

## Reimagine CE Workgroup – March 10, 2023

Attendees: Sarah Lim, Torrie Kopp Mueller, Erin Kollenbroich, Brenda Konkel, Molly King, Zach Stephen, Patrick Duffie, Brad Hinkfuss, Johnneisha Prescott, Takisha Jordan, Jodie Haas, Aurey Leslie, Alicia Spry, Jennifer Pryor, Courtney Spears, Chara Taylor, Maureen Quinlan, Amy Steffes, Karen Andro, Taylor Newell Smith, Garrett Olson, Francesca Atkinson, Tim Bogosh, Butch, Jessica Oswald, Kristina Dux, Liz Duffie, Marilyn Feil

### What were your takeaways from the HUD TA training?

Some of our takeaways (Sarah, Chara, Torrie, Patrick, Zach)

- Center on equity. The workgroup is not going to end racism but we can advance a more anti-racist homeless response system.
- People with lived experience should be at the table.
- In order to identify inequities to address, start by reviewing the CoC's system performance data by race and ethnicity (quantitative) and discuss why data looks like that (qualitative).
- How the system is experienced is another big consideration. Talk to participants and providers who have experienced the system and evaluate the process with trauma-informed lens.
- Process is more important than the outcome (e.g. new assessment tool) as we need to continuously review and adapt.
- One size doesn't fit all. We need to make the local decisions.

### Discussion:

- One size doesn't fit all is very important to remember. One community tried numerous ways of prioritization. Need to try things to find what works best in our community.
- I understand we need to have a local tool, but it is hard to figure out the next steps.
- Need to define what we mean by centering equity – what does this mean for us?
- Do we start with someone else's tool and look at our local data? TA Response was- No. Recommend starting with the VI-SPDAT. But, we do not need to follow that recommendation. Do we start with VI-SPDAT or look at something else?
- Will we go back and review data with our TA? Could ask our TA provider to provide additional technical assistance. Maybe they can provide comments as we go along. They might be able to provide office hours.
- There is enough people here that we can probably divide up work and have each of us explore different areas of data
- Should think about when we might do a mid-point report to the CoC Board
- Once we have some ideas, should we have a more public presentation? Who would we invite to give that input?
- Torrie can give updates to the Board in her CoC Coordinator Update. May want to provide information periodically to the Membership.
- Would be helpful if we had training in these meetings about how to run reports and make sure they are run correctly?
- Can we have people listen in to the conversation? Not necessarily part of the workgroup, but listening.
- Should this be an open group? Keep it the size it is, but share out?
- Torrie could create a page on the HSC website
- Like the idea of having the listen-only option so they are able to listen in. Could record meetings so people have the opportunity to listen in
- How can we use this space to start working? Breakout rooms, jamboards, etc. Need to be more hands on in this process
- Getting more input locally, especially from people with lived experience
- Maybe have smaller groups meeting outside of the large group meeting
- Increase meeting frequency

- Could we use google forms to collect information, enjoyed how shelter focus groups worked with very specific populations
- Community Plan – how can we have this work as a part of those engagement sessions, align efforts with other focus groups
- Talking about 2 different things – how open are meetings AND what’s next, move forward with looking at system, move forward to next steps
- Could we adopt process that Board uses? Guests can speak on certain items, but the rest of time is spent on work group members
- We already have 20-30 people in the work group, but concerned about getting too big
- Could we do a preview of jamboard? This would give people a chance to put in their own thoughts instead of someone else writing all of the comments.
- I think this will be great once we look at the data
- Need to decide how to make meetings available to others: invite others, listen only, record session, etc.
- Think we should wait until we get further into the work to invite others
- Worry about spending too much time catching people up which doesn’t leave time for moving forward
- We have 41 people on the workgroup, but not everyone attends all meetings. About 25 people are regularly attending. Maybe send a survey to this group so we can decide how to make meetings open OR we can make a decision here
- Jamboard will help accommodate different participation styles, will have this for next session
- Next time notes in google docs so folks can follow along if they want
- Takisha has another platform that might be helpful and will send it – Mural
- Go into data and then survey out about openness of meetings – This is what we will do!

## Austin Prioritization Index

“Historically, challenges and barriers have been created in how we face ending homelessness in an equitable way. The Austin Prioritization Index (API), developed specifically with racial and gender identity equity lenses, is the culmination of nearly two years of work by the Equity Task Group and members of the Homelessness Response System (HRS) Leadership Council.

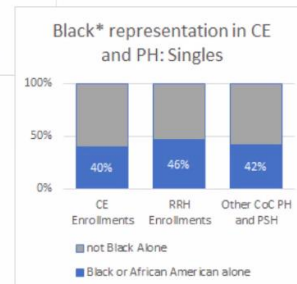
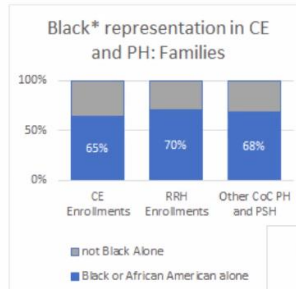
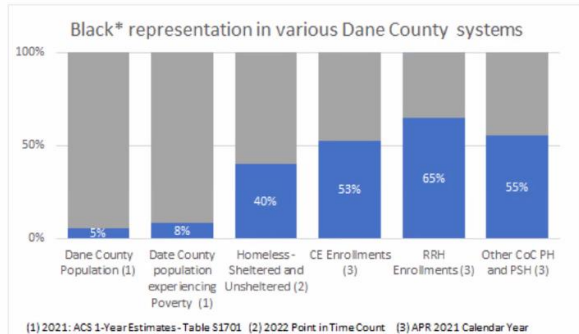
The biggest change that the API represents is one of customization. The API is a tool created based specifically on the needs of our community with the first focus being in equity. Many communities rely on the VI-SPDAT or similar “off the shelf” tools that have been standardized as a “one size fits all” response. We know that one size fits all simply doesn’t work. The API was created for the needs and with data of the Austin community. By researching our own disparities and identifying the points of vulnerability that contribute to and detract from our equity goals, we have been able to approve a “living” prioritization tool customized to our community’s needs.”

### Dane CoC Data Review

#### Available data to review

- Highlights on race
- Highlights on ethnicity
- System performance measures by race and ethnicity (10/1/21-9/30/22)
  - Days homeless - how long are people experiencing homelessness
  - Exits – where do people exit, permanent housing?
  - Returns to homelessness – once exiting, do people come back to the homeless system?
- We are highlighting the largest groups for race and ethnicity. There are other races that can be looked at.

# Dane CoC: Highlights on Race



About 5% of Dane county population identifies as Black

Looking at poverty, 8% of total Dane county population experiencing poverty are Black

Looking at homelessness (sheltered & unsheltered, Category 1 homeless) – 40% are Black, this is where we really see systemic disparities

Coordinated Entry (CE) enrollments – referred to housing priority list 53% are Black

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) enrollments (people who had been on list) – 65% of everyone enrolled in RRH are Black

Other CoC Permanent Housing (PH) & Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) – 55% of those served are Black

I can send link where you can see all the data and all of the races together, but the data is a little bit older. It can be a bit overwhelming to look at all of the races together. As a starting point, we decided to highlight the largest groups.

Differences between households with children and those without children

Can we breakdown this data a bit more?

Families:

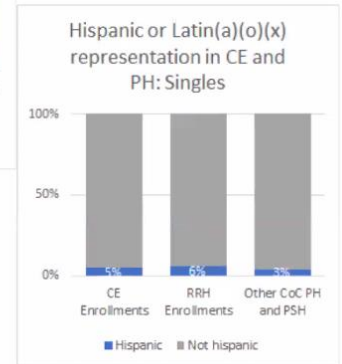
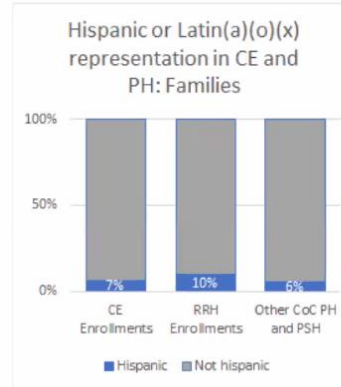
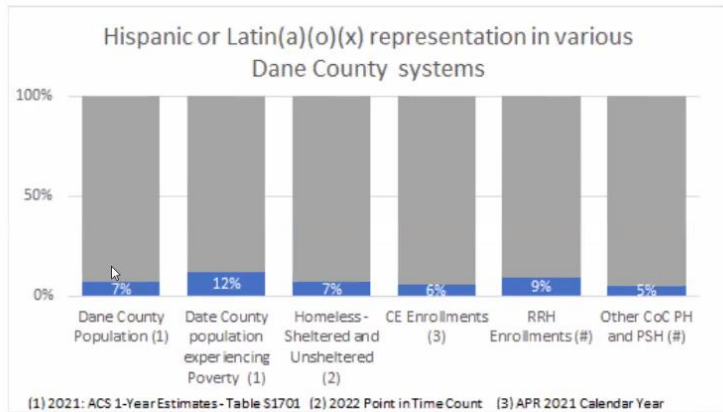
CE Enrollments, 65% are Black, all people in RRH – 70% are Black, 68% of those in PSH/PH are Black

This data is looking at the head of household's race

Singles: CE Enrollments – 40% are Black, RRH – 45% are Black, PH/PSH – 42% are Black

It appears that there are not disparities, but we don't know who is not accessing services. Should look at all races experiencing poverty to compare. Out of each race, what percentage is experiencing poverty?

# Dane CoC: Highlights on Ethnicity



Same categories and info as first chart, but related to ethnicity.

What are the reasons for low enrollments of Latinx households? Do we know why the numbers look like this? Is this related to documented vs. undocumented? Is it due to language barriers? Related to trust in the system?

“Citizenship vs prioritization score vs engagement vs voluntary termination - to Alicia's point, this may be where qualitative data is key”

Can someone get into trouble for not having documentation and accessing services? Could it affect our funding if we use it for someone who is not documented?

One outreach program mentioned that people who are undocumented or on the lifetime registry can take longer to get into housing and may be reluctant to connect with systems.

Identify different points where disparities can happen. Is the CE system a place where we can intervene? Immigration status does not affect connection to programs, but may have issues connecting to housing. CE can't necessarily fix that.

Haven't looked at VI-SPDAT score. Seems like there is a disparity in prioritization. Is CE creating disparities and where do we see that?

How to look at gap of people who are connected to a service, but not connected to coordinated entry

Need to think about what custom reports/analysis we need next.

Next meeting will start with review of days homeless