



ALLIANCE FOR HOUSING

C4 Meeting Minutes 10.13.2021

Attendees: Regina Cannon, Leah McCall, Audrey White, Ashley Burton, Holly Ellis, Julia Steinberg, Tiffany Jones, Deirdre Mercer, Liz McLachlan, Ernestine McRae, Erinn Johnson, Barbara Burke, Eric Burton, Anne Harpe, Ryan Hertz, Lil Stoneback, Jayesh Patel, Jessica Keenan, Karen Plants, Danielle Redilla, D'Asia McDonald, Rachel Densmore, Shannon Smith, Melanie Grund

Agenda:

1. Assessment Review: quantitative and qualitative data
2. Identifying which inequities we will address as a community
3. Setting the goals – the equitable results we do want to see
4. Determining the contributing factors and root causes of the inequities
5. Developing Strategies to address those factors and root causes

Issues/Discussion:

- Funds running out for hoteling homeless individuals; phone calls are not being answered and call back time is long.
- Racial equity was rightfully at the forefront of every conversation around poverty and homelessness, and it seems the issue might be overshadowed by the impact of the pandemic and other issues and losing steam.
- Equitable communities of opportunity.
- Portable vouchers.
- Equitable CES prioritization tool.
- Housing stock shortage.
- Incentives such as scoring system.
- Advocacy group.
- Section 8 buyouts.
- Having data & knowing how to use it.
- Returning to communities with little opportunity may increase Black/Brown folks returning to homelessness at higher rates.
- Implicit bias.
- RRH best used for one-time hardships.
- The way we use the bulk of our continuum's resources is regulated.
- ARPA funds.
- Policy/system ideas contributing to equitable solutions.
- Structural and systemic disadvantages and disenfranchisements.

Achieving Equitable Results – Achieve better outcomes for all while addressing factors that contribute to racial inequities and block access to opportunities.



Equitable Results Framework- Look at data and decide where we want to be:

- Data Landscaping
- Future Visioning
- Root Cause Analysis
- Strategies
- Action Steps
- Evaluate & Refine Strategies
- Equitable Outcomes

Review of data: homeless numbers by race, length of time homeless by race, first time homeless by race, recurring homelessness by race.

Key Concepts:

- Examining and Attending to Systemic Factors
- Using Racial Equity to Define the work
- Aligned Contributions
- Distinguishing between Equity and Equality
- Using Targeting Universalism
- Including Lived Experience

Goal statement:

By this time next year, we want to reduce by 20% each:

- Length of time homeless
- Rate of return to homelessness
- Rates of first time homeless

Breakout Groups Discussion

Group 1 - [Black Individuals Disproportionate Length of Time Homeless](#)

Contributing Factors:

- Incarceration rates/criminal backgrounds.
- Credit score.
- Transportation.
- Access to living wage jobs.
- Housing inequality.
- Income disparities.
- Lack of social supports.

Strategy:

- Advocacy, partnership, education for caseworkers/frontline staff and program participant.
- County-wide decisions, not just city-wide to break up pockets of poverty.
- Apartment utilization rates.



Group 2 - [Black Individuals Disproportionately Returning to Homelessness](#)

Contributing Factors:

- Employment barriers.
- Housing opportunities locations/landlord mindsets.
- Follow up case management for life skills.
- Oversimplified program models/efficacy.

Strategies:

- Follow- up, additional support services.
- Systems in general, racial injustice, landlords, financial institutions, criminal justice system, etc.
- Access to services/barriers to services.
- Transportation, physical access.
- Locations of housing and landlords.
- Increase the length of time support is given to individuals/families once housed to try and add security around the housing they have been able to locate.
- Ask those with lived experience reason why they returned to homelessness.

Group 3 - [Black Individuals Experiencing Higher Rates of Homelessness for the First Time](#)

Contributing Factors:

- Childcare lacking.
- Housing bias.
- Job security.
- Limited social support network.
- Reduced eligibility for benefits as income increases.

Strategies:

- Helping to connect to services/funds.
- Creating equity in tools for determining access to resources/matrix to adjust VI.
- Partnering with community resources.
- First home purchasing programs.

Next Steps:

- Group to meet and complete Strategy Action Steps/Project Plan.
- Email [Regina](#) or [Genesis](#) with "Oakland" in subject line.