

SDAB Minutes 10.30.25

Attendance: Jennifer Shaoul, Cynthia English, Lisanne Anderson, Erica Strang, Asa Johnson, Mbacke Thiam, Charisma White

Not Present: Crystal Rivera

Today's agenda:

- Discuss and approve minutes from prior advisory meeting.
- Discuss group rules and discussion mediation options; Cynthia proposed time limit per agenda discussion item
- Review shelter visits (recommendations based on site visits). JS accompanied all on site visits.
 - Crystal and Erica: Families with Children
 - Recommendation to ensure information about ADA accessibility and resources are made available to shelter residents in a timely manner: Erica
 - Possible recommendation: “Modular” accessible units for “extreme” cases - Cynthia
 - Beth and Lisanne: Single Adult
 - Identified physical accessibility areas of improvement, feedback given/received while on site
 - Discussed best practices in safety strategies for shelter residents (Recommendation to propose specific best practices for safety for the most vulnerable individuals): Beth
 - Mbacke and Charisma: Adult Families
 - Recommendation: Decrease time spent in shelter/streamline access to housing: Charisma
 - Recommendation: Provide WiFi (stay connected with resources, benefits, social supports, treatment providers): Chrisma
 - Possible recommendation: Ensure more than 1 FTE Housing Specialist depending on size of program; Cynthia and Erica
 - Cynthia and Asa (Asa did external observation): MH shelter
 - Identified physical accessibility areas of improvement, feedback given/received while on site
 - Discussion ensuring recreational services are accessible as well; recommendation for broadening the scope for what constitutes a “recreational activity”- Cynthia and possibly Beth
 - Possible recommendation: All shelters to have accessible and covered outdoor space; Beth
 - Recommendation: DHS continue to pursue reduced-density designs (both in the dorms/rooms and overall occupancy), particularly mental health; Erica and Lisanne
- Discussion regarding the safety practices of one particular shelter
- Made assignments for report write-ups and recommendations other than those above, identified and suggested outline: Purpose, Background, Recommendations, Stories
- Next meeting: Will be identified via follow up email