**North Star Workgroup (NSWG)**

**October 31, 2022**

**Attendees:**

Greg Bellville

Tim Wilson

Anne Starr

Kristie Oliver

Tonya Blasen

Kristina Seier

[Agenda](https://cfcs.memberclicks.net/assets/VisionCouncil/NorthStar/North%20Star%20Workgroup%2010.31.22%20Public%20Agenda.docx)

Meeting Purpose: To continue momentum toward creating a system where “Families & Children in Iowa are safe & secure, healthy & well in their communities.

Meeting Results: Welcome any new participants and understand who is in what roles moving forward. Be aware of the work being done towards the results and aligning the work.

Make action commitments that sustain the work.

**Result:** *Establish shared understanding of what participants want from the meeting.*

Brief overview of [Results Action Plan](https://cfcs.memberclicks.net/assets/VisionCouncil/OlderYouth/VC%20Results%20Action%20Plan%2010.2022.pptx) - 2.1.1a-2.1.1c (& think about 3.1.1 but not adopted at this time) obligations that NSWG will work towards going forward in FY2023, and all in agreement that these items align with the overall goal of the Vision Council (VC).

Amal Barre has stepped down from the VC, who do we ask to engage in NSWG/VC work? What are the next steps for this workgroup?

Need to think about ARPA funding & honing in on root causes with the focused population at the forefront: Families living with SUDs who have young children ages prenatal to 10 & Youth of color (ages 10 and older) and their families.

**Result:** *Create shared accountability and identify areas where continued efforts are needed.*

Anne Starr is going to the housing meeting for United Way of Central Iowa on November 15th- NSWG needs a 1-pager for her to present. How are we including zoning laws/requirements that impact housing development? How are we including rural housing issues? Are we shifting focus from statewide to localizing efforts (county specific)? What is our ask??? We don’t want a hollow initiative.

How/is DHS asking about evictions & housing concerns? Greg has asked this and will share the response. Would Kelli Soyer share data from Common Good- the original + updates? NSWG will explore Kids Count data for more insight on where to focus. Is there MCO data to explore? Utilize [countyhealthrankings](https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/iowa/2022/measure/factors/136/map) to show the need by county specifics. This may help us narrow our focus to certain counties, if that is the direction NSWG wishes to go.

Does the VC need branding/logo for recognition? This could be used on all 1-pagers when introducing ourselves to new groups/entities. Bethany can help make VC logo and share out to everyone to ask if there are objections before using.

Who needs to be invited to this table that has more housing expertise to help guide us? We need to accumulate a list of housing groups with contact information. We are looking at the United Way of Central Iowa meeting for Anne Starr as a potential point of contact. Tim identified Dan Garrett with Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) + State Housing Trust Fund, many years of experience with affordable housing. Greg has made contact with Cody Crawford of HHS. Reaching out to re-engage Ashley Velez? Potentially Matt Majeski for input in Johnson County and Cedar Rapids area? Jane Boyd of Four Oaks? Is there someone to engage in Wapello, IA or Decatur? Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA)? What are DHS/FCS workers seeing about difficulty in housing placements?

**Result:** *Identify measurable actions to make progress forward.*

Review of[Action Commitments](https://cfcs.memberclicks.net/assets/VisionCouncil/OlderYouth/Action%20Commitments%2010-19-22%20%281%29.xlsx). Identifying & recruitment was the main priority with emphasis on creation of a NSWG specific 1-pager for presenting to prospective groups.

Action Commitment (AC): Kristina with Kristie & Tim to create 1-pager for NSWG- to be completed by November 12th at the latest for NSWG to review before Anne presents.

AC: Kristina to review data from Kids Count & other sources for 1-pager.

AC: Anne to present 1-pager on November 15th to United Way of Central Iowa housing meeting.

AC: UNASSIGNED/PENDING create list of housing groups with contact information.

AC: UNASSIGNED(?) reach out to Ashley Velez to re-engage.

AC: Greg to follow up with Cody Crawford on potentially joining NSWG/VC.

AC: Tim to propose individuals from IEDA & reach out to Dan Garrett to potentially join NSWG/VC.

AC: Kristie to discuss housing prioritization as protective factors with Judge Owens and FF/FCS at FCS meeting & report talking points from FCS.

AC: Kristie & Tim to work on a survey to send out to service providers for November 21st meeting - this will create names for follow-up if interested in NSWG/VC.

**Result:** *Gather information to identify focus for future meetings.*

NSWG is working to create a 1-pager + ask and focusing on recruitment to broaden our scope and increase knowledge of housing issues.