

**CJCC Jail & Jail Alternatives Committee**

**Supportive Housing Workgroup**

**July 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**

Present: In person: Crystal Hegge, Marie Kovcesi, Kalene Engel, Justin Green, Chris Meyer, Nick Larsen. Via Zoom: Rosemary Fagrelus, Linda Soderstrom, Judy Gilow, Tim Hunter, Maureen Holte, Aimee Buckmaster

**1. Updates:**

- Crystal: Crystal completed the registration packet based upon the information provided at the last meeting.
- Rosemary: Rosemary reminded travel team members to register for the July in-person workshop (July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>). The workshop will feature two speakers: Fatima Said of Project FINE and Rick Harrison of Harrison Design Studio.

**2. Discussion of Grant Opportunities:** Per Rosemary, Minnesota Housing offers two grants each year: an organizational capacity building grant and an intermediary capacity building grant. The second grant is one that our group is not eligible for as it funds things like the Housing Institute. Our group could make a good case for the organizational capacity building grant, but we would need a lead fiscal agent and it is due on July 25<sup>th</sup>. This grant is different than the capacity building grant offered by Minnesota Housing Partnership, which resulted in our group being selected for the Institute. After discussion, the group decided to forgo an application this year, but to start working on it now for a possible application next year.

**3. Presentation:** The rest of the meeting was spent discussing reviewing the presentation slides prepared by the travel team and providing feedback and suggestions on the presentation. Some observations and comments from this discussion include the following:

- The presentation can be adapted for different audiences, so the level of detail provided may vary according to the audience.
- Starting small (with 6 or so landlords) and having some immediate successes will be important to the success of the program.
- Three issues that landlords have traditionally been concerned about when leasing properties to persons with less than stellar rental histories are (1) payment of rent; (2) damage to apartment and (3) someone to call if there are problems (someone to make sure the tenant is a good tenant).
- Cook County had a robust landlord mitigation program which might be a model to look into.
- Can master leases (where the fiscal agent/program is the tenant) be used for MN Housing Support funding?
- Marty Krueger was identified as a possible landlord who would be interested in talking with our group about the program.
- The Chamber of Commerce recently received a grant for Main Street Revitalization that could possibly be used to revitalize some of the scattered sites apartments in the downtown area.
- Private foundations and donors should not be overlooked as contributors to the project.
- The Catholic Charities request for a housing specialist and the scattered sites program has been recommended by county administration as a project to support with ARPA funds.
- By preparing the slideshow presentation, we have basically outlined a grant application.

Anyone who has edits to make to their slides should get them to Crystal as soon as possible so she can polish it up and have it ready for the Institute.

Meeting adjourned: 11:21 a.m.

Minutes by Kalene Engel

Next Meeting (after the Institute): August 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am