



Reimagine CE Workgroup Phase II #3

October 13, 2023



Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Reimagine CE Workgroup Goal
3. Objectives for Change Statement
4. Indicators of Success



Reimagine CE Workgroup Goal

The Reimagine CE Workgroup is a workgroup of the HSC's Core Committee.

It has been charged with formulating recommendations for a revised approach to prioritize individuals and families for RRH and PSH openings. These recommendations are slated for presentation to the HSC Board of Directors by December 2023.



Objective for Change Statement

Background:

In Dane County, the implementation of a Coordinated Entry (CE) system in 2016 marked a significant milestone in the journey toward addressing homelessness. This system aimed to ensure that individuals assessed as highly vulnerable gained access to the vital but limited housing resources they needed. Initially, like many Continuums of Care (CoCs) across the nation, Dane CoC adopted the VI-SPDAT as its primary prioritization tool.

However, over time, concerns and criticisms regarding the VI-SPDAT emerged. These criticisms included the intrusive and potentially stigmatizing nature of some of its questions and the emergence of racial disparities in VI-SPDAT scores, where whites tended to score higher than people of color.

In response to these concerns, Dane CoC initiated an overhaul of the CE prioritization process for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Rehousing Program (RRH) to better align it with local needs and priorities.



Objective for Change Statement (cont.)

Objective for the Changes:

Enhance the Coordinated Entry System in Dane County to better identify and prioritize households who are most likely to experience significant harm from homelessness.

Guiding Principles:

- **Equity-Centered:** We commit to an equity-centered approach that recognizes and addresses disparities, promoting equitable access to housing resources.
- **Trauma-Informed:** We embrace a trauma-informed approach to create a supportive and safe environment for those seeking housing resources.



Indicators of Success

Suggestions to Consider:

- Ensure that most referrals to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) are from near the top of the housing priority list.
- Ensure that those who score highest on the coordinated entry assessment are those most likely to experience significant harm from homelessness.
- Reduce the number of unnecessary Coordinated Entry (CE) assessments and follow-ups for individuals who are unlikely to receive housing resources.
- The referral to PSH and RRH by race and ethnicity will reflect the race and ethnicity makeup of the households experiencing homelessness eligible for those programs.