

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Meetings the Third Wednesday of the
month at 9:00am at The Road Home
890 West Wingra Dr. Madison, WI 53713

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN WORKING ON?

1. We wrote a letter giving input on Assembly Bill 771

- AB 771 was a bill that was passed in January
 - The bill raises the maximum amount a landlord can charge a tenant for a consumer credit report, from \$20 to \$25 and the landlord can charge up to \$25 to perform a criminal background check for prospective tenants who have resided in other states.
 - Specifies when a landlord can charge tenants for repairs.
 - Allows landlords to communicate about needing entry to a unit and other matters via electronic communication such as text or email.
 - Restricts rent abatement to only things that can impact safety and health of tenants, or substantially impacts the use and occupancy of the premises
 - Allows landlords to receive information from utility companies in the event that a tenant is going to be disconnected. This bill also allows landlords to be able to call the utility companies and get information on a tenant's back balance.
 - Evictions will come off of CCAP in 10 years vs. 20 that it was before and Stipulated Dismissals will come off after 3 years.
 - They wanted to put restrictions on emotional support animals but could not as it conflicted with federal law.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN WORKING ON?

2. Mark Pocan's office solicited a local opinion from us on Senate Bill 611 that talked about changing the definition of homelessness.
 - We provided feedback and sent it to him.
3. Torrie and Megan O put on a training HUD policies on gender identity.
4. A letter was written to City Alders in support of an increase of funding for Homeless Services

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN WORKING ON?

5. We wrote letters with specific asks for the city and county budgets
 - ◉ Housing locator for 18-24 year olds (Parisi has said he will be putting this in his budget proposal)
 - ◉ Money for Rapid Re-housing programs for Single adults.
 - ◉ Money for support services for Permanent Supportive Housing programs for single adults.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS SUMMIT

- ◉ We got to together to talk about the barriers in the system and gaps in our community that keep us from effectively addressing youth homelessness in Dane County.
- ◉ In the process of putting together recommendations for addressing youth homelessness in our community.
- ◉ We focused on 4 areas to focus our community efforts:
 - Housing, Policy/Legislation, Advocacy and Awareness, and The Youth Demonstration Project

WHAT DO WE HAVE IN THE WORKS?

- ◉ Trauma Informed Care Training for HSC Members (date TBD, but likely in January)
- ◉ Training on Advocacy with Local Governments
- ◉ Development of a more systematic way to advocate for Homeless Services funding on the city and county level.
 - Common Advocacy Agenda (What do we think are the most important things to ask for that year?)
 - Getting a calendar of important meetings.
 - Being strategic in sending multiple people to meetings and thinking about would be the best person to send to speak on specific issues relating to our asks.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS?

- ◉ If you are willing to speak at city and county meetings please put your name and email address on the sign up being passed around.
- ◉ If you are interested in attending Education and Advocacy meetings they are open to anyone and do not require an ongoing commitment.
- ◉ If you have questions or feedback for Education and Advocacy Committee you can do so by contacting Jenna Schmitt (Chair) at jennas@trhome.org