COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS OF EASTERN IOWA
MINUTES

Thursday, September 24, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.
7600 Commerce Park, Dubuque, Iowa and by Zoom

Board Members Present: Connie Behnken (City of Manchester), Cori Burbach - **Chair** (City of Dubuque), Nancy Fett (Loras College), Sharon Gaul (EXIT Realty), Deitz Meyer (Capra Bank), Nicole Recker (Delaware County Community Services), Sam Wooden (RSH Legal).

Board Members Absent: Beth Bonz – **Vice Chair** (City of Asbury), Martha Donnelly (Sisters of the Presentation BVMs), Andy Mozena (Premier Bank), Captain Steve Radlof (Dubuque Police Department).

Others/Staff Present: Mae Hingtgen, Executive Director – **President**, Michelle Schnier, Director of Housing & Support Services – **Vice President,** Mindy Wiley, Shelby Eipperle, Homeless Program Coordinator, Christine Efferding, Homeless Program Coordinator, Chelle Klootwyk, Communications/Development Assistant.

1. - Call to Order/Introductions

Burbach called the CSEI meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

The members of CSEI are holding this session by electronic means pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law, Section 21.8, Code of Iowa, and due to the limited agenda for this meeting, relatively short period of time that this meeting is expected to be held, the expense of transporting the board members in person is impractical. The meeting is being held by phone or internet means originating from the ECIA offices in Dubuque. It is open to the public and those in attendance can hear the proceedings. Public notice of the meeting has been issued in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.4.

2. – Review/Approve CSEI Minutes July 23, 2026

Motion by Fett, second by Gaul to approve the Minutes of the July 23, 2026, CSEI Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. – Review Updated CSEI Budget

Wiley shared updates on on the FY27 projected budget that was presented in July, including increased expenditures and recently awarded funding amounts for direct assistance from Dubuque County Supervisors in the amount of $10,000 and Iowa Homeless Prevention in the amount of $14,390.

4. – Review Grant/Funding Updates

a) New Grants Received
   i. Dubuque Racing Association – Lived Experience Advisory Committee - $10,000
   ii. Delaware County Grant – Rental Assistance/Case Management/Grant Admin. - $100,000
   iii. TBRA/Iowa Finance Authority – Direct Assistance/Inspection Costs/Staff – $498,876
   iv. Anonymous Private Donor - $10,000

b) Pending Grants
   i. Sisters of St. Francis – Direct Rental Assistance - $15,000
   ii. Alliant Energy – Direct Assistance and Case Management - $50,000
   iii. Anderson Foundation – Direct Assistance/Case Management/Lived Experience Advisory Committee - $70,000
   iv. City of Dubuque Community Support & Empowerment – Lived Experience Committee - $5,000
   v. Sisters of the Presentation – Direct Assistance/Case Management/Lived Experience Committee - $25,000

c) Upcoming Grant
   i. Craford Cares - $3,000 by nomination

5. – Review Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) Scheduled Meetings

Wiley announced several dates and times planned to host Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) meetings with groups that have similar shared experiences. These initial groups will assist CSEI to develop the cadence and framework of membership for a future ongoing advisory committee. Wiley further noted that staff would contact organizations that currently operate Lived Experience Advisory Committees to gather feedback and identify best practices for developing a model that meets regional needs.

6. Informational Fundraising Activities

a) Culvers Change for Change - $251.91 raised
b) Do Good With Chipotle – October 12th from 4 – 8 pm
c) Dine to Donate with Texas Roadhouse - December 10th from 4 – 8 pm
d) November – Homelessness Awareness Month Fundraiser tentatively scheduled for November 5th, 2026, at Darkbird in Peosta. The event will feature a trivia night, and entry fees will directly benefit CSEI.

7. – Discuss CSEI Strategic Plan Updates

Wiley indicated a few changes to the CSEI Strategic Plan 2024 – 2009 with information on FY26 call volume, changes to the CoC federal funding, noted the DRA Grant for the Lived Experience Advisory Committee, and full funding received for the TBRA grant. A deeper dive into the plan with board participation will be needed in FY27.

8. – Other Business

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19th, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will serve as CSEI's annual meeting and will include review of the financial reports.

9. – Adjournment

Motion by Wooden, second by Behnken to adjourn the CSEI meeting at 11:29 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy Wiley
Housing Services Supervisor