Midland, Clare,
Gladwin
MI Veterans AA/R5VCAT
Midland Area Community Foundation
MCFOAR
Midland Co. Habitat for Humanity
MSHDA
MidMichigan Community Action Agency
Midland's Open Door
Senior Services
Shelterhouse / CDVSA
The Salvation Army
TIA Veterans Employment
United Way - Midland County
West Midland Family Center
To contact the MC Local Planning Body:

Joe Kanouse

kanouse@shelterhousemidland.org

January 30, 2023

Dear Midland Planning Department and City Council Members,

The Midland County Local Planning Body is a collaborative engaged in the development of best housing practices at the county level. The Local Planning Body is made up of individuals and organizations concerned with ending homelessness including the HARA, shelters, persons with lived experience, youth, domestic violence and Veteran providers, as well as county and city representatives.


Midland's Open Door is important to our community as they provide shelter for individuals and families who have no place to stay. They work daily with other housing resource agencies to help with locating and obtaining housing. This agency is an invaluable resource to many who have no other place to turn to when faced with being homeless.

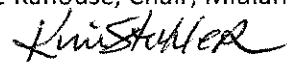
The Local Planning Body holds monthly meetings with many housing resource agencies, including Midland Open Door. At these meetings we learn of the work and needs around housing and work together collaboratively to help improve the process for all. We have heard how the women's shelter is full consistently and being out in the county, transportation is one of the many barriers for those staying at the shelter, whether it is getting kids to school or getting to work. Also, for a family who is homeless, the distance between the men's shelter and women's shelter is a barrier to keep the family connected as they work towards finding a home.

The Midland County Local Planning Body supports Midland's Open Door in moving the women's (and children) shelter to 1610 W. Carpenter Street and would like to see their Conditional Use Permit granted. This would be beneficial for not only the connection to amenities and resources but also to the clients, families, staff and community working together to improve lives.

Please feel free to connect with the Midland County Local Planning Body with any questions.

Regards,


Joe Kanouse, Chair, Midland County Local Planning Body


Kim Stuhler, Secretary, Midland County Local Planning Body