



Albion Economic Development Corporation

Community Engagement
Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 9:00 am

Albion Economic Development Corporation
115 N. Superior St. Albion, MI 49224

Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91203580052?pwd=TjJkNitRSkYxUExJWGxRSXA4SS9ldz09>

Mission Statement: Partnering with our community to drive economic growth and enrich local lives through active collaboration.

AGENDA

- 1) Call To Order (1 min)
- 2) Approve Agenda (1 min)
- 3) Welcome and Introductions (10 min)

Discussion Items

- 4) Recap of the Elevating Black Voices Event (10 min)
- 5) Michelle Obikwelu (5 min)
- 6) Albion Restaurant Group Suspended (5 min)
- 7) Lack of Housing Conversations with Nekeiyah Alexander from Neighborhoods Inc. (10 min)
- 8) Update on MI-Hope (5 min)
- 9) Setting Next Meeting's Agenda (5 min)
- 10) Public Comment (TBD)
(Persons addressing the Committee shall limit their comments to no more than 3 minutes)
- 11) Adjournment (1 Min)

Parking Lot

Austin Ave Corridor Revisit and Survey
Open EDC Board Seats – 6
Identifying Partners for Execution of Ideas
Pastor Amos's 5-Point Plan on Homelessness
Info on Corridor Improvement Authority
Info on OPRA Districts
Harrington Support

Next Meeting April 17th, 9 am via Zoom

Albion Economic Development Corporation

Community Engagement Task Force

February 21, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilperson Williams, Taylor Sandoval, Chad Farmer, Michelle O, Januari Humphrey, Angel Harrison, LaFonda W, Alfredia-Dysart Drake

Members Absent:

OTHERS: None

STAFF: Takala Williams

The meeting was called to order by Williams at 9:04 am.

1. Agenda was approved
2. Introductions were made by all members of the group. Everyone described who they were and why they are a part of the Community Engagement Task Force
3. Discussion was had if the Task Force would like more information about the Corridor Improvement Authority-All participants said yes
4. Januari Humphrey provided the group with information about Wildflower Crossing 1200 Westover Blvd Albion, MI 49224.
 - a. They currently have 4 rentals
 - b. Rent-to-own options are available with "Ownership Rocks Program"
 - c. Their goal is to have 340 homes in total
 - d. \$500 Referral bonus
 - e. Clubhouse Open House March 8th & 9th 11am-2pm
5. OPRA-Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act was discussed
 - a. Obsolete Property was defined as Obsolete property in an area characterized by obsolete commercial property or commercial housing property
 - b. Participants stated they would like to have more information about OPRA brought to our next meeting
6. Discussion was had about the upcoming Black History Month Capstone event with Lisa Howze on February 27, 2024 6-8pm
 - a. Takala encourage the committee to attend the event and share on social media
 - i. We discussed the book "Candy Girl Mentality" written by Lisa Howze
 - ii. Discussion was had on the topic: Elevating Black Voice, The Power of Resilience and Representation.
 - iii. Participants stated that they felt this event would be empowering for our community.

7. Discussion and ideals were brought up on how the community can interact with Harrington School.
 - a. An ideal for reading to the children. Getting a group together of authors who have written children's books and have them come read their book to the children at Harrington School once a month.
 - b. Help administer a digital email for children to send to their mothers on Mother's Day
 - c. T-Shirts and Hat with a "I love Harrington Elementary" or a similar slogan to highlight Harrington Elementary. That can be worn by teachers, parents and students.
 - d. "popcorn day" for parents to buy popcorn
 - e. Become a presence at the school to help student engagement like the Grandmother program in the 80's-90's which helped students and staff.
 - f. Encourage literacy at every age level
8. Discussion was had about what it would look like to support The Albion Restaurant Group
 - a. Coming to the Albion Restaurant Group monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month @10am
 - b. Networking, Albion Restaurant Group information
9. Setting Next Month's Agenda
 - a. Members want to talk about Homelessness in Albion
 - b. Connect w/Neighborhoods Inc.
 - c. Collect data on number of people without housing in Albion
10. Meeting adjourned 10 am.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, March 20th, 9am, EDC Offices – 115 N. Superior.

Parking lot

1. Austin Ave survey questions to be emailed to group
2. Identifying partners for execution

Lisa Howze

97% of **44** attendees to date found Lisa's sessions valuable



Albion Economic Development Corporation

Mastering the 5 Es to Bounce Back Better Report

Audience Feedback on Feb 27, 2024

28 responses

96% found this session valuable

Valuable

27

Not Valuable

1

100% want to hear Lisa speak again

Definitely Yes

22

Probably Yes

3

Definitely Not

Probably Not

Attendees found this session

Educational

94.6%

Inspiring

94.4%

Engaging

94.1%

Powerful

93.6%

Attendee Testimonials([View All](#))

It was inspiring seeing how you turned a traumatic event early in her life into such amazing success. She literally took the lemons that life gave her and made lemonade.

Eye opener and educational for life events to growing and being better. Also, glad my children and grandchildren are able to see you and know for themselves. 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌

I would say that this was an amazing experience and I am excited for the being here and also being able to bring my family!

I would say they really needed to hear this valuable message.

I have been inspired and inspired to not only to continue!!!

More testimonials about people who've impacted her life.

Message of personal responsibility and accountability

You need to hear Lisa is a good moderator 😊

Lisa was powerful, beautiful, educated!

Excellent Speaker and presenter!

Informative and motivational

Very Inspiring presentation

Enlightening & empowering

It was a great session

Elevating Our Voices

Bounce back better

Very good!

Motivating

Warm

Attendee Feedback[\(View All\)](#)

How can we get more of the community involved? A better explanation of the Candy Girl mentality.

When events happen, let us know or give us an heads up who we should bring to the meeting

Probably overpaid for this event though it is a very good message

It would help our young people in their schools

The Candy Girl Mentality is awesome!

She said a mouth full about Albion.

Excellent presentation

Keep Going and Giving!

Great event!

The audience

Worthwhile

Cool



ELEVATING BLACK VOICES

The Power of Resilience and Representation

MASTERING THE 5 Es TO BOUNCE BACK BETTER

FREEWAY CHURCH | ALBION, MICHIGAN

February 27th, 2024



LISA HOWZE

Lisa L. Howze



ALBION
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION



My Early Life Bounce Back Story



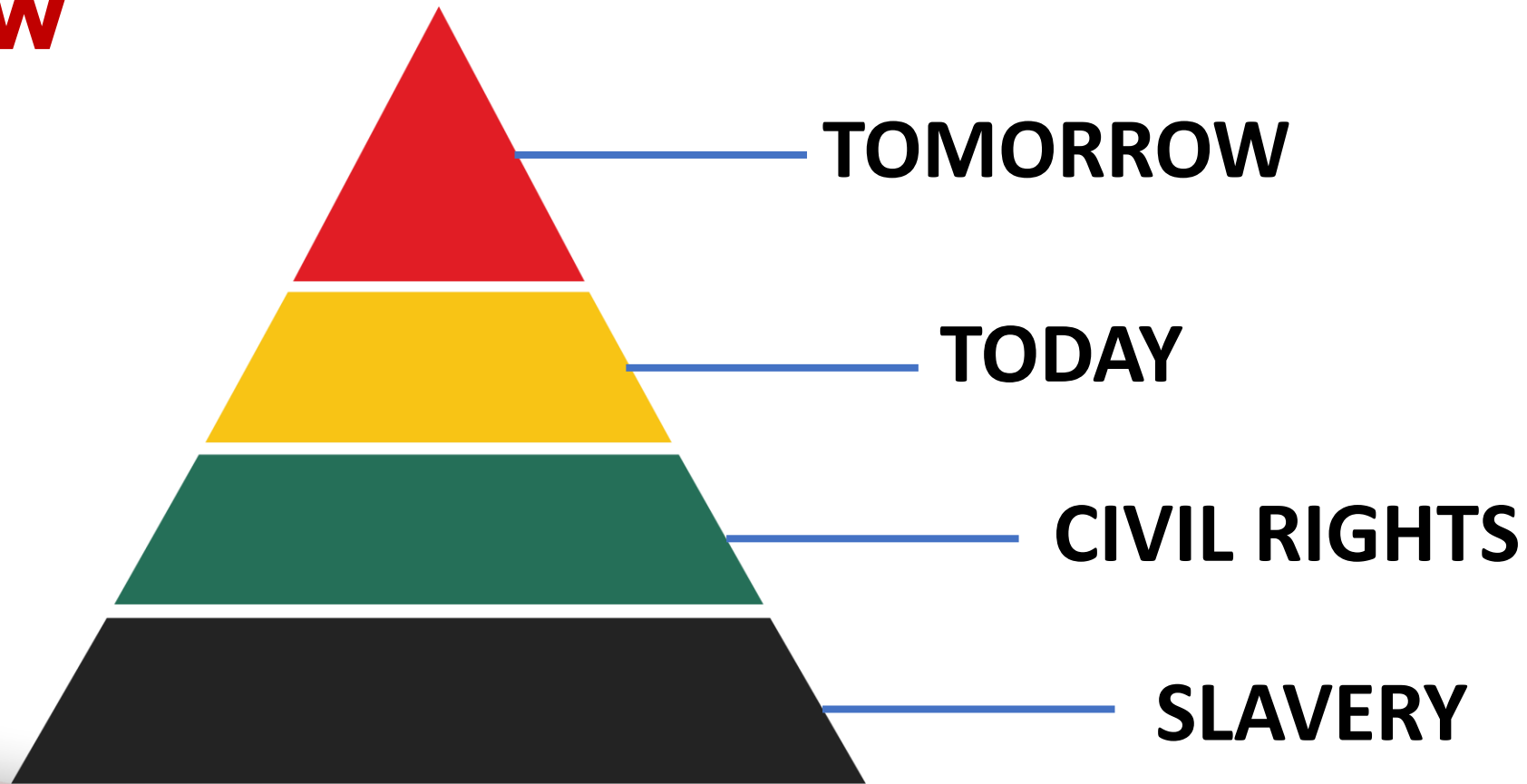
Everything Happens for a Reason

5^{**S**}

- **EVICTION*** (i.e. “The Event”)
- **ENVIRONMENT**
- **EXPOSURE**
- **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
- **EDUCATION**

***Focus: Significant Emotional Events**

Events in Black History: Then vs. Now



Today's Trailblazers



Barack Obama

Net Worth

\$70 million



Kamala Harris

Net Worth

\$6.75 million to \$15.29 million



Ketanji Brown Jackson

Net Worth

\$1.7 Million

Billion Dollar Barrier Breakers

Sports and Entertainment



Oprah Winfrey

Net Worth

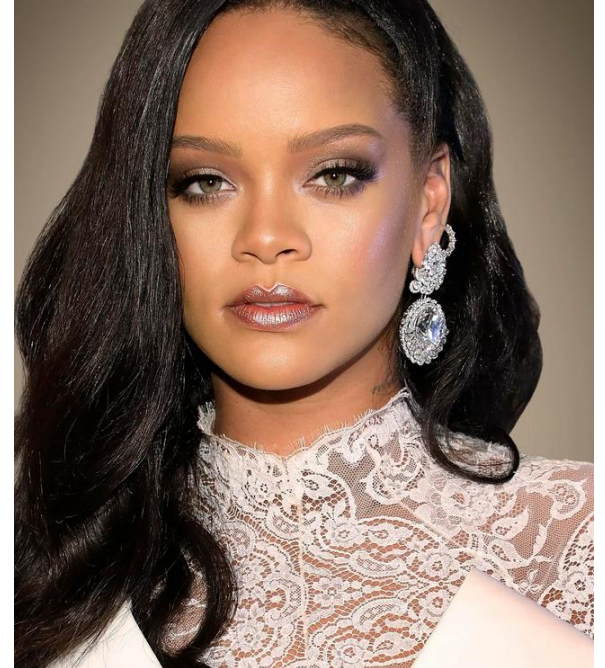
\$2.5 Billion



Lebron James

Net Worth

\$1 Billion



Rihanna Fenty

Net Worth

\$1.4 Billion

Billion Dollar Barrier Breakers

(cont'd) Business, Finance & Technology



Robert F. Smith

Net Worth

\$9.2 Billion



David Steward

Net Worth

\$7.6 Billion



Tope Awotona

Net Worth

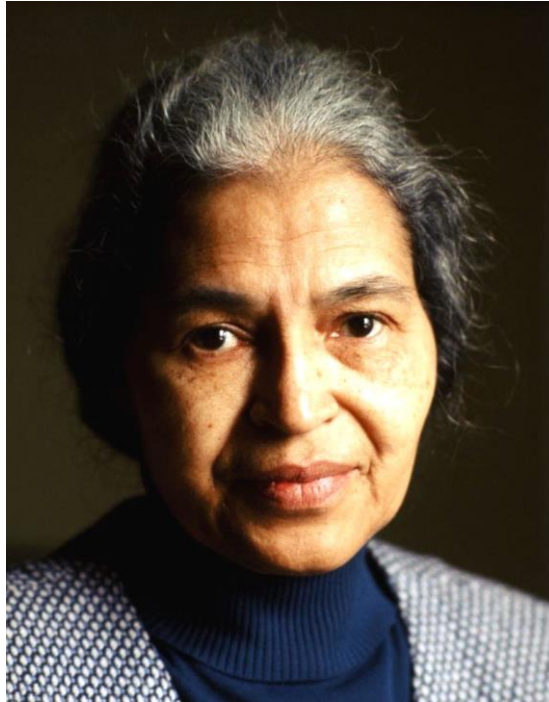
\$1.2 Billion

Historical Giants



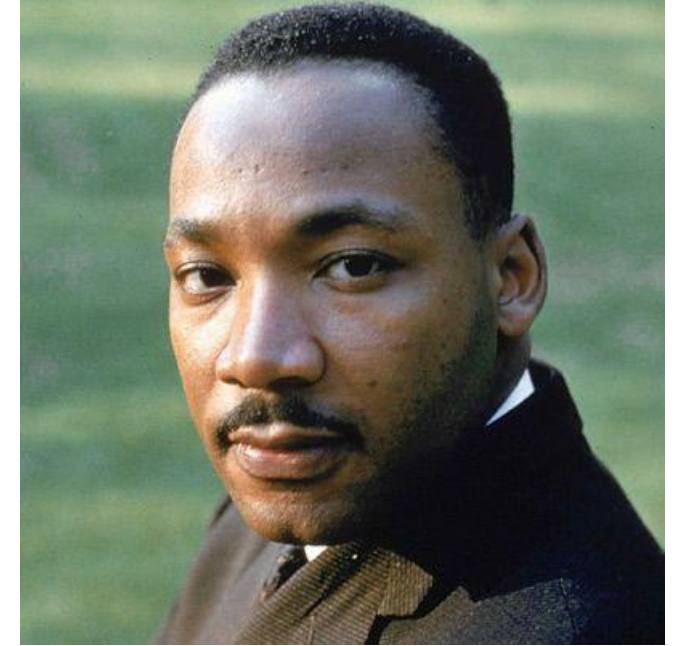
Harriet Tubman

March 1822 – March 1913
an American abolitionist
and social activist



Rosa Parks

February 1913 – October 2005
American activist in the civil rights movement



Martin Luther King Jr.

January 1929 – April 1968
American Christian minister, activist,
and political philosopher



Give feedback to Lisa

Scan this QR code




Or go to

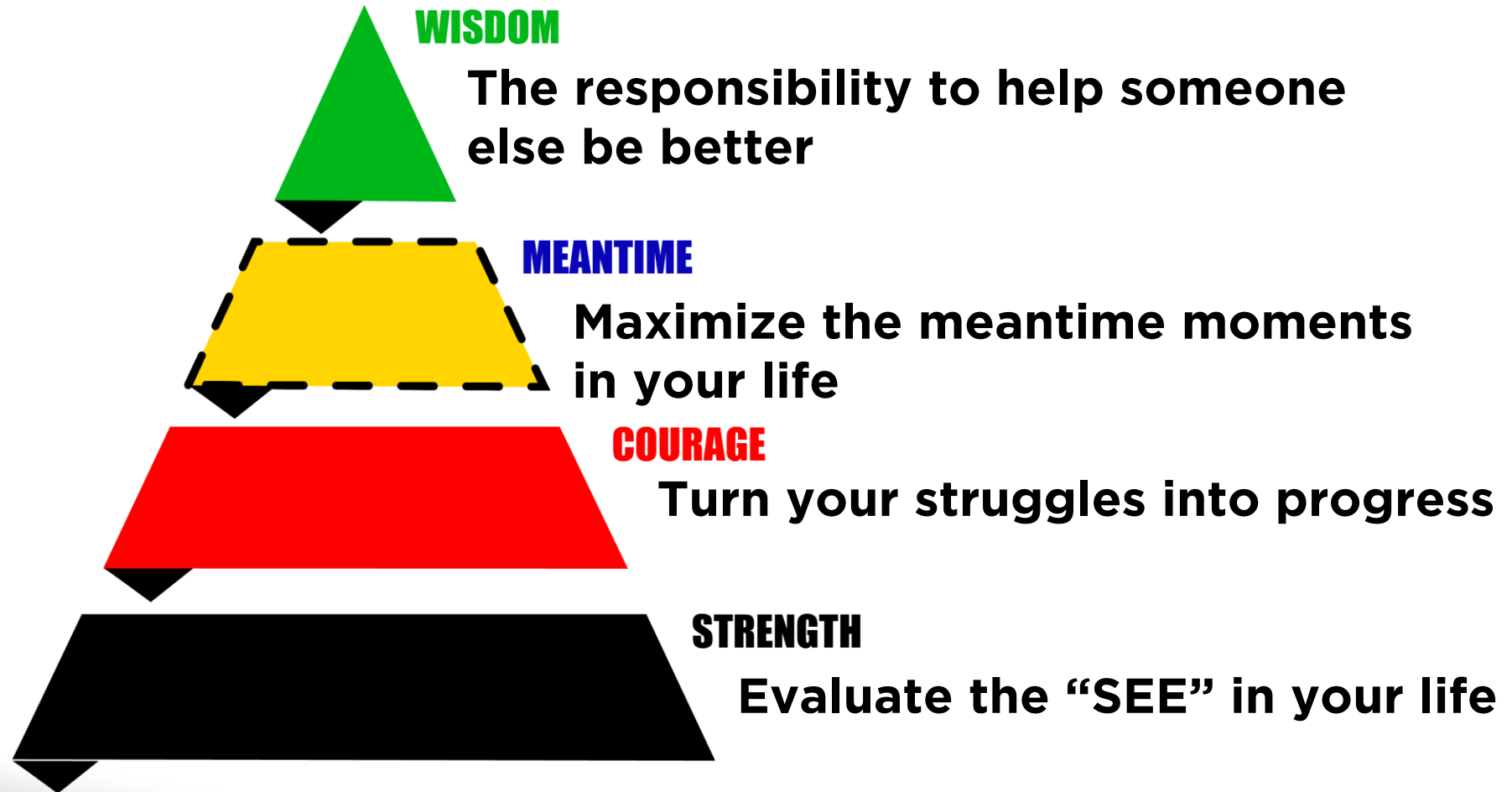
<https://talk.ac/lisahowze>

and enter this code when prompted

EBV

Powered By 

The Bounce Back Framework



Words to Remember

**“Best isn’t good enough because it can
always be better!”**



LISA HOWZE

I A M L I S A H O W Z E . C O M



Thank You!



LISA HOWZE

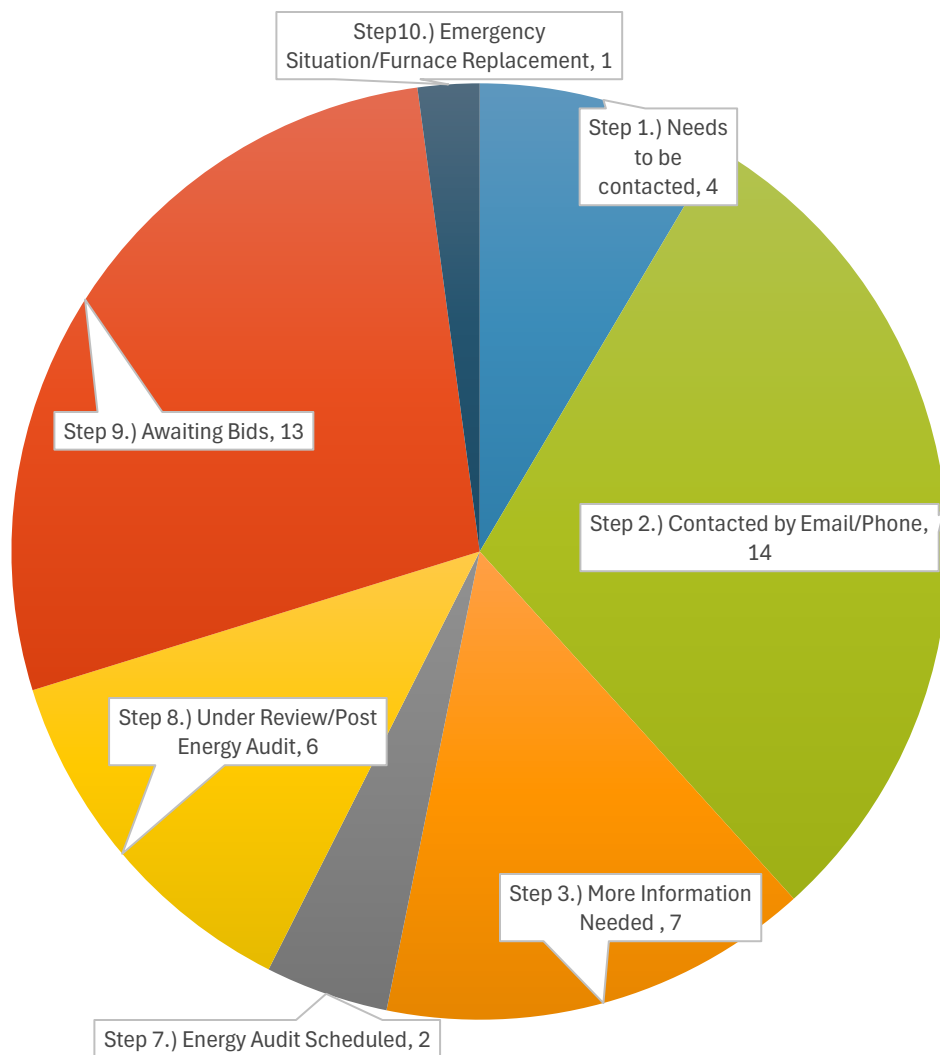
IAMLISAHOWZE.COM



Lisa L. Howze

Count of Status

Albion Economic Development Corporation Mi-Hope Application Status



Status

- Step 1.) Needs to be contacted
- Step 2.) Contacted by Email/Phone
- Step 3.) More Information Needed
- Step 7.) Energy Audit Scheduled
- Step 8.) Under Review/Post Energy Audit
- Step 9.) Awaiting Bids
- Step 10.) Emergency Situation/Furnace Replacement