



Shelter Providers Committee Minutes - December 7th 2022

Facilitator: Fares Fares

Notetaker: MacKenzie Byer

- **Introductions:** Merissa Barber-Smith, Sarah Lim, Kim Sutter, Alicia Spry, Casey Yanta, Fares Fares, Linette Rhodes, Aurelius Leslie, Ava Grotting, Lisa Hemauer, Melissa Mennig, Lindsay K. (CAC), Zach Stephen, Michelle Hemp, Matt Julian, Tahkaney Becknell, Tara Barica, Takisha (Lived Experience Committee), MacKenzie Byer, Sarah Lim, Kristin Olgem, Lucia Ludesma, Nici Hawkins, Rosa Rhoden.

City & County updates

- **Purpose-built men's shelter**

-Starting in 2023, a lot of movement in projects.

-1902 Bartillon: started community outreach in October 2022. County and City staff hosted focus groups from community partners, surrounding areas, and people with lived experience. Sessions at all shelters as well as libraries. Wanted to hear priorities with lens of trauma-informed design to inform architects. Need to know what the space will look like to host necessary services in the building. Continuing with engagement.

-Draft received of trauma-informed report for review with shopworks, design team, and shelter stakeholders.

-Designing will start in February 2023. Architect will view written report as well as feedback from shelter providers/community to start modeling building.

-Preliminary design plans solid by February 2023 as well as an idea of budget/what services are needed to be funded in shelter.

-Budget authority conversations with City and County to happen in new year.

- **Community plan consultant**

-Request for proposal for more funding to end homelessness. Review team chose organization called Home Base. Common council allowing progress in moving forward and finalizing contract for

-City and County need to provide feedback for HUD in 2023. Will try to get consistent feedback from community and keep everyone informed on next steps.

-HSC community planning committee. Announcement will be sent out to invite people to join committee/develop updated plan for homeless services.

- **Youth homelessness demonstration project (YHDP)**

-City moving forward to accept 2.2 million over the next two years for local community.

-Grant opportunity that HSC applied for. City is lead agency on behalf of COC.

-City will accept the funds

-Youth action board as guide. They have selected three agencies to move forward with rapid rehousing, transitional housing, and other services. Agencies elected: Urban Triage, The Road Home, and LGBT Outreach.

-Urban Triage: re zoning downtown. 141 S. Butler hostel to be changed into mission house. Serving ages 17-24.



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Shelter utilization & other updates

- **Shelter refining policy (Fares Fares)**

-Men's shelter is moving toward 2025 permanent shelter and restorative justice approach. Removal of suspension procedure. Guests will be isolated or supported for behavior that would otherwise result in suspension from services.

-Upstart of partnership with Tellurian to offer virtual peer support: mental health/crisis/addiction support at shelters. 30 minute sessions with peer support specialists 6-9 pm.

-Recovery services being improved as well; safety supplies available, sober mentorship

EWN Hotel Vouchers (Melissa Mennig)

-Outreach and family shelter providers sought solutions for people having to sleep outside due to inaccessibility to shelter for a variety of reasons.

-Extreme weather hotel vouchers intended for families who can't get into shelters (up to 4 per night) and single individuals who are banned.

-CFC will coordinate distribution of vouchers. Referral process is very limited.

-Casey Yanta at Salvation Army or outreach makes referrals to Mike & John from CFC for verification and then complete process.

-For families not connected to services with school aged children, Jani Koester is the point of contact.

-Connecting with non-english speaking folks: using translation phone service, CFC has English, Arabic, French, and Spanish speaking staff.

-City has a similar voucher system that has been available all year. Used by street outreach on nights of emergency weather situations etc.

-Weekends: will check weather and be prepared to schedule throughout weekend by Friday. All referrals M-F.

-Please follow referral process (Through Casey and Jani only).

- **Gender Equal Access Issues**

- Fares Fares

-Individuals moving in between Salvation Army and Men's shelter

-Idea of changing to officially co-ed

-Looking for equitable and inclusive solution.

-Meeting Monday to discuss.

- **Miscellaneous/walk-on items** (as time allows)

-Domestic Abuse training for shelter staff.

-Accessible transportation committee forming. Contact Melissa Mennig.

- **Next meeting**

Wednesday, 2/1/23 @ 9:00am