

Simplifying Supportive Housing Resources Work Group: Meeting #2 Summary

February 21, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Members in attendance

Christina Olsen	Jason Urbanczyk	David Hewitt	Claudette McDowall
Laura Craig	Eric Grumdahl	Laura Birnbaum	Janayah Bagurusi
	Ruth Buffalo	Chris LaTondresse	Rinal Ray

Absent: Bernie Perryman, Caroline Hood, Liish Kozlowski, Gina Kautz, Wendy Wiegmann, Jaime Wilkins

Key outcomes and next steps

- Co-chairs and Steering Committee identified
- Resource list expanded
- Confirmed and defined milestones and timeline
- Started a list of external groups to engage in this work
- In person meeting on **March 11, 12:00 – 4:00pm in St. Paul**. Will share specifics of location
- DeYoung will share doodle polls for monthly meetings leading up to December. Members are asked to take doodle poll by the end of next week.
- DeYoung will schedule a meeting with the Steering Committee ahead of next working group meeting
- DeYoung will create Google folder for sharing suggested resources

Summary of Meeting

The slides used during this meeting are available here: https://deyoungconsultingservices-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/karen_deyoung-consulting_com/ERIV-DCxouplql0lj8aaSQ8BvoU5Z3i-GYI4PBsVdg47cg?e=3zXHnc&wdLOR=cD4CCDE7B-97E1-4E60-B069-F3687013FF33

Objectives

- Align around structure
- Identify important resources
- Gather initial insight into stakeholder engagement

Welcome

The group was asked to share a movie or a book that portrays people experiencing homelessness, negatively or positively, and whether they would recommend it. They shared the following:

- The Seed Keeper - book
- Maid – Book, Netflix series
- Justkrate - <https://www.youtube.com/@JustKrate>
- The Pursuit of Happiness
- Beyond The Bridge -movie
- Parable of the Sower – book by Octavia Butler
- Kathy Come Home – British show
- Documentary made by Invisible People – focus on homelessness response system in Hennepin County -<https://invisiblepeople.tv/america-can-end-homelessness-hennepin-county-proves-its-possible/>

Housekeeping Decisions

The group decided that creating a Google folder to share resources was best, and DHS confirmed that was allowed under Open Meeting Law. DeYoung will create the folder and share it with the working group.

Legislation allows for the compensation of the working group members who have lived experience, in the amount of \$55 for every “day” they engage in working group activities. The full group confirmed that a “day” would be defined as one hour of relevant activity and warrants compensation for these members.

Vote results:

Christina Olsen - Yea	Jason Urbanczyk - Yea	David Hewitt – Yea	Claudette McDowall- Yea
Laura Craig - Yea	Eric Grumdahl - Yea	Laura Birnbaum - Yea	Janayah Bagurusi - Yea
	Ruth Buffalo - Yea	Chris LaTondresse - Yea	Rinal Ray - Yea

Working Group Structure Decisions

DeYoung received a number of nominees from the workgroup and reached out to all the nominees to get their buy-in to the position, if elected.

DeYoung provided a link to Google form for poll for voting. The working group then followed open meeting law protocol to suggest a slate of nominees, then conducted a roll call vote to elect the following individuals. All voted in favor of the slate of nominees.

Co-Chairs:

Ruth Buffalo

Rinal Ray

Steering Committee:

Janayah Bagurusi

Laura Craig

Potential responsibilities for the steering committee members were outlined, including:

- Collaborating with DeYoung to shape meeting agendas
- Revising engagement materials
- Bringing forth concerns they're hearing
- Breaking ties
- Overall collaborating with DeYoung to move things forward in between meetings

Project milestones and timeline

A milestone schedule was shared that mapped out high-level objectives for monthly meetings through December 2025. This visual can be found in the PPT link shared above. Below is a summary of the group's discussion.

- **Staying on schedule:** If we don't stay on schedule, we need to be responsive to things that come up and take us off our timeline – may need to shift a pivot along the way
- **Building shared knowledge:** The group questioned the term “areas of independent study.” There was general consensus that the full group needs to level set and have a shared understanding of basic resources and all areas of critical knowledge, which should be done through presentations/briefings during working group meetings, given by subject matter experts. This would help the group track the work that has already been done, as well as understand best practices. Both Rinal Ray and Eric Grumdahl volunteered to prepare program briefings in March or April. Guidance for each presentation was suggested as:
 - What is the program (i.e., a "101" version)?
 - How does it relate to or provide supportive housing?
 - What recommendations might streamline access, eligibility, and administration of the program?
- **Public input:** Some felt it was important to set aside time for public comments during meetings. There was a question about public comment vs. external engagement. The group felt it is important to get a wide variety of input and thus outreach is important. Understanding provider and participant experience was highlighted. There is an

understanding of who each organization represents and the voices they can bring forward. There will need to be a process to identify which external perspectives are needed and what this group wants to learn from them.

Identifying Resources

The group was grounded with a reminder of DeYoung stated they will follow up with the steering committee to schedule a meeting.

Their charge to study supporting housing resources including the following programs:

- The housing support program
- Long-term homeless supportive services
- Housing with supports for adults with serious mental illness
- The housing trust fund
- Other capital and operating funds administered by the MN Housing Finance Agency

The group broke into 3 breakout rooms, where they brainstormed and took note of resources within each of the above categories that would be important for the working group to review. Their ideas were captured in the shared PowerPoint slide deck, which is linked above. DeYoung will compile the resources and follow up with the Steering Committee about how to proceed.

In a large group debrief, several group members emphasized the need to overlay the perspectives of people with lived experience as this group builds its shared knowledge and reviews resources. The group was reminded that some organizations can share findings from focus groups.

External Engagements

The group brainstormed individuals or groups that should be engaged as part of this effort. Their ideas are noted in the PowerPoint slides that are linked above. Their ideas serve as a place to start when the group begins planning external engagement.

Close

The working group was thanked and reminded about the in person meeting on March 11, 12:00 – 4:00 in St. Paul.