



## FAMILY FUNCTIONAL ZERO MEETING MINUTES - **DRAFT**

August 24, 2021

10:00-11:30

Facilitator:	Anna Diaz, Lisa Cruden		
Meeting Attendees:	Anna Diaz, Casey Gordon, Lisa Cruden, Vicki Squires, Holly Wilson, Christina Slofstra, Maranda VanZegeren, Sam Elliott-Mosley, Molly Perez, Hilary Ortiz, Angela Gillisse, Tammy Britton, Veronica Arvizu, Zenaida Jimenez, Jennie Compagner, Erik Ryder, Chelsea Knott, Gaby Guzman, Catherine Gage, Samantha Westhouse, Jeffrey King, Kendra Avila, Victoria Arnold, Emily Schichtel, Eileen McKeever <u>Staff:</u> Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio Robach		
Time Convened:	10:05	Time Adjourned:	11:00

<b>Welcome</b>	
Discussion	
<b>Workgroups</b>	
Discussion	
<p>At the last meeting, the group discussed creating 4-5 workgroups that will carry out the main focus areas for this group. Templates were developed for each group with the description, purpose, goals, expectations, and reporting details. In breakout rooms, each group reviewed their template. They were asked to identify who will be taking the minutes and report out to this larger group each month. Also, a group member should be identified to share meeting information with Brianne who will communicate out the larger group.</p> <p><b>Workgroups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Affordable Housing: Eileen McKeever, Emily Schichtel, Holly Wilson, Jennie Compagner, Molly Perez, Sam Elliott-Mosley, Tammy Britton Vicki Squires</li> <li>- Supported Solutions: Casey Gordon, Chelsea Knott, Erik Ryder, Gaby Guzman, Hilary Ortiz, Maranda VanZegeren, Samantha Westhouse, Veronica Arvizu, Victoria Arnold</li> <li>- Housing Stability &amp; Support Services: Christina Slofstra, Kendra Avila</li> <li>- Temporary Housing Accommodations: Angela Gillisse, Zenaida Jimenez</li> </ul> <p><b>Share out:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Affordable Housing: met previously and feel good with identified objectives; they will be working to increase membership in the group</li> <li>- Supported Solutions: no updates</li> <li>- Housing Stability and Support Services: the group would like to have further conversation around data reporting; discussed making goals more tangible</li> <li>- Temporary Housing Accommodations: discussed looking at lower-risk families with longer shelter stays who are less likely to be prioritized and to connect them to supports or divert them from entering the system. One challenge is the small size of their workgroup. Next steps include identifying temporary accommodations within the community. Courtney noted that CERA funds are a potential resource for low-risk families as they can be used for 6 months of</li> </ul>	



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assistance and should be prioritized for households who are not at risk of being evicted after 6 months.

A planning and coordination team member will attend each workgroup meeting to provide support. If you have identified organizations or groups that you would like to reach out to, connect with Anna, Lisa, Courtney, or Brianne who can share orientation materials and meeting invites.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### Partnership Agreement Form

#### Discussion

Most folks and organizations in this group have filled this form out, if you have not yet completed the form, please do so soon. Form link: <https://forms.office.com/r/tC5UpvfaLz>. An email will go out to the full group in the next few days with the upcoming workgroup meeting dates and times to encourage folks who are not engaged to join a workgroup. Workgroup members would not have to participate in the full FFO meetings.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### System Case Conferencing

#### Discussion

Angela shared the FFO dashboard. There is now a year's worth of data on this dashboard. However, partners were added to the list for the past year so anticipated continued growth of actively homeless families, with hopes that it will level off now that all community partners are on board. As of the end of July, there were a total of 333 actively homeless families. In July, the number of newly homeless families increased from previous months with 84 families being added to the BNL. 18 families were exited due to inactivity and 17 families exited to housing, 2 families exited with supported solutions support.

Angela noted long lengths of stay (90 days) for both leavers and stayers. They are focusing on this data and connecting with families who have a long length of stay. For families who are low-risk, they are working to connect them to additional supports as income and employment services are a common need. Community Rebuilders hopes to leverage a GRACE Network connection with West Michigan Works! which will be online soon. Members noted that childcare is another barrier.

Suggested next steps include determine how to ensure that families not originally connected to a Solutions Specialist are now connected to a support. It would also be important to identify available resources and to bring these connections to the group. Suggestion to connect with the ENTF Workforce Development group, as well as with employers, staffing agencies, those who provide digital supports, and transit providers. Supporting navigation for families would be an important component of this process. The full group will continue to discuss this topic and asked the Housing Stability and Supports group to look at this issue. If you have suggestions or ideas for how to meet this need, can connect with Christina ([cslofstra@dpgr.org](mailto:cslofstra@dpgr.org))



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With the CERA funds, a process for accessing/prioritizing these funds for families in need of a low level of support is being developed with the CERA program manager, others are invited to participate, if interested.

Lisa shared that the family shelter process being used due to the pandemic is being phased out. It will be going back to more traditional space at Mel Trotter, other locations, and congregation spaces as well. Conversations around funding available for family spaces will continue.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

**Upcoming Dates**

Discussion

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00am. There will be time for workgroup conversation and report-out, review of system case conferencing, and any other concerns.

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