

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMISSION
MARCH 13, 2024
ADMIN CONFERENCE ROOM**

PRESENT: Chair Styka, Vice-Chair Robinson, Commissioner Whiting-Dobson, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Maingu, Commissioner Turimella, Commissioner Langhals

ABSENT:

STAFF: Human Services Specialist Love

BOARD LIASON: Trustee Wilson

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A: Chair Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Accepted as written.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Langhals moves to approve the February 21, 2024, minutes as written. Seconded by Vice-Chair Robinson. Motion Carried 7-0.

4. GUEST PRESENTATION- Lori Noyer, Executive Director, Ingham Health Plan Corp.

“How can we connect people to resources to overall improve their health.”

- Ingham County Health Plan: For Uninsured adults and children.
 - For people who do not qualify for other types of insurance: Safety net program.
 - Why might you not qualify for other types of insurance.
 - Income.
 - Not a lawfully permanent resident for 5 years.
 - You **can** apply for Ingham Health plan if you are not a citizen. (regardless of income)
 - When Medicaid expanded in 2015 the eligibility expanded, and a majority of local community plans dissolved. Ingham, Washtenaw and Genesee Counties still have health plans.
 - Residents must be in Ingham County to participate in the Ingham County health plan. (must show proof)
 - Proof of income is required from the last 30 days.
 - What is covered?
 - Basic health benefit, not comprehensive.
 - Doesn't cover emergency room or inpatient.

- Does cover Dr. well visits, sick visits, urgent cares, pharmacy benefits, behavioral health, dental benefits through delta dental, specialty care.
 - Dental comes with Ingham health plan. No dental only. Dentures, and crowns are included.
 - Extra dental is available with other resources like Carefree medical and dental as well as Ingham Health Department has adult dental care.
 - Low or no copays.
 - One Year annual enrollment fee of \$20.00
 - No Premiums, no deductibles.
 - For Non-Citizens: Emergency Services Only is a limited Medicaid coverage for non-citizens. They can have Ingham Health Plan and emergency services only thru Medicaid.
 - For citizens: The hospitals have community programs and charity care programs.
 - Our Ingham health care members are considered uninsured because it is not insurance.
 - Because they are considered uninsured, they can apply for charity.
 - If the member receives an emergency room bill, they are advised to call Ingham Health Plan and they can help the member navigate whether they could apply for financial services.
 - Members have access to behavioral health services. This includes mild to moderate depression and anxiety. CMH handles severe and persistent issues.
 - Ingham Health Plan does not go backwards for bills.
 - To keep in mind for people to apply.
 - One spouse is employed and has health insurance but to add a spouse or dependent is too expensive, they can add the dependents to Ingham Health Plan.
 - Part time employees who are not offered health care coverage but make more than Medicaid eligibility then Ingham Health Plan may be able to step in.
 - How to enroll?
 - Online application through website.
 - Various enrollment Sites
 - How to get the word out?
 - Presentations at Cristo Rey Health Center
 - Community Outreach
 - Word of mouth
 - Social Media
 - Ingham Health Plan can be short term (serve as a bridge).

- There may be people who are Medicare age eligible but depending on when they came into the county, they might not be eligible. They can get on IHP because they are not eligible for Medicare.
- You can stay on IHP as long as you are eligible.
- Doctors
 - IHP has a good network of doctors.
 - Any provider can see a IHP member if they agree to take IHP's reimbursement.
- Lori Noyer email: lnoyer@ihpmi.org Phone: 517-336-3778

5. OLD BUSINESS

A: Fundraisers

- Baby Bottle Boomerang Fundraiser
 - Total raised to date: \$2,389.15!!
 - Good feedback and participation.
 - Plan to run the event February 2025.
 - Toms, Court One and Playmakers enjoyed being a part of the fundraiser.
- March Madness
 - \$5 donation to Meridian Cares for each bracket to participate.
 - This fundraiser is for employees of Meridian Township
 - Meridian Cares has done this fundraiser for years.

B: Community Resource Connection

- Digital and mailed invitations have been sent.
- 22 organizations have RSVPed yes.
- The CRC board will help supply some cookies, light snacks, lemonade etc.
- Commissioner Webster suggested we contact hospital case workers.

C: Joint Board & Commissioners Meeting: March 26th 6 P.M.

- Chairperson Styka, Commissioner Turimella and Vice-Chair Robinson will represent the CRC.
- The commissioners will talk up the CRC and Meridian Cares.
- Specialist Love will send the 3 representatives some detailed information they could possibly share.

6. NEW BUSINESS: Celebrate Meridian: Saturday, June 29th.

- This year, Central Park Drive will be closed to traffic.
- The Park Department would like us to have a booth in the parking lot of the municipal building, next to other booths and performers.
- We would like to do this. Katie will look into plastic exhibit bags.
- Possibility to hand out our cards to a few vendors to help distribute.

7. HUMAN SERVICES REPORT

A: Emergency Funds used in February 2024 were \$4,239.83

B: Good track on our budget.

C: February was a good month for donations over and above the Baby Bottle fundraiser.

D: Our water bill round up is not showing up because they haven't been journalized yet due to new staff. This will be happening soon.

E: \$2500.00 Consumers Energy Grant check has arrived.

F: Met Jamie at 242. They would like to help when services are needed. Example: helping people settle into their home, helping paint, helping fix ramps etc....

8. BOARD LIASON REPORT

A: Community Center/Incorporating a Senior Center

- Trustee Wilson gave an update on the task force created for the Community Center incorporating a senior center.
- 2 properties have been eliminated due to the flood plain. The Younkers location is back to a possibility. They have cut their price in half.
- A community survey will be sent to a random sample of 800 households in the Township. This survey will include several questions about the community center. This will help determine the will of the community.
- The Community Center/Senior Center will take a milage to run.
- Preliminary design work is finished.
- Several sizes of community meeting spaces will be available.

9. OPEN FORUM:

A: Talk about affordable housing.

- We have Woodward Way in Meridian Township. Often full.
- More is needed but you must find someone to donate the land and be willing to build.
- Some abandoned schools have been turning into low-income housing.
- We should keep an eye on new opportunities and ideas regarding affordable housing.
- Commissioner Webster is willing to investigate potential models that are occurring around the country.

10. ADJOURNEMENT

Vice-Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:16 P.M. with no opposition.