

ACEH meeting will feature disability advocates

The Holland Sentinel

Posted Jul 02, 2009 @ 05:48 PM

Holland, MI — Disability Advocates Seek Input on Housing July 10

Two disability advocates will bring their story to the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH) general meeting on Friday, July 10, and will ask for yours in return. They are looking for comments and opinions about issues — particularly housing — facing people with disabilities in Ottawa County. They want to hear from persons with disabilities, from their families and caregivers, and from community members.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Center for Women in Transition, 411 Butternut Drive.

A group of community partners have created a list of suggestions to address housing issues and need feedback as to whether their ideas will help with solutions. They note that many factors can affect a person's ability to obtain and maintain his or her housing of choice, including affordability, support, and transportation.

Speakers are Stacey Trowbridge, program director for Disability Network/Lakeshore, and Virginia Beard of the political science faculty at Hope College. Trowbridge focuses on programs for youth with disabilities and serves as project manager for a housing study specific to people with disabilities. She has a degree from Western Michigan University.

Beard has worked for Public Policy Associates Inc. in Lansing and served AmeriCorps VISTA on affordable housing and microlending projects in Texas. She has a Ph.D. in political science with an emphasis on public policy and African politics from Michigan State University.

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