

Livability Lab: 100-day Challenge Team Updates!

Hello! We'd like to welcome you to the first in a series of Livability Lab e-newsletters meant to keep you in the loop on progress of the 100-day Challenge.

Every other week, we'll send brief progress updates and new information and include feature stories of the outstanding teams and the work being done toward the vision of creating a system that ensures livability for all Muskegon County residents.

Please let us know what you think!

Want to Learn More about Getting Involved?

Have you seen the list of 19 Challenge Teams that emerged from the Livability Lab launch? We're still in the first 30 days, and that means there is time for additional community members to get involved in the early stages of action! The lab supports innovative ideas and there are a variety of ways to participate with varying levels of commitment. You could join a team and attend regular meetings, or you might simply help make connections or provide feedback on one aspect of the work that's meaningful to you.

Take another look at the [teams listed on the website](#) and if you want to inquire further about getting connected, email Logan Jensen, team coordinator, at logan.jensen@mercyhealth.com.

Livability Lab Framework: The Community Has Spoken!

Here's what they said...

What is this Livability Lab Framework that all those hundreds of community conversations, surveys, and reports fed into to create the vision for Muskegon County? That same vision that informed the framework from which the Challenge Teams studied on September 10 and launched their 100-day Challenges? To learn more, spend some time exploring this handy [interactive Livability Lab Framework site](#).



FEATURED CHALLENGE TEAM

Challenge Team 16: Increase Employment Opportunities for Felons via Expungement



Team #16 announces their Challenge Team goal at the September 10 Livability Lab launch.

While bipartisan legislation is making its way through the Michigan House of Representatives that seeks to change Michigan law to offer broader opportunity to address criminal records that impede employment and other opportunities, a local cross-sector group has taken up the issue via the Livability Lab through their Challenge Team 16.

Muskegon has jobs to fill—Cindy Larsen at the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce reported that Muskegon currently has 2,000 open positions, yet thousands of people who are willing and able to work find it difficult to do so because of criminal records. To learn about expungement and the state legislation proposed to address it, listen to or read the [recent report from Michigan Radio](#).

The local team would like people to share far and wide information about "[Full Service Saturday](#)" on October 12, where the Public Defender's Office will offer expungement eligibility screening and more. At the event, individuals can learn about the process for clearing their records to help pave the way for increased opportunities. Stay tuned for future developments from Team 16!

SAVE THE DATE: 100-day Challenge Celebration—January 23 More information coming soon!

Supported by the Muskegon Community Health Innovation Region. More information can be found at www.LivabilityLab.com.

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