

Concord Steering Committee For Plan to End Homelessness
November 21, 2017
Meeting Notes

Present: Karen Emis-Williams, Byron Champlin, Rosemary Heard, Tim Sink, Ruth Perencevich, Peter Evers, Claudia Walker, Steve Duprey,

Also present: Maggie Fogarty, Ellen Groh

Ellen G reminded the group of our purpose for this exercise—to “refresh” the Plan to End Homelessness, not to recreate the original plan. Look at how has the landscape changed, how have we changed the landscape, how do we reflect what we have done and what we have learned.

In October we articulated new strategies/activities. Rosemary put it into a matrix for further discussion. Ellen wants to review for accuracy and clarity, and identify what is missing.

Then, perhaps a straw vote about priorities.

Reviewing the matrix item:

“Increased caseworker funding and rental assistance is increase”: this was a potential priority for Housing First, not for the cold weather shelter. (shelter does not have a casworker.)

Winter Shelter is operated successfully.

City of Concord is appropriately informed on matters pertaining to homelessness Measuring impact from (not: medical facilities) (add: state facilities).

“City of Concord” includes administration, elected officials and broader community

Keep “accurate count/by name list” of chronically homeless people. (The work is likely to be done by the state of NH, but CCEH will be involved. The names will be confidential, but the goal is to keep the list updated in real-time.)

Membership of the Steering Committee is appropriately diverse...

Advocacy/Education efforts are increased

Town meeting means “town hall *style* ” meetings, meaning community forums.

Reason for town hall style meetings is to promote broader ownership of the challenges/solutions, prompt a sense of county-wide possibilities

Regarding Governance:

Add that there is possibility of different goals/priorities between CCEH and Steering Committee

Develop leadership structure

Implementation of the plan is supported by the City. (Does this mean financial resources? Couch the resources part as "possibly")

Create and Enhance an Environment that Fosters Support of both for and non-profit developers to set aside apartments

What might incentives mean?

Is new affordable housing missing from this section? Can we promote new unit development as part of larger developments which blends new units into multi-level developments.

ADD: Explore mechanisms to increase number of affordable units that are available.

Possibly the goal is to identify the gap, including the correct "product."
Some question related to whether there is really a shortage of units.

With support for integrated units, dispersed around the city.

Explore the availability of rental housing affordable to LI, VLI and ELI households in Concord, and explore the ways to increase the number if needed.

(Reference NH Housing rental cost survey)

Funding in support of housing chronically homeless is increased
No changes

Research new models for low-cost housing

ADD:

Expand Housing First in Concord through CCEH and/or other priorities
Assess unmet needs for family shelter in winter; possibly assess year-round need.
(Possibly under Goal 1)

Explore supportive housing for people which would enable people to leave NH Hospital (70 possible releases)

Are there opportunities with the 811 housing slots and Medicaid for pre-tenancy and tenancy supports. Discussions are underway with the HHS Commissioner.

We need to monitor progress related to the plan amendments.

Riverbend and Fellowship Housing provide 86 units now, but lose \$60/day per unit because the reimbursement rate is too low (\$180 cost, \$120 reimbursement)

HHS is on the cusp of approving independent living for adults with disabilities. Educate state policy makers about disproportionate impact of releases from state institutions on Concord area housing and services; advocate for equitable allocation of resources.

Priorities emerged: disproportionate impact, family homeless needs assessment, expand chronic homelessness

Next steps: Rosemary will update matrix, elaborate on the action steps for feedback.

Ellen G. will create a list of accomplishments.

In the first half of 2018 we will go before City Council.

How do we develop the governance and data priorities if we are prioritizing other things.

Rosemary will develop a governance proposal for Steering committee input in January