



Simplifying Supportive Housing Resources Working Group Meeting

March 11, 2025





Today's objectives

- ❑ Explore and scope out each of the four goal areas
- ❑ Build knowledge of MN Housing Programs
- ❑ Discuss decision-making preferences



Today's Agenda

- I. Welcome & Warm Up
 - II. Discussion on Decision-Making
- Break
- I. Scoping Goal Areas
- Break
- I. Minnesota Housing Program Briefing
 - II. Public Comment
 - III. Closure and Exit Ticket



Warm-up/Introductions



Photo by [Timo Volz](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Guiding Principles

1. Center people who are impacted.
2. Use our experience to inform a collective ecosystem.
3. Center equity and antiracism in how we frame our responses.
4. Be curious and willing to learn how to do things differently. Hear and consider all perspectives; we are only successful if all voices are represented.
5. Foster a space where we can speak freely and with trust in the group, acknowledging different roles and relationships present, such as funder/grantee.
6. Participate to your fullest ability, stepping back and stepping up as needed.
7. Take issue with the topic, not the person.
8. Strive to enable safety, acknowledging that full working group meetings are public.
9. Assume positive intent or regard, while also striving for positive impact.
10. Lean into the messiness, recognizing it is an important part of the process.

Which one will you hold for yourself today?



Housekeeping

- ❑ Questions or concerns from the last meeting summary?
- ❑ Updates
- ❑ Welcome any members of the public



Group Decision-making

Questions for the group

- How would you like this group to make decisions?
- What are the pros and cons of each approach?
 - consensus building
 - voting
 - restorative justice practices
 - steering committee role



Meeting preferences

What preferences do you have for in-person meeting locations?



Break #1



Scoping Working Group Goals

A graphic of concentric circles, resembling a target, is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the title.

Four goals stated in statute

- ❑ Reducing Administrative Complexities
- ❑ Enhancing Equity and Accessibility
- ❑ Streamlining Eligibility Criteria, Paperwork, and Funding Distribution
- ❑ Accelerating Transitions from Homelessness to Sustainable Solutions





Individual reflection

- ❑ What does this goal mean?
- ❑ What components are included?



Small group discussion

Round One (25 mins)

- ❑ What do you see on the sticky notes that is similar?
- ❑ Would you move any stickies inside or outside of the box? Why?
- ❑ Where are there disagreements, questions, or resources to highlight? (note those in the parking lot)

Rounds 2-4 (15 mins)

- ❑ What is missing?
- ❑ What do you think needs to move or change? Why?



Large group discussion

- ❑ How was that experience of scoping out each goal?
- ❑ What are the lenses we need as we continue exploring and begin drafting recommendations?
- ❑ How does coordinated entry integrate with this scope?
- ❑ Given the scope we're defining, what program briefings or presentations does this group need?

Raw notes from share-out: Reducing Administrative Complexities

In Scope

- Streamline reporting requirements
- Look at Coord Entry requirements
- Simplify background checks
- Examine paperwork needed for service provider – can it be condensed
- Make funding sources aligned closer to mainstream resources
- Fewer hoops ...
- Coordinating audits (multiple funders)
- RFP application process
- Contract process – opportunities to speed things up

Out of scope: talking about federal funding

Process need: Create a workflow/process map (garden)

Raw notes from share-out: Streamlining Eligibility Criteria, Paperwork, and Funding Distribution

In scope:

- Simplification of eligibility paperwork, reducing redundancy
- RFP process, contracts – reduce redundancies
- Funding for capital services/operations
- Where funding gaps
- Create Multiyear RFPs
- Create common definitions across agencies, look at federal origin
- Pathways for eligibility – avoid multiple apps
- Make funding resources unified with mainstream resources
- Expand definition of eligible expenses
- Youth and family housing criteria –reduce additional burden
- Reduction of paperwork (LOTS), including accepting reciprocity
- Equity –overarching
- Coordinated entry – how it varies by jurisdiction

Out of scope: federal, move to direct cash,

Raw notes from share-out: Enhancing Equity and Accessibility

In scope:

- Defining equity, what's included (physical accessibility, etc.)
- Baseline data/metrics, identify existing outcomes
- How to measure accessibility
- Barriers to access and equity – equal opportunity, backgrounds, duplicate documentation
- Simplify process – no wrong door, address gatekeeping
- Coordinated entry – being updated, call for consistency across state, including definitions
- Keep it simple
- Accountability, enforcement
- Employee training, recruitment

Raw notes from share-out: Accelerating Transitions from Homelessness to Sustainable Solutions

In scope:

- Synergy of coordinate entry
- Wait times, inconsistencies across the state
- Workforce housing
- Streamline opportunities from data to move people more quickly
- Affordable housing – look at timelines, workforce solutions
- Properties can deny people so some people take longer to get over barriers
- Insurance policies
- Eliminate gatekeeper mentality
- How to create a sense of belonging, housing is outside people's communities
- More supportive housing – in scope?
- Harm reduction
- Definitions



Break #2



Program Briefing: MN Housing

Minnesota Housing Team Presentation

Trust Fund – Rental Assistance, Housing Trust Fund – Operating Subsidy, and Capital financing:

❖ High-level Overview

- What is the program - goals
- Quick history
- Total funded amount
- Grantees
- Eligible uses
- Outcomes/impact

❖ Info Regarding Workgroup Scope:

- Program Administration
 - Feedback received to support goal
- Equity and Accessibility Data
 - Include program ties to CES and/or CoC priorities
 - Feedback received to support goal
- Eligibility Criteria, Paperwork involved, and the way funding works and feedback received to support the goal
 - feedback received to support goal
- What we know about transitions from homelessness to housing and how the program impacts the transitions



Discussion questions

- What stands out to you?
- What clarification questions do you have?
- What is pertinent to the work we will embark on together?



Public Comment



Next Steps

Exit Ticket

- ❑ What is a piece of information you're taking with you today?
- ❑ What questions do you have?
- ❑ What do the facilitators need to know?
- ❑ What is one word to describe the meeting?

Thank you!

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