

# The Tenant VOICE

A quarterly publication for West Michigan Therapy Housing Plus Programs

Open Office Hours are held on a weekly basis for convenient access to our staff.

Eirann Betka: Friday 9am—Noon

Ann Dean: Wednesday 9am—4pm

Tyrone Pearce: Thursday 10am—5pm

Wendy Vandenberg: Friday 9am—1pm

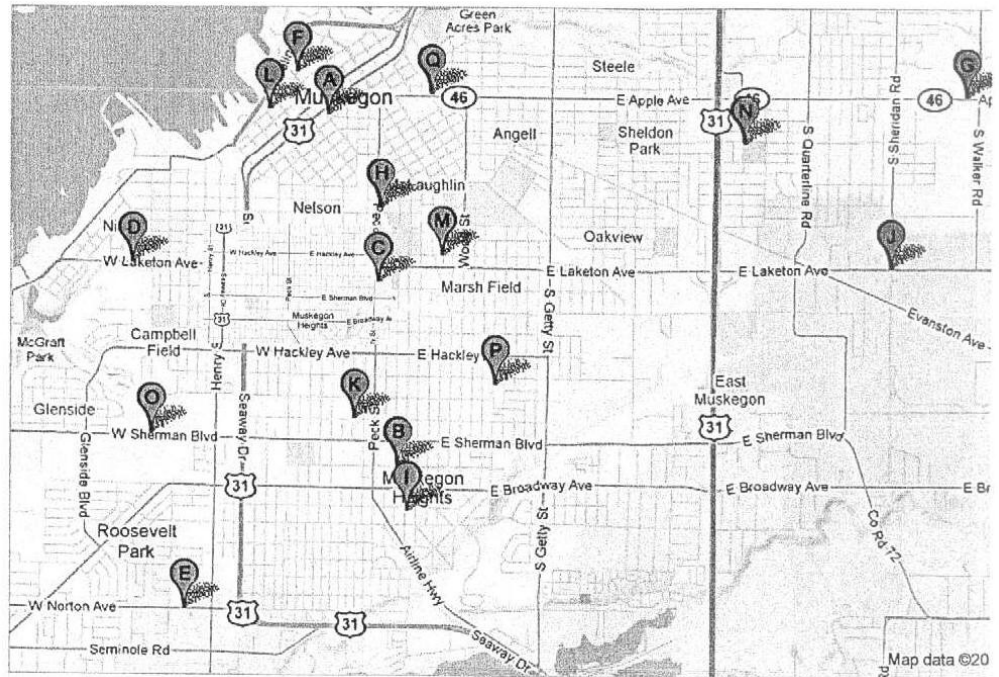
Amanda VanTubergen: Monday 1pm—4pm

## Community Resources are Easy to Find

Use this map to locate community resources that are available to you and your family. As always, contact your Case Manager if you have any questions about the kinds of services each of these agencies offers. Which ever you choose, you will be met and served by friendly, helpful staff who are eager to assist you.

## West Michigan Therapy, Inc.

### Community Resource Map



### KEY TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- A Catholic Charities West Michigan, 1095 Third St., Muskegon, Phone 726-4735
- B Department of Human Resources, 2700 Baker St., Muskegon Heights, Phone 733-3700
- C Disability Connection, 1871 Peck St., Muskegon, Phone 722-0088
- D Every Woman's Place/Webster House Youth Services, 1221 W. Laketon Ave., Muskegon, Phone 759-7909
- E Goodwill Industries, 950 W. Norton Ave., Norton Shores, Phone: 739-9010
- F Legal Aid, 450 Morris Ave., Muskegon, Phone 726-4887
- G Love, INC, 2735a Apple Ave., Muskegon, Phone 777-3905
- H Michigan Works! Family Services Center, Muskegon, 1516 Peck St., Muskegon, Phone 726-2626
- I Michigan Works! Muskegon Heights Workforce Development Center, 2920 Leahy St., Phone 830-3820
- J Michigan Works! Orchard View Workforce Development Center, 2389 E. Laketon Ave., Muskegon, Phone 760-1677
- K Mission for Area People, 2500 Jefferson St., Muskegon Heights, Phone 733-1792
- L Muskegon Community Health Project, 565 W. Western Ave., Muskegon, Phone 672-3201
- M Sacred Suds, 289 E. Larch Ave., Muskegon, Phone 726-4161
- N Salvation Army, 1221 Shonat, Muskegon, Phone 773-3284
- O Social Security Administration, 2585 Barclay St., Muskegon, Phone 759-2525
- P Transitional Living Center for women, 2333 Jarman St., Muskegon Heights, Phone 739-6840
- Q West Michigan Therapy, 130 E. Apple Ave., Muskegon, Phone 728-2138



## Tenants of the Month—Summer 2010



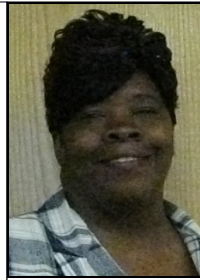
**ELTON WILLIAMS**

In 2008, at the age of 21, Elton found himself homeless. He was eligible for and approved for rental assistance through the CHI/TBRA program and was housed in October 2008. Once he had a stable place to stay, he was able to intensify his job search efforts and found work easily at a local retail/grocery store. He has maintained that job and his housing assistance for the last year and a half. Recently, his name came to the top of the waiting list for a HARP voucher and he will be transitioned to this permanent housing program by the end of this summer.



**PATRICK GORDON**

Patrick found himself in a homeless situation after he and his wife separated. He lost his daughter in a custody battle, and had no home to resolve his issues in. During this time, Patrick also broke his back in a work related accident, and was rendered unable to work. He came to West Michigan Therapy in April in need of housing assistance, and was eligible for the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re Housing Program. Since beginning the HPRP program in May, he has found a safe, affordable, and stable place to live. He was also approved for Social Security benefits, and now has a steady income. In a recent turn of events, Patrick obtained custody of his daughter who now stays with him in a bigger unit. Patrick says that before this program, he felt no hope, but since stabilizing his housing and other aspects of his life, he has a more positive outlook on life.



**EURA JORDAN**

Eura became homeless after losing her job as a health care aide with a local nursing home. Her physical disabilities stopped her from doing the heavy lifting and patient care the job required. Without income she found herself at a local shelter. She decided to apply for Disability even though she longed to continue working. In 2006, she was determined to be eligible for CHI/TBRA and was housed shortly after. Her Disability benefits were approved. She successfully obtained a HARP voucher in 2008 and has now maintained her housing for over three years. Eura is not an individual to sit still for long periods of time. Her love of cooking led her to enroll in Baker College's Culinary Arts program. She is also enrolled in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program through MSHDA and hopes to become a foster parent in the near future.

### PREVENTING CRITTERS!

*By ensuring clean lifestyle habits you can help keep unwanted critters out of your home.*

Mice, ants, cockroaches and other pests are a challenge for people who live in apartments. Prevention is the best approach to keeping them under control. By developing clean lifestyle habits you can help keep unwanted critters out of your home.

**Clean up!**

- Don't leave uneaten food or groceries on the table or counters – put them away or throw them away immediately after your meals or shopping
- Use baggies or containers to store food
- Wipe up messes and spills on countertops and floors
- Keep garbage in sealed or covered containers and dispose of trash daily
- Check for crumbs and wrappers after snacking – under sofa cushions and bedspreads
- Clean out your fridge and freezer weekly

**De-clutter!**

Keeping your things uncluttered is important for organizing and getting your life under control. It's also helpful for keeping pests away. Piles of papers and objects strewn about your apartment can provide food or shelter for pests such as cockroaches and other bugs.

**Keep it Dry!**

Many insects thrive in wet environments, so keeping your apartment dry helps keep these pests away. Call your landlord about leaky faucets and broken pipes. Make sure your bathroom has good ventilation – if you don't have an exhaust fan open the window after showering and keep your bathroom door

Keeping pests out of your home doesn't require much time, but if you pay attention to these tips you may be able to reduce or eliminate this annoying problem, so clean up, de-clutter and make sure your home is dry to have a pest-free, more organized, healthier and happier home!



## Local Activities and Events

Opportunities to Get out and Get Involved in Your Community!

**project homeless connect**

Muskegon County Continuum of Care

**Orchard View Workforce Development Center**  
 2389 E. Laketon Avenue  
 services available for all ages  
**Thursday, August 19th**  
[www.muskegoncoc.org](http://www.muskegoncoc.org)

**From 1pm-4pm**

**NATIONAL PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT**

Project Homeless Connect is a national project designed to connect homeless and at-risk individuals with necessary services in one convenient location.

MICHIGAN WORKS!

Housing Support Services are available to all tenants involved in WMT Housing Programs

If you have not yet met with a member of our Housing Staff, please contact Jennifer at 739-6840 ext 2042 to arrange your appointment—home visits and office appointments are available based on your preference and the services are individualized for your household.

## Fall Tenant Voice Committee

**What:** The Tenant VOICE Committee is a gathering of WMT Housing Program participants. Join us for the opportunity to express your VOICE on important issues in your community and socialize with others.

**When:** Tuesday September 14, 2010 at 2:30pm

**Where:** Louis McMurray Conference Center - 2624 Sixth Street - Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

Refreshments and treats are available at the Tenant VOICE Committee!

Please RSVP to our housing staff by Friday September 10th at 739-6840 ext. 2025 so that we can plan accordingly.

We hope to see you there!

We are planning on taking a group picture this day - please come with your smile ready!



Tenant VOICE Holiday Gathering ~ December 2009

West Michigan Therapy, Inc.  
Housing Plus Programs –  
Transitional Living Center

**HEADQUARTERS**

130 E. Apple Avenue  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
Phone: 231-728-2138

**HOUSING PROGRAM**

2333 Jarman Street  
Muskegon Heights, MI 49444  
Phone: 231-739-6840



**AGENCY POLICY**

It is the policy of WMT to offer treatment and shelter services to all who need and can benefit from them regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual preferences and/or physical handicaps.

West Michigan Therapy, Inc., a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 agency, was incorporated in 1985 to provide Outpatient services for persons and families who were experiencing substance abuse problems. Today WMT provides services that are covered by State and Federal grants, Medicaid, commercial insurances and private donations. We provide counseling, shelter and housing services for homeless and at-risk for homeless individuals and families, and treatment services at a reasonable cost. Service fees are based on a sliding scale and are established according to the person's ability to pay, taking into consideration family income and size.

**AGENCY MISSION**

To provide every individual who struggles with the effects of substance abuse - including homelessness - the tools and support systems necessary to improve their quality of life.

**PROMISE**

WMT promises to provide services in a dignified and ethical manner encompassing the realities of the entire family system to any person that requests such services despite his or her ability or inability to pay a fee for service.

**VALUES**

- WMT values the safety and prosperity of the community.
- WMT values family involvement in treatment and recovery.
- WMT values a holistic approach to providing services to all individuals.
- WMT values the integrity and confidentiality of the persons served.
- WMT values the principles of spirituality.
- WMT values community collaboration and partnerships.

West Michigan Therapy, Inc.  
2333 Jarman Street  
Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

If you or someone you know suffers from substance abuse or dependency, please don't wait—there is a solution! Call West Michigan Therapy at 231-728-2138 for an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome! We are located at 130 East Apple Avenue in the City of Muskegon. WMT works to re-create the HOPE that RECOVERY is POSSIBLE! We have a staff of qualified counselors including Certified Addictions Counselors, Master's Level clinicians and Doctors of Psychology. Some of our counselors have been working in the field for more than twenty years.

*Recognizing 25 years of service to individuals and families in West Michigan*

