

# Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

Steering Committee Governance Agreement



## Steering Committee Governance Agreement

As a Steering Committee Member of the Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness, I agree to:

- **Adopt and support the mission, vision, purpose, and values of the Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness.**
  - **Purpose (why):**

To ensure that individuals and families have access to safe, decent, affordable housing and support services designed to help them become integrated socially and economically into their communities.
  - **Mission (how):**

NWCEH will work collaboratively to make homelessness rare, brief and one time throughout every community in Northwest Michigan.
  - **Vision (what)**

Communities that are thriving and where people experiencing homelessness have access to a variety of housing solutions and supports when needed to effectively end their experience of homelessness.
  - **Values:**
    1. **Collaboration:** *The action of working with someone to produce or create something. Collaboration enables entities or individuals to work together to achieve a defined and common goal.*

The NWCEH is a collaborative group of community organizations and individuals committed to making homelessness rare, brief, and one-time across Northwest Michigan. Members of the NWCEH must understand the magnitude of the challenge, the costs if we do not meet the challenge, our strategies for ending homelessness and the importance of obtaining and allocating resources equal to our aspirations.
    2. **Accountability:** *An undying commitment, and obligation to accept responsibility or to account for one's actions.*

The NWCEH will be accountable for the work to end homelessness across Northwest Michigan. NWCEH is accountable to the communities, agencies and most importantly to the people we have the privilege of serving. To best utilize our resources, we must understand the outcomes of our investments, evaluate progress, and demonstrate accountability. We will continue to improve and expand our community-wide data system so funders and providers can efficiently collect data, share knowledge for better client outcomes and report outcomes against the goals of the Coalition.

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3. **Data driven decision making:** *Making organizational decisions based on actual data rather than intuition or observation alone.*  
Both qualitative and quantitative data will be gathered, analyzed, and used to inform the decision-making process. The NWCEH is committed to the use of qualitative data gathered from persons with lived experience of homelessness in order to inform process and system improvements.

- **Provide strategic guidance, vision, and oversight** for the Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness, including:
  - **Developing and refining the Common Agenda for change**, including the problem, goal(s), and guiding principles
  - **Using data** to inform strategy development learning
  - **Tracking progress of the work** using agreed-upon indicators at Steering Committee and Working Group levels
  - **Making connections between Working Groups** to ensure coordination and efficiency
  - **Interacting with the backbone entity** on strategy, community engagement, and shared measurement
- **Provide leadership** by:
  - **Considering how my own organization** or those in my network can align to the Common Agenda
  - **Serving as a vocal champion** of the collective impact effort in the community
- **Play an active role** by:
  - **Participating in-person (or remotely)** at the regularly scheduled meetings (every 4-6 weeks)
  - **Reviewing pre-read materials** prior to meetings and coming prepared for engaged discussion, active listening, and respectful dialogue
  - **Committing to year-long membership** of the Steering Committee

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_