



Community Plan Oversight Committee Agenda

November 3, 2023

<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/89658253886>

Meeting ID: 896 5825 3886

669 444 9171

Attendance

Committee Members

- Brenda Konkel
- Tim Schaefer
- Aurelius Leslie
- Meshan Adams
- Jennifer Pryeor
- Linda Ketcham
- Kayla Every
- Johneisha Prescott
- Marilyn Feil
- Takisha Jordan
- Torrie Kopp Mueller
- Sarah Lim
- Alicia Spry
- Kristina Dux
- Patrick Duffey
- Jani Koester

Guests

- Alder Dina Nina Martinez-Rutherford

Homebase: Esther Wilch, Karen Kowal, Mihir Vohra, Patrick Wigmore

Agenda for 11/03 with Notes:

1. Introduction and Agenda (Esther)
 - a. People had strong feelings after the last meeting, want to debrief all of that now that we have had time to process.
 - b. Review group norms
 - c. Review vision statement
2. Revisit Qualitative Data Review (Esther)
 - a. Homebase reviewed the main themes from each of the qualitative data sets and analyzed them for frequency
 - b. From this, four main themes emerged:
 - i. Racial Equity
 - ii. Housing
 - iii. Home/Houselessness and Resources (Community understanding of who is included in the plan and resources needed)
 - iv. Regional Issues in Madison/Dane County
 - c. Homebase reviewed the information they heard from each of the groups and where that fit into the above goals

3. Breakout Rooms and Small Group Discussions (Karen Kowal, Homebase)
 - a. Homebase introduced the Conversation Café Exercise and discussion format
 - i. The committee was divided into four groups
 - ii. Each group was placed in a breakout room about one of the above goals, with a Homebase staff member who was dedicated that goal
 - iii. The group discussed a topic for 15 minutes, before the Homebase staff moved to the next group
 - iv. The nature of the discussion deepened with each round:
 1. Why are we talking about this? Why is it important to the plan?
 - 2 and 3. How do we change this? What would change look like?
 4. What do we need to move forward? What other voices do we need? Goals, action steps.
 - v. By the end of the hour, each group discussed each goal
 - b. Summary from the breakout rooms:
 - i. Racial Equity
 1. Why are we talking about this? How do folks feel about it?
 - a. It would be impactful to use just 1-2 illustrative data points to convince the broader community racial equity is a problem we need to work on
 - b. It's more than just an issue of education – there's stigma because there's a sense that improving service for people of color will come at the expense of other populations
 - c. To be convincing to the community, we have to explain that working towards racial equity will make the system work better for everyone, and it won't advantage some at the expense of others
 2. How do we change this? What would change look like? What are the challenges and opportunities? What do we need to do to change this? What resources or strategies are needed?
 - a. Need to make sure there are comprehensive materials in multiple languages so people who need help know where to find resources, how to find resources, etc
 - b. Seems to be general consensus that racial equity should be incorporated throughout the strategic plan rather than as a standalone goal
 - c. People are scared to take action because they don't want to make the problem worse and because the community can be very critical
 - d. City, county, and CoC solicit input from lots of stakeholders, but it seems like no one wants the leadership role to then make decisions and set goals based on that input
 - e. We should focus our attention on places in the system where there are the biggest racial disparities
 3. What else needs to be a part of changing this? What goals or action steps?
 - a. Need to have clear metrics to use to evaluate success
 - b. We should think about what would be an easy first step

to take to convince ourselves and the community that it's possible to make progress on racial equity

- c. City, county, and United Way have been talking about making grantmaking more equitable – could be a good longterm solution to incorporating POC-led providers in the CoC

ii. Housing

1. Why are we talking about this? How do folks feel about it?
 - a. Housing is the solution. It is a must have in the plan.
 - b. Challenges in what we can actually change especially what can be changed around affordable housing
 - c. Relationships are important – especially around landlord, property owners, between agencies. Need something more effective and more efficient.
 - d. Eviction and non-renewals of leases are also factors.
2. How do we change this? What would change look like? What are the challenges and opportunities? What do we need to do to change this? What resources or strategies are needed?
 - a. Subsidized Housing – how to add more, how to hold developers accountable, how to have current affordable housing developer accepted our population. This was a big and recurring topic.
 - b. Centralized Landlord Engagement & Unit Acquisition – how do we move faster, how do get more incentives for landlords, how do we get community investment in this both monetarily and to share landlords (resources), how do we make landlords more accountable. This was a big and recurring topic.
 - c. Innovation solution in housing and service deliver. - how do we bring our ideas to scale, how do we test new ideas, how do we expand the rules in subsidized housing, how do we make housing navigation work better.
 - d. Change the story – how do we get the community to understand that there is a housing crisis and how it effects, how can smaller cities / rural areas be more hospitable to BIPOC families, how do we have the community understand who is homeless and who may be at risk.
3. What else needs to be a part of changing this? What goals or action steps?
 - a. Focused efforts on housing development for the homeless – incubator for project based PSH
 - b. Centralized landlord acquisition and engagement database – incentives for landlords
 - c. County to help ensure the funding model is right to help our population
 - d. Medicaid funding for supportive services.

iii. Home/Houselessness and Resources

1. Why are we talking about this? How do folks feel about it?
 - a. It is clear among all participants that the Continuum of Care (CoC) must address a broader spectrum of issues beyond chronic homelessness.
 - b. There was agreement that this isn't a HUD problem, HUD funds chronic homelessness--this is a problem our CoC has.
 - c. People feel that there is a lack of resources, and that current funding isn't fully meeting the community's needs, especially for populations that are often invisible or underserved. There is a call for a more holistic approach that ensures inclusivity and recognizes the diverse circumstances leading to homelessness.
2. How do we change this? What would change look like? What are the challenges and opportunities? What do we need to do to change this? What resources or strategies are needed?
 - a. Need to evaluate what our CoC is responsible for addressing. Currently, we only focus on chronic--but that may need to change.
 - b. Innovative funding strategies and diversification of programs are required to address the unique challenges of doubled-up families and to fund services like rental assistance, case management, and food access.
 - c. Challenges include the limitation of resources, as current funding is not sufficient. Expanding beyond chronic homelessness, as that is our primary funding source as well.
 - d. Key strategies involve targeted interventions, advertising to raise program awareness, school coordination, and creating prevention programs that involve cities or counties for better reach and effectiveness.
3. What else needs to be a part of changing this? What goals or action steps?
 - a. A unified effort to address the silos between different service definitions and to bring forth a more comprehensive understanding of homelessness is crucial.
 - b. Goals include the need for a bigger shelter system, expanded services for families, and the advocacy for funding for prevention efforts.
 - c. Action steps involve creating a plan to identify ways in which we can develop a plan for the CoC to spearhead the creation of a prevention program for doubled up families and to expand the family shelter system.
- iv. Regional Issues in Madison and Dane County
 1. Why are we talking about this? How do folks feel about it?
 - a. The plan and housing are a regional effort, need a regional approach to solve it and a shared vision to carry it forward.

- b. Ensure services aren't being duplicated
 - c. Feels that it isn't unique to Madison and Dane County, these are common issues
 - d. Feels that there are some advantages to having a decentralized system, but need to have a mechanism and process to move work forward
- 2. How do we change this? What would change look like? What are the challenges and opportunities? What do we need to do to change this? What resources or strategies are needed?
 - a. COVID funding really helped response build out, but it's running out soon
 - b. Missed opportunity to bring other sector partners in—goal should be to catch people at the moment they are at risk and prevent homelessness—through partnerships with hospitals, schools, institutions, FBO, etc.
 - c. JFF is doing a good job of coordinating and outreach to entire county, but need more offices in Madison and someone doing what JFF does but for singles
 - d. Public needs to be educated about what is causing people to lose housing and public and politicians need to accept responsibility for their role in it
 - e. Centralized services
- 3. What else needs to be a part of changing this? What goals or action steps?
 - a. Concise plan to ID specific priorities and steps
 - b. Coordinate with cross-sector partners for buy-in, support and collaboration: FBO, politicians, hospitals, businesses, LL, jails, schools, mental health, etc.
 - i. Consider a tour of the system for politicians so they really understand what's happening
 - c. Make a single list of all providers and orgs in the system, disseminate widely
 - d. Torrie needs support and CoC needs more staff
 - e. Messaging and public education campaign about houselessness and CoC's response
- 4. Narrowing Down Topics for Goals and Subcommittees (Mihir Vohra, Homebase)
 - a. We ran out of time for this section, a survey was emailed to all committee members to complete in lieu of this exercise
- 5. Closing
 - a. Next month's meeting will be to December 1, 2023 from 11am to 1 pm.
 - b. Possible agenda items:
 - i. Subgroup and Goal Updates
 - ii. Kick-Off Planning