Committee Meeting 05/11/2022 11:00am-12:00pm (In attendance: Marjorie Lewis, Michelle Hemp, Rose Manjon, Matt Julian, Jani Koester, Jessica Oswald, Koleena Schmidt, Pam Anderson, Tyson Vitale, Jami Crespo, Nici Hawkins, Maria Tran, Chara Taylor, Linette Rhodes, Jael Currie, John Adams, Sarah Anderson)

- Most committee members are interested in advocacy outside of this monthly meeting
  - It can be helpful to start going to public meetings just to listen
  - Speaking imperfectly is better than not speaking
  - Being present is important and be a catalyst for change

- Links from today:
  [City and County Advocacy Opportunities - Google Docs](https://docs.google.com)
  [County Committee Info for Homeless Services Consortium - Google Docs](https://docs.google.com)

- EAC Committee Members feel free to edit these notes!

  - Tyson and Koleena where at the City County committee meeting:
    - Tyson was not sure about policy changes and recommendations and how helpful they are to people experiencing homelessness
    - Koleena’s take away was that it was a place for concerns to be voiced, Tyson mentioned need for access to
      - transportation and bus passes
      - Safe car parking
      - The hotels ending
    - The concerns were being heard and processed, timeline for shelter and architecture
    - Did not feel as though action would come, more of a space to talk about issues
    - Next steps unclear

  - Jani Koester:
    - Johneisha from the County was looking for census data from other populations such as doubled-up people

  - What happens after these meetings?
    - They are an advisory group, there is a lot of support but not sure how influential they are in making actual change
- Jani educated the committee re. people who don’t fit the definition of literal homelessness but also need help (individuals and families doubled-up)

- Marjorie - There were no official motions because County Supervisors had not been assigned and did not attend

- Tyson:
  - City and County combined
  - Why can’t the city just give out bus passes

- Marjorie:
  - There can be a struggle to think outside the box
  - If the city can’t afford bus passes in their budget perhaps the County could? In practice do things like this happen?
  - County Supervisors have more power, if they are there there may be more impact, the city county committee may already agree with us

  ❖ Let’s think strategically about what we can do that would have the most impact

  ❖ Tyson, Linette and Koleena regularly attend the meetings

- Linette Rhodes: this is only an advisory committee, open conversations
  - Feedback goes to community development block grant committee
    - Their finance committee finance some homeless services
    - It is an opportunity to hear what is and isn’t working and where to focus operating and budget (mayor and city)
    - Linette says that her and her colleagues cannot increase their budget
    - Budget comes out in June, budget amendments (added money/programs) happen in October
    - Contracts renew every 4 years, contracts renew in 2023, 2.4 million in homeless services that will automatically renew
    - Stimulus money from CARES Act money will run out, tough conversations in 2023 about how to support programs that have been successful with the CARES money

- Marjorie: How can beginners participate?
  - How can the average person engage

- Linette:
  - likes to hear our questions
  - could create powerpoints to help us understand where our advocacy goes
  - could provide us an understanding of what programs the City of Madison stimulus money went to, Linette will work on that for us

- Jael:
Agrees with what Linette said
It would be nice to have capacity to have an organized calendar of events and committees that we could advocate change with
A better understanding of how the City and County can align budget and priorities
The metro redesign sessions are overwhelming and full of information, this meeting is helpful to pick apart community needs

❖ **TASKS BREAKDOWN:**

❖ Nici Hawkins: Resource with different HUD program links
  ➢ take on the task of exploring this and finding out what is relevant and what may be valuable to us

❖ Participate in Criminal Justice Council: place for people in power to hear a provider perspective
  ➢ Group: Tyson Vitale, Matt Julian, Marjorie Lewis, Sarah Anderson

● November Homelessness Awareness Month:
  ○ Doubled up work group started the convo but the issue is homelessness in general/awareness
  ○ Every other month an awareness event is scheduled
    ■ 1st one is on the school perspective
    ■ November: kick off at Capitol, try to get a rep (Governer doing a proclamation)
    ■ Kits put together for groups to have awareness events
    ■ Would like to bring awareness to the County
    ■ Right now the work group would like assistance with their November event
      ● Contact Janie: jkoester@madison.k12.wi.us