

GENERAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, May 11, 2026

Time: 3:30 PM – 4:40 PM

Location: Normal Township Hall, 304 E. Mulberry St., Normal, IL 61761

Present: Elicssha Sanders, Tori Lomelino, Adam Crockett, Krystle Able, Tanner Starr, Natasha Syed

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:38 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Approval of minutes from the April 6, 2026 General Assistance Committee meeting.

Action: Minutes approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Open forum for community members.

Comment Received: None.

IV. ACTION ITEM UPDATES

A. License and Registration Fee Assistance Research

Presenter: Tori Lomelino

Discussion:

- Committee reviewed findings on client identification needs for employment purposes.

- State ID fees may be paid directly via check to the Secretary of State, with clients submitting the payment. They will be expected to return receipt of payment to Township.
- Fee structure:
 - Free for individuals experiencing homelessness
 - \$5 for registration renewal for individuals age 55+ and/or disabled who meet financial eligibility requirements
- Recommendation to develop a separate program to address senior-specific needs.
- Funding would come from General Township funds
- Item placed on Board agenda for May 19, 2026
- Birth certificate assistance was also discussed; Tori Lomelino has begun researching funding options through the GA grant.

Action Items:

- ID and Registration assistance will be available to clients immediately as part of grant options.
- Item to be presented to full Board on 5/19/26.

B. Logo Updates for Outreach

Discussion:

- Update on logo designs were reviewed.
- Upon Board approval of the logo, the GA Committee will identify outreach material needs for ordering.

Action Items:

- GA Committee to prepare list of needed outreach materials once logo is Board-approved.

C. TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

Update: No updates at this time.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Work Fair Programs Discussion

Discussion:

- Committee explored potential workfare program opportunities.
- Financial literacy programs identified as a possible priority.

- Committee will develop goals for workfare programming as a priority in next meeting.
- Partner organizations to be identified.
- Committee interested in reaching out to local banks regarding community engagement opportunities.
- Eligibility requirements and implementation logistics to be determined.

Action Items:

- Committee to research and contact potential banking partners.
- Develop workfare goals and begin outlining a program.

B. Outreach Planning

Discussion:

- This was tabled for later discussion. Tori Lomelino reported that they have been attending outreach activities.

Action Items:

- None

C. Service Expansion Review

1. Haircut Resources

- Classified under personal hygiene services.
- Committee will seek vendors to accept vouchers for haircut services.
- Will reach out to cosmetology/salon schools to explore voucher acceptance.
- Potential to provide community haircut events in Township community room several times per year.
- Youth program: Free back-to-school haircuts for students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch.

Action Items:

- Contact local salon schools regarding voucher program.
- Explore possible hairstylists that will accept vouchers.
- Develop youth haircut program guidelines.

2. Clothing Resources

- Committee hopes to receive donations once program is advertised.
- Boundaries and guidelines for accepted donations to be established.

Action Items:

- Develop donation acceptance guidelines.
- Advertise clothing donation program.

3. State ID and Registration Renewal Assistance

- See Section IV.A above.

4. Birth Certificate Assistance

- See Section IV.A above.

5. Credit-Building Programs

- Committee determined this will not be addressed at this time.
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VI. NETWORKING UPDATES

Discussion:

- Committee determined this will not be discussed at this time.
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VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Transient Assistance

- Committee is working with the Normal Police Department to direct funding to NPD.
- Grant to Normal Police Department requires Board approval.
- Awaiting response from Chief of Police before approaching the Board.

Action Items:

- Await Chief of Police response.
- Bring grant proposal to Board upon receipt of response.

B. Clothing Pantry

- Gender Euphoria organization provides gender-affirming clothing.
 - Running shoe donation received.
 - ISU student group donating hygiene products.
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VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

Date: Thursday, June 5, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Normal Township Hall

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.