



UPDATE

February 8, 2022

As manufacturing and supply chain issues continue to delay delivery of housing pods for homeless persons, area human service agencies have redoubled their efforts to provide assistance and emergency housing in Kalamazoo County.

"We recognize the Kzoo POD Community: A Place of Dignity can't become a reality this winter," said Michelle Davis, executive director of Housing Resources, Inc. (HRI). HRI provides assistance and coordinates emergency help for people facing a housing crisis or homelessness. "Our public, private and nonprofit partners have done a tremendous job of maximizing their ability to provide shelter, food and safety at a time when the need far exceeds the housing resources available."

The response to homelessness and housing crises includes the work of a comprehensive network of individuals and organizations that provide help on a daily basis. To access help, community members can dial 2-1-1, day or night, call HRI at 269-382-0287 or go online at housingresourcesinc.org.

The intention to create a pilot pod community this winter was undermined by manufacturing and delivery issues that have yet to be resolved. There won't be time to create a housing pod community site this winter, should delivery occur. A temporary proposed placement of the pods on a Stockbridge Avenue site is no longer being considered, Davis said. Environmental and cost considerations have project partners looking for alternatives for the future.

"We remain committed to the pilot pod project," said Davis. "It's a strategy that fits well within our overall mission, strategic plan, and the needs of people who are unsheltered."

HRI, a United Way partner agency, continues to seek volunteers and donations to carry out its mission. Opportunities to help can be found at www.housingresourcesinc.org or by supporting the Walk to End Homelessness on March 19.