

July Doubled Up Committee

July 17, 2024

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82261038783?pwd=5RSaaDbHejLlfips3Xc5l0cyEPGOR.1>

Meeting ID: 822 6103 8783

Passcode: 380277

Attendance: Jani Koester, Claire Bergman, Emily Gebheim, Melissa Mennig, Jillian Stacey, Nicole Verhagen, Takisha Jordan, Tiara Smith, Alicia Spry, Marilyn Feil

1. Update on DU Pilot: **Johneisha**
 - a. In final stages of implementation process. Referral partners trained in how to use portal. Portal should be opening soon.
2. Family shelter overflow and shelter updates/conversations: **Melissa Mennig**
 - a. Salvation Army is in the middle of a capital campaign to raise funds for new family and women's shelter on East Washington. Still have not met goal and bids that were previously submitted prior to COVID have since grown in cost.
 - b. Melissa Sorenson is happy to come in to talk more about plans, goals, reality, ect. To this group
 - c. Thinking about night-by-night shelter options along with current space at Milwaukee Street.
 - d. Overflow winter shelter - previously have been using some emergency weather funding plus additional funds from the county through hotel stays via Catalyst for Change. There is money left over and additional funds that will come in for emergency weather. Starting to have conversations with Catalyst for Change (contract through December 2024) and will be scheduling a meeting with Salvation Army.
 - e. Data showed that the majority of the population who benefited from the funding and hotel support was families.
 - f. Could the schools or external non-profits outside of Madison be additional partners to ensure families have easier access to the hotel opportunity during extreme weather.
 - g. Difficulty with getting in touch with the Salvation Army. Safety has been a huge topic of conversation in regards to feeling safe with staff at the shelter. Make sure we are reporting things that we hear to Melissa or Salvation Army management. Use of the [grievance procedure](#) - does sometimes feel like it is more work for the client and there is fear for repercussions. Things can be shared with Melissa Mennig.
 - h. Having to call every week is a challenge. Are there other technological options? Could you call every month instead?
 - i. Can we utilize the LEC to do more support and opportunity for those in shelter to share their grievances or struggles with the shelter system? Use of circles to build trust, relationships, and have a safe space to share.
3. Workgroup Time: **Claire**

- a. Potential workgroup/subcommittee:
 - i. Community Plan: [specific Doubled-up pieces](#)
 - ii. Tax Credit Properties - What is our focus on this?
 - 1. When the city and county negotiate with properties, they can put in preferences in the tenant selection process. Do we advocate for more preferences for doubled-up families?
 - 2. Continuing to grow those relationships with developments. WayForward has built relationships with local developments to support doubled-up families.
 - 3. Looking further at screening criteria: eviction record, immigration status
 - 4. Dane County person who knows about Section 42: Jenna Wuthrich Wuthrich.Jenna@danecounty.gov
- 4. Seeking another Co-Chair
 - a. If interested in being a co-chair, please reach out to Claire.
- 5. Upcoming Events
 - a. Save the Date for Statewide Homelessness Awareness Event, Friday, November 1st, 2024 at 12:00pm. Community Partners Campus, 360 Grand Avenue, Wausau, WI.
 - b. Save the date for the Dane County Homelessness Awareness Summit, Tuesday, November 12th at Alliant Energy Center. An all day event to learn about the homelessness crisis in Dane County, how homeless services function in the county, and a time to connect with your municipality and local officials to talk about the needs of our communities!
 - c. ECHW child care case manager training, 4C Odana Rd, Sept 26th
- 6. Open Discussion
 - a. Elected officials asked for doubled up data when learning that there is a hotel with a large population of families experiencing homelessness - Johneisha has data presentation

Next Meeting: August 27, 2024, 3:00-4:30 pm