**North Star Workgroup (NSWG)**

**February 21, 2023**

**Attendees:**

Ana Clymer

Cody Crawford

Danielle Rodriguez

Jamie Robinson

Jen Royer

Kristie Oliver

Kristina Seier

Tonya Blasen

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

**Meeting Results:** Ensure momentum between work sessions. Create space to problem solve barriers to progress. Make action commitments that sustain the work.

**Result:** *Group shares work since the last meeting and creates space for problem solving and shared accountability.*

Kristina & Kristie met with Courtney Guntly & Ehren Stover-Wright with Institue for Community Alliance (ICA) to discuss a potential data pull of ICA’s tracking of homelessness (runaway youth, doubled-up, assessments when seeking services) in 96 counties. ICA advised keeping the connection to economic instability. *What narrative do we want to tell?* Once we know this, ICA is willing to pull data from up to two decades to help us analyze!

*What is corporate buy-in to get our target populations (Older youth of color 10-18+ & families with substance use and children under 10) stable and secure housing?*

We know that substance use can cause issues with property damage and deter landlords from renting to families and individuals living with substance use issues. *What is the landlord incentive for these populations? How do we involve them? Is there an education opportunity to discuss low-income renters & collaborate with services (Dupaco or AHNI Model)? Who else should be at the table? How can we draw connections for case workers & inculde/educate cultural issues such as multi-generational homes?*

Kristina & Kristie met with Jill Padgett regarding data pull of responses to Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) to track measures like emotional wellbeing, positive relationships, school performance & status, family history, substance use history, skills in relation to housing status/living arrangements. The potential would be to analyze patterns and move towards using IDA as a prevention assessment. The goal is to provide data analysis and talking points to present at the Vision Council in-person meeting (3/15/23) & the Coalition’s legislative breakfast (3/16/23).

NSWG reviewed the previously used [one-pager](https://cfcs.memberclicks.net/assets/VisionCouncil/NorthStar/Housing%20Document%2011-9-22.pdf) made to present to UWCI housing meeting in November. What talking points are needed? This will change depending on the audience, but can we improve the one-pager and add/subtract as needed by situation? Or have a specific Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) to pair with it?

For PDSA: What is the entity’s process for approaching housing concerns? What is the

DEI practice? Need a live document to add questions

Discussed Iowa Community Action Association as they are a neutral party that serves our target populations to attain & keep stable, secure housing. Data captured of point in time of available housing options. Should we invite Katherine of ICAA?

Cody shared information regarding the recovery communities he serves and how it increases community & connectedness through housing near another family/individual living with substance abuse concerns & recovery. How do we replicate or bring to other programs?

Result: Identify measurable actions to make progress forward.

Action Commitments (AC) Danielle: Share PUSH data with the group, or send to Kristina to share out.

AC Krisite: invite Kelli Soyer back due to new position as President & CEO of United Ways of Iowa.

AC Kristina: Create & share live document to keep housing questions.

AC Everyone: Lots of discussion on both starting broad with full scope of Iowa & acting locally - what will we focus on, who in the community is already doing the work, and who amongst us will make contact and help with movement? Is there a model or pilot we want to replicate & create an ask?

AC Tim: ICH members both non/voting contact info?

Result: Share reflections and insights to create alignment.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world;

indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

-Margaret Mead.