

Point in Time (PIT) Committee Minutes

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 11:00am- 12:00pm (noon)

Zoom

Attending: Sarah Lim, Nancy Vue, Sarah Churchill, Matt Julian, Frank Lewis, Butch Andreas, Chrisbelly Antimo, Becky Brickert, Nicole Christen, Kaitlyn Pritzl

1. Donation updates – UW Health, Chick-Fil-A
 - a) Cash donation - UW Health donating \$1500 (150 Kwik Trip Cards)
 - b) Sarah Churchill (Tellurian) - Chick-fil-A interested in facilitating a community donation drive; Tellurian would then accept items and create the giftbags to share with other Outreach Teams such as Madison Street Medicine; Sarah will follow-up with Chick-fil-A to move forward.
 - i) List of items to ask for:
 - Winter wool socks
 - Gloves
 - Mittens
 - Winter hats
 - Toothbrush
 - Hygiene items
 - Sleeping bags (adults and children)
 - Handwarmers
 - Sanitary wipes/hand sanitizers
 - ii) The Road Home - also putting on supply bags
 - iii) Leaves it up to team to bring food/warm coffee, soft foods, peanut allergy considerations
2. Teams and volunteer updates
 1. All teams have responded with sufficient volunteers
 2. No additional volunteers needed
 3. No identified special guests, likely to be assigned to Central teams.
3. Known location list
 - a) Google Maps with known locations identified and groups
 - b) Sarah will follow up with Outreach Teams for known-location feedback
 1. Potential changes in groups (splitting West, combing Central, splitting East 2)
 2. Planet Fitness to be added to known location in West 1
 3. Sarah will email Stoughton known locations to Sarah
 - i. Tellurian will do as post-count
4. PIT survey form review

Supplemental questions to consider

- 1) **Sexual orientation** (heterosexual/gay/lesbian/bisexual/questioning or unsure/other/don't know/prefer not to answer/data not collected)

Previous PIT Supplemental Question Examples

2023 supplemental questions

1. There are plans to build new shelters in Madison and we want to make it a place that people who are experiencing homelessness will use. What are some important things that we should think about in planning for a new shelter that would make you more likely to use it?

Comments:

Car campers only

2. If there was an alternate housing option to car camping, would you prefer that option?

Yes ___ No ___

Comments:

3. If there was a designated legal parking area for people who are unhoused, would you utilize it?

Yes ___ No ___

Comments:

2022 supplemental questions

There are plans to build new shelters in Madison and we want to make it a place that people who are experiencing homelessness will use. What are some important things that we should think about in planning for a new shelter that would make you more likely to use it?

2021 – no supplemental questions

2020 supplemental questions

1. Would you like to be contacted by an outreach team? If so, would you like to share your contact information so I can ask them to contact you in the next few days? This information will be confidential and will only be shared with outreach teams.

Name:

Best way to contact:

2. What are the two biggest reason you are not using the emergency shelter tonight?

They are **full**

- They are **far away** or I can't get there (transportation)
- They are too **crowded or loud**
- There are **bugs**
- There are **germs**
- I can't stay with my **partner, family, or friends**
- There is nowhere to store **my stuff** or my stuff is not safe
- I can't **park** my car
- They don't accept my **pet – no one**
- I have issues with **shelter staff**
- I am **barred** from services
- I have **used up my 90 days**
- I am **saving my 90 days** for bad or cold weather nights

I feel unsafe due to...

- Violence**
- Harassment**
- Uncleanliness** (mold, etc.)

There are too many rules or the rules are too strict, specifically about...

- Alcohol and drug use**
- Curfew**
- Other rules** (specify: _____)

I don't feel culturally accepted due to...

- Discrimination**
- Other (Specify: _____)
- I have other reasons (Specify: _____)

Thank you so much again for taking the time to speak with us tonight and sorry again for the disturbance. Would you have any questions or comments for me?

Other Community Examples

San Francisco

PRIMARY CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS

Widespread homelessness is the result of a severe shortage in affordable housing, a widening gap between rising housing costs and stagnant wages, and an insufficient safety net for individuals with disabling conditions. Though these drivers are structural and systemic, individuals often have one or multiple major events or factors that precipitate their homelessness. An inability to secure adequate housing can lead to an inability to address other basic needs, such as health care and adequate nutrition.

Over one-fifth (21%) of respondents identified job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness. Fourteen percent (14%) reported eviction. Twelve percent (12%) identified drugs or alcohol, 9% reported an argument with a friend or family member who asked them to leave, and 7% cited mental health issues as the primary cause of their homelessness.

In an effort to better understand immediate precipitants of homelessness, survey respondents were asked a follow-up question to identify if the primary cause of their homelessness was related to the COVID-19 pandemic or a California wildfire. Seventeen percent (17%) of respondents attributed their homelessness to the COVID-19 pandemic and 3% to a California wildfire.

Figure 23. PRIMARY CAUSE OF HOMELESSNESS (TOP SIX RESPONSES EACH YEAR)

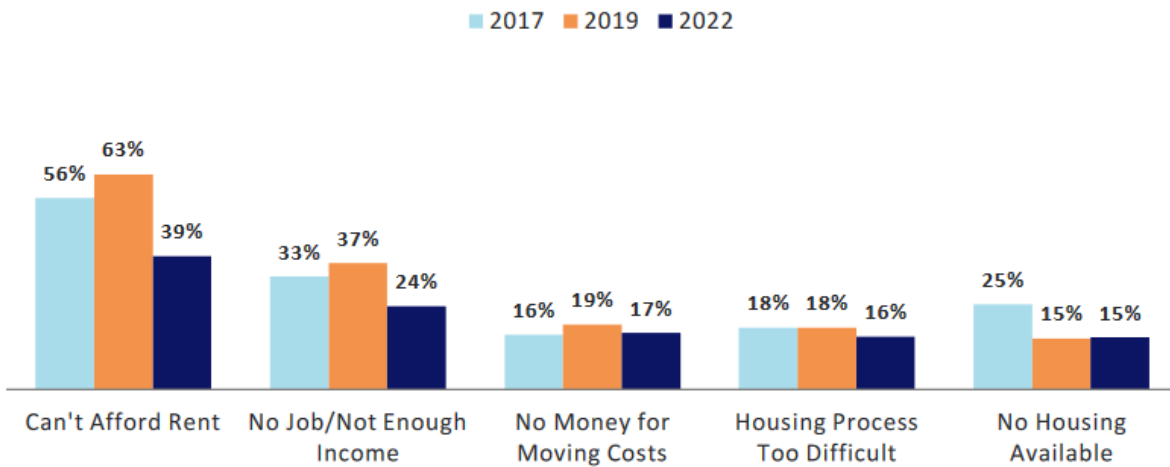
2017	%	2019	%	2022	%
Lost Job	22%	Lost Job	26%	Lost Job	21%
Alcohol or Drug Use	15%	Alcohol or Drug Use	18%	Eviction	14%
Eviction	12%	Eviction	13%	Alcohol or Drug Use	12%
Argument with Family or Friend Who Asked You to Leave	13%	Argument with Family or Friend Who Asked You to Leave	12%	Argument with Family or Friend Who Asked You to Leave	9%
Divorce/Separation/Breakup	10%	Mental Health Issues	8%	Mental Health Issues	7%
Mental Health Issues	6%	Incarceration	7%	Incarceration/Probation and Parole Restrictions	7%

Obstacles to Obtaining Permanent Housing

Many individuals experiencing homelessness face significant barriers in obtaining permanent housing. These barriers can range from housing affordability and availability to accessing economic and social supports (e.g., increased income, rental assistance, and case management) needed to access and maintain permanent housing.

Respondents were asked what prevented them from obtaining housing. Over one-third (39%) reported that they could not afford rent. Nearly one-quarter (24%) reported a lack of job or enough income, followed by 17% who cited having no money for moving costs. Most other respondents reported a mixture of other income or access related issues, such as difficulty with the housing process (16%) and lack of housing available (15%).

Figure 24. OBSTACLES TO OBTAINING PERMANENT HOUSING (TOP FIVE RESPONSES EACH YEAR)



Questions to consider adding:

1. What are the two biggest reasons/barriers you are not using the emergency shelter tonight?
Sarah will draft with new options; proposal will be brought to next meeting.

Next meeting:
Wed 1/10/2024 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM