

UPDATE

AUGUST UPDATE 2022

Together We Can Solve This Kalamazoo!

In celebration of 40 years of providing housing solutions for Kalamazoo County residents, HRI continues to take steps forward to make A Kzoo POD Community: A Place of Dignity a reality.

HRI and our community partners are dedicated to an innovative approach: implementing a *new* emergency housing model to help address the needs of unsheltered people in Kalamazoo County.

Despite many months of delays in getting the pods shipped to us, they are safely here and stored. With recent delays in site finalization, we expect to announce our pod site as soon as possible. Our updated completion goal for the POD Community is set for Spring 2023.

Why a POD Community?

With a national and local affordable housing crisis of historic proportions, these pods are an option for people as they move from unsheltered homelessness to permanent housing.

The Kzoo POD Community is *not* an encampment. It is a managed community which provides secure and waterproof temporary living spaces – PODS – for up to 66 adults that include heating and cooling, electricity, windows, beds, storage, a door that locks, and a bike rack. This managed community moves people currently living in unsafe, uninhabitable outdoor areas to a secure living space with round-the-clock supportive staff and security, a facility for laundry, meals, showers, bathrooms, and a common space, along with local support and partnering services.

What is the site development timeline?

Site finalization means that pre-development and development of the property are limited to an early fall or spring timeline.

AUGUST UPDATE 2022 -Continued P. 2

HRI will:

- 1. Continue to work toward finalization of a feasible site and lease.
- 2. Move forward with the site pre-development and development for the remainder of 2022 and continue work for as long as Michigan weather cooperates.
- 3. Continue developing the site in spring 2023 until PODS can be placed.

Who is paying for the PODs?

HRI purchased the pods from LIT Solutions based in Portland OR using HRI funds. HRI is confident in the support of the Kalamazoo community and is actively fundraising for the project, including the costs of the pods, site improvements and support for ongoing operations.

How can I help?

HRI continues to seek volunteers and donations to carry out our mission. Visit our website www.housingresourcesinc.org for more information about A Kzoo POD Community: A Place of Dignity. Consider lending your support today, because TOGETHER WE CAN SOLVE THIS KALAMAZOO!