

May Doubled Up Committee

May 28, 2024, 3:00 PM

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/fgh-awug-ypd>

Or dial: (US) +1 208-843-1084 PIN: 361 581 200#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/fgh-awug-ypd?pin=2747275012707>

Attendance: Claire Bergman, Torrie Kopp Mueller, Emily Gebheim, Joel Baker, Takisha J, Jani Koester, Johneisha Prescott, Lucero Torres-Manzanares, Janie Riebe, Tiara Smith, Nicole Verhagen, Lisa Hemauer, Jillian Stacey

1. Update on DUW Pilot: **Johneisha**
 - a. Johneisha will be reaching out about partnerships to those who have reached out.
 - b. 78 families prioritized between the two agencies with the highest score being 38 to be prioritized. The current average score is 19. Some families in the low teens have been pulled from the list. Of those prioritized, 40 are in line for housing and support from case managers. 9 families have been housed thus far from WayForward and 1 is moving in this weekend!
 - c. Self-identified barriers to situation that are not asked on initial intake: income, cannot afford housing in county, lack of employment opportunities, childcare, poor credit, eviction record, poor housing history, abuse (physical, financial or coercive) - may be fleeing domestic violence or currently experiencing some form of abuse, language barrier, citizenship status.
 - d. Data on how long individuals/families have been in their doubled-up situation has not been conducted manually because of the extensive pulling of data it would require. Once the portal is up and running, it will be easier to pull these reports.
 - e. Finished testing last week on the portal and they had to submit for approval to allow access to the portal. Should hear later this week 5/28, if the portal is up and running for providers to use. There are also legal forms that need to be signed to allow data to be entered into the system - 4 different documents required to sign. These forms are currently with IT which will then be sent to the legal team. The legal team has already approved the forms, they just need to look at any adjustments made by IT.
 - f. Waiting for clarification if families can be supported with more than 18 months of services. Months of assistance is only limited to an address, not a person.
2. Countywide Language Access Update: **Johneisha**
 - a. There was previous concern about language access for county partners. All county partners are to have access to the language line or bilingual staff.
3. Community Plan and Dane County Regional Housing Strategy Updates. Where do we want to focus our efforts as a committee? **Claire**

- a. Potential workgroup/subcommittee:
 - i. Community Plan: specific Doubled-up pieces
 - 1. City and County staff are currently working on the 1-year implementation plan. Could be helpful to have a specific group to focus on doubled up pieces of the Community Plan
 - 2. Include the Youth Housing Demonstration Project Comprehensive Community Plan
 - 3. Torrie and Johneisha will connect about pulling together specific sections about Doubled-up
 - ii. Tax Credit Properties
- 4. Seeking another Co-Chair
 - a. If interested in being a co-chair, please reach out to Claire.
- 5. Upcoming Events
 - a. WHEDA Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) Proposed Change Input Session, Thursday, May 30, 2024: 11:00am - 12:00pm. [Link to Register](#).
 - b. Save the Date for Statewide Homelessness Awareness Event, Friday, November 1st, 2024 at 12:00pm. Community Partners Campus, 360 Grand Avenue, Wausau, WI.
- 6. Open Discussion
 - a. How do providers know of the availability of tax credit properties (30-60% AMI)?
 - i. Frequently it is simply calling and asking the property manager/landlord of available properties as well as determining if your client is eligible.
 - ii. Sometimes it will be shown on apartments.com but you still need to call for further information on the rent price.
 - iii. United Way has a committee that is discussing this further.
 - iv. This is part of the Community Plan to centralize this work.
 - v. Contracts with agencies for 30% units are often designated for Category 1 Homelessness rather than doubled-up families.
 - vi. The 60-80% are pushing the budgetary limits of families.
 - vii. Three-bedroom units are extremely hard to come by.
 - b. This is the first year that WHEDA has sent out the email to participate in this focus group to the Continuum of Care.
 - c. [Housing Tax Credit Program: Qualified Allocation Plan for the State of Wisconsin](#)
 - i. *Supportive Housing Set-Aside. Twelve and one half percent (12.5%) of the State housing per-capita Credit will be set aside for developments intending to provide supportive services in at least 25% of the units for individuals and/or families who are chronically homeless or prone to homelessness and who require access to supportive services to maintain housing (page 7).*
 - 1. No clear definition of homelessness: are we following HUD's definition, the educational definition or WHEDA's own definition?

Next Meeting: June 25, 2024, 3:00-4:30 pm