Br

1. **Attendance – Sign In**
2. **Introductions, agency updates, and program information**
3. **SSI/SSDI/ Disability Partners with Asha Sharma**
4. **Encrypted emails: Hua Moua**
5. **Housing Collaborative: Process & Collaboration: Hua Moua**
   * **Communication/Transmittals**
6. **Case consultation/networking**
7. **Tour of Avivo**
8. **Next collaborative meeting: March 8, 2018**

**2:00 pm – 4:00 pm at**

**Wilder**

451 Lexington Ave

St. Paul, MN 55104

* Welcome and Introductions
* Meeting Purpose and Objective- Bea Officer from HIRED
* Events & Resources- Mary Jo Connolly- EMWC

-Minnesota Career Development Association Conference April 19th-20th

-Women Venture’s Spring Conference

April 20th

-Upcoming MFIP/DWP Conference

* Treasurer’s Report
  + Budget Overview
  + Dues Update
* Old Business
  + Status of landscaping bids
  + Status of water quality control
* New Business
  + Possible pending litigation
  + Other new business
* Calendar
* Adjournment

### 01/11/2017

### 2:00 – 4:00 pm

**Meeting Location**

### Avivo (Resource Inc.)

**1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 127 A**

**St. Paul, MN 55108**

## AGENDA

# Housing Collaborative Meeting

**Ramsey County Housing Collaborative Meeting Minutes**

January 11, 2018 at Avivo

**Attendance** was taken: Alana Carrington, Union Gospel Mission; Cymonne Williams, Goodwill Easter Seals; Majida Handzic, Avivo; Diane Strandjord, AIFC; Sara Hesseltine, Solid Ground; Hua Moua and Nicki Hanson, WFS. Guest speakers: Asha Sharma and Tony Reynero, Disability Partners.

**Empowerment**

This activity was skipped for this meeting due to late start from weather conditions and amount of items to cover.

**Transmittals and County Updates:**

* Hua Moua will be looking into ways to send out transmittals and communications through encrypted emails rather than fax. This will helpfully get the communications and documents to the correct person in a timelier manner and avoid documents being misplaced.

**Disability Partners**

* Asha Sharma and Tony Reynero, Disability Partners, came to share their knowledge around effectively helping our clients file for SSI/RSDI and help us have a clearer understanding of the process.
* First Asha and Tony went over some true/false questions. (They are attached). Spoiler alert – all answers are false. This led to a great discussion about myths and misperceptions about SSI/RSDI and the process. One thing the discussion highlighted is most of the time when people are denied is due to lack of documentation or the documentation not being as thorough as it needs to be. The therapy notes should match the functioning reports; services should match the functioning reports; therapists, medications, and doctors should all line up with what is on the functioning reports. Not having all this could lead to denial.
* Next Asha and Tony discussed RSDI/SSI timeline, stressing the application time, processing time, and time to get awarded is a very long time – about 2 to 3 years.
* Asha and Tony shared some disability basics, such as the difference between RSDI and SSI. They discussed medical qualifying criteria, children, age, refugee status, and common reasons for denial.
* Asha and Tony also provided examples of completed Work History Report and Function Report.
* Law firms such as Disability Partners, help clients through the process of getting a judge to award RSDI/SSI. They do not help with the process afterward, which can almost be just as confusing. They recommended using community resources to help with the rest, since it is all so individualized. Disability Hub MN (used to be Disability Linkage Line), [www.disabilityhubmn.org](http://www.disabilityhubmn.org), there is a live online chat, or 1-866-333-2466.
* Contact information for Asha and Tony: Main number, 651-633-4882, Asha is 651-225-5185 or [Asha@DisabilityPartners.net](mailto:Asha@DisabilityPartners.net) and Tony is 651-225-5182 or [Tony@DisabilityPartners.net](mailto:Tony@DisabilityPartners.net).
* Also included in the documents attached to this email is a referral form for Disability Partners.
* If you have any questions at all, please follow up with Asha or Tony. They are happy to help answer any questions or talk about specific cases with you.

**Housing Collaborative Process and Collaboration:**

* This discussion was tabled until next meeting due to weather conditions.

**MFIP Update Sheets and Networking:**

Hua will email the most recent MFIP sheets to appropriate EC and Housing Providers.

**Tour:**

Majda gave tour of Avivo and shared how Avivo utilizes its space for clients and staff. There is a large parking lot with no parking restrictions and the conference room was large enough to hold the entire collaborative comfortably.

**Next meeting:**

Next meeting will be at Wilder. There is off street parking available in the ramp next to the building.

Our guest speaker will be Portico Healthnet.

**Upcoming meeting schedule:**

Wilder in March

Goodwill Easter Seals in May