



# UPDATE

## Press Release FEBRUARY UPDATE 2023

### **Progress Is Happening, Kalamazoo!**

HRI is pleased to announce that we have signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the City of Kalamazoo, to move us forward in the development of “A Kzoo POD Community: A Place of Dignity.” Michelle Davis, Executive Director of Housing Resources, Inc., said “We remain excited about the project. The LOI provides HRI a six-month period to continue our due diligence and decide whether the site, located at 333 E. Alcott Street, is feasible for the project through a lease or purchase”.

The Pod community will provide a safe transition space for unhoused adults while they seek permanent housing. As stated in our previous update, with the national and local affordable housing crisis of historic proportions, the pods are an option for people moving from unsheltered homelessness to permanent housing. HRI will continue to lift the importance of providing creative temporary housing solutions that will provide the dignity and respect we all deserve as human beings. We know Kalamazoo has the passion, resilience, fortitude, and resources to be bold while providing the much-needed solution to the housing crisis. HRI is working with a local architecture and engineering firm, Byce and Associates, Inc., to create an in-depth site plan and design that will be presented as we begin to conduct neighborhood and community informational sessions. The neighborhood and community information sessions will allow residents to learn more about the POD project and to understand that it will not be an encampment, but a managed community created with intention and dignity and 24/7 staff support.

Davis said, “HRI understands that we are partners in this endeavor, and we need the entire community’s support and resources. No one organization or institution can solve this issue alone”. Thank you to the City of Kalamazoo for supporting this project. Thank you to Classic Gutters Systems and Clark Logic for contributing by providing storage space during this time. Thank you to all the concerned residents of Kalamazoo who believe everyone deserves a place of dignity to call home until we as a community can provide a more permanent housing solution for our most vulnerable, marginalized, and underserved residents.

### **How Can You Help?**

As we continue to actively fundraise for the project, including the costs of the pods, site improvements, and support for ongoing operations, we welcome all sizes of donations. To support this project, please visit our website, [www.housingresourcesinc.org](http://www.housingresourcesinc.org).