



## Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

January 29, 2024 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Chamber for a Greater Chapel Hill Carrboro and [Zoom](#)

**In attendance:** Members – Jessica Aldave, Donna Carrington, Tim Daaleman, Caitlin Fenhagen, Barbara Foushee, Catherine Fray, Everett McElveen, Bernard Miles, Blake Rosser, Karen Stegman, Rachel Valentine; Guests – Thomas Johnson-Bean, Jamall Kinard, Anne-Marie Vanaman; Staff – Rachel Waltz, Kat Wies

### **Opening**

Chair Foushee opened the meeting acknowledging recent Martin Luther King, Jr celebrations and upcoming Black History Month.

### **Racial Equity Session Life Group**

LIFE Group Consultants welcome the Leadership Team into the New Year and opens with a prompt about observations. Members shared the recent very cold weather and impacts both on people living unsheltered and the community's response by operating expanded walk-in emergency shelter. Members acknowledged the community-wide effort needed to maintain these operations and the impacts of having to shift from system planning to crisis management. Members also discussed efforts to better resource cold weather operations in future years so that this work is more sustainable, people experiencing homelessness have a greater sense of certainty about the resources that exist, and stakeholders have an easier way to get connected and support this work.

Consultants reiterated group norms and then provided tools for engaging in change work and keeping ending homelessness at the center. The group discussed Knowledge or Values versus Beliefs and the need for creative solutions. The group discussed Arthur Chan's [6 Steps to Decenter Yourself](#) as a way to keep the focus on the focus in the face of white supremacy characteristics that keep us away from progress and truth.

### **Breakout group follow up**

Leadership Team members reviewed [90 day priorities](#) from the December meeting and develop action items related to the themes – [increasing public education, advancing equity, and increasing system capacity](#). Members broke into discussion groups to identify 2-3 accomplishments we'd like to see by the OCEH April Leadership Team meeting and action steps that are needed.

The Increasing Education group – Members discussed the desire for a Speakers Bureau, especially as the local governments are in budget season. Members had questions regarding the audience and intended message. Members also discussed the need to know what other groups are doing in this space. Members also noted the need for a Theory of Change to develop an action plan that a Speakers Bureau could help us achieve.

The Advancing Equity group – Members identified the goal of using the racial equity lens in everything we approach. Members hoped by April, that there would be information from the PIT surveys to determine how people are being served and incorporate outcomes and participant satisfaction. Members also noted the desire to have a panel of people with lived experience to determine what obstacles exist and what can be done to improve the experience. Panelists would also need to be compensated for their expertise. Members shared a learning moment from Charlotte where community members are provided gift cards to reduce restrictions. This group would need to identify unrestricted funds to implement this. (e.g. rather than food / gas gift cards). Notes from Consultant: Advancing Equity Note: 1) Utilizing/Normalizing the Racial Equity Lens and Mantra. 2) Reviewing survey results. 3) Host panel of people w/ lived experience. 4) Utilizing the information from panel to improve/simplify processes. 5) Explore potential funding from the private sector for compensation for panel and to assist with increasing needed supplies.

The Building System Capacity group – Members identified a desire for the funding process to be further along with good support at the local governments level. Members also wanted commitment that there is dedicated staffing, facility, and paid / volunteer labor to provide emergency shelter during inclement weather. Members also wanted to see more consistent participation from faith and civic groups in addressing system-wide needs (e.g. not all system gaps can and will be filled by government sources alone). Members also would like to see data on program utilization and client satisfaction.

### **Unmet Emergency Shelter needs**

Existing emergency shelter beds are at capacity most nights and a small coalition of staff and volunteers have operated overflow sheltering at IFC every night and a County location each night the temps fall below 33 degrees. Staff provided an overview of utilization and did not have time to discuss building a broader base of support for community engagement and mutual aid to meet the unmet needs. This item was touched on in the previous discussion.

### **OCPEH Updates**

Staff provided a brief overview of the [OCPEH FY24-25 Budget update](#) and noted that the OCPEH Executive Team voted for the Expansion budget to be considered at their respective elected boards.

The 2024 [Point-In-Time \(PIT\) Count](#) is underway and staff will continue to work with area service providers and stakeholders to ensure an accurate count.

OCPEH is working with other Continuums of Care on a regional (Orange, Durham, Wake, and Central Pines Regional Council) [HUD Youth Homelessness System Improvements](#) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in advance of the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline

### **Minutes**

The motion to approve the [December minutes](#) passed unanimously [R. Valentine, C. Fenhagen]

### **Wrap Up and Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:** February 19, 6-8pm

**Remaining 2024 Meetings:** 2/19, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20, 6/17, no July meeting, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16