



Blueprint Council Meeting - July 18, 2022

I. Welcome

Pastor David Greene welcomed Council Members and guests

a. Quorum Check

Quorum was established at 3:35pm and the meeting was called to order.

Blueprint Council Members Present: Pastor David Greene (in-person), Kay Wiles (in-person), Amanda Alvis (in-person), Imani Sankofa (in-person), Scarlett Andrews (in-person), Jeff Bennett (in-person), Carlette Duffy (in-person), Sara VanSlambrook (remote), Marcia Lewis (remote), Ray Lay (remote), Breanca Merritt (remote)

Non-voting present: Danielle Bagg Wireman (remote), Amy Gibson (remote), Rodney Stockment (in-person)

Guests: Eva Flick (in-person), Andrew Merkle (remote), Natalie Roberts (in-person)

b. Housekeeping

1. Zoom Procedures: Zoom meetings and the chat box are recorded and downloaded. Council members should have videos on and names displayed.
2. Blueprint Council meetings are open meetings. The public may listen in but there is not a public comment period, unless expressly scheduled by the Executive Committee

c. Grounding

1. Blueprint Council purpose according to CoC Charter

- Set strategy & annual implementation priorities
- Monitor system performance and progress
- Review and approve policy
- Align resources and activities and allocate funding to meet priorities
- Manage ranking of proposals under annual NOFO
- Ensure transparent governance and managing conflicts
- Delegation to workgroups for implementation
- Designation of an individual or entity to speak for the Continuum
- Designate Collaborative Applicant, HMIS, Lead, and CES agencies by MOU

- d. Request for Council Members to recuse themselves from any action item on the agenda where there is a conflict.

II. Consent Agenda

Pastor Greene asked to move the consent agenda forward and opened the floor for questions.

a. Approve meeting minutes

1. Approve the meeting minutes from the June 27th, 2022 Blueprint Council Meeting
Kay motioned, Jeff seconded - so moved

✎ There was not any discussion on the consent agenda. Kay Wiles moved to pass the consent agenda. Jeff Bennett seconded. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.

III. Action Agenda

a. Blueprint Council Statement on Encampment Closures

1. Special NOFO- To support a more targeted and intentional strategy for addressing unsheltered homelessness, HUD has released a special Notice of Funding Opportunity to address unsheltered homelessness. Part of this NOFO will require communities to develop an unsheltered plan. This is an opportunity to bring key stakeholders together to address encampments and the unsheltered population in a more strategic way. We need to align around a strategy that doesn't displace or relate people without permanent solutions.

[CoC Supplemental Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness - HUD Exchange](#)

2. Motion: To endorse the Blueprint Council statement on Camp Closures.
3. The Executive Committee is recommending the full Blueprint Council endorse the draft statement on encampment closures until there can be a more data-informed and coordinated strategy around encampments.

✎ Jeff Bennett and Scarlett Andrews recused themselves due to conflict. Marcia Lewis moved to endorse the Blueprint Council statement on Camp Closures. Ray Lay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Prioritization and Encampment Closures

1. Closing camps should not be the trigger to amending prioritization and prioritizing people based solely on an encampment closure undermines the CES process and the definition of vulnerability approved by the Blueprint Council on June 27, 2022. Prioritization should be based on vulnerability and should utilize the definition that was codified. As such, the Blueprint Council Executive Committee is recommending that the Camp Closure and CES Prioritization Amendment created on May 9th, 2022 be rejected. The Amendment is in direct conflict with the vulnerability definition and is at risk of creating prioritization that furthers racial inequities.

Discussion: Pastor Greene informed the Camp Closures and CES Prioritization Amendment does not align with the definition of vulnerability endorsed by the Blueprint Council at the June 27, 2022 meeting, nor does it align with racial equity. Amanda Alvis advised the Camp Closures and CES Prioritization Amendment does not guarantee individuals in encampments are eligible for the available resources (PSH, RRH, etc).

The question was raised as to what is the long-term strategy for housing individuals displaced from encampments. Kay Wiles advised individuals will still be assessed for housing, just not prioritized based on camp closure.

The group noted a 27% in family homelessness per the 2022 PIT Count findings and that this population does not show up in encampments. The question was raised how the Blueprint Council can determine prioritization

for families. Danielle Bagg Wireman advised the non-conflicted workgroup is looking into the system gaps for families. Pastor Greene reminded the community has limited housing resources.

Action Item from Discussion: More information is needed for Blueprint Council members to fully understand prioritization and how this differs between models (PSH, RRH).

2. Motion: To reject the Camp Closure and CES Prioritization Amendment from May 9, 2022.

👉 Kay Wiles moved to reject the Camp Closures and CES Prioritization Amendment from May 9, 2022. Carlette Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion Agenda

- a. Office of Public Health and Safety Memo and Proposals- Need Clarification
 1. Several items were flagged in the OPHS memo for further discussion by the Executive Committee. In particular, there are three areas that warrant open discussion and clarification to better understand OPHS's July 12, 2022 memo: (1) Navigation Center, (2) OPHS role in supporting clinicians at Wheeler and/or Horizon House, and (3) Charitable Distribution Sites (Proposition 250 and 256)

Prop 250 [nchsrBZQGCl2silTeTGq \(graphassets.com\)](#)

Prop 256 [0R4jyeYvRMCAM0hpH6JM \(graphassets.com\)](#)

1. Navigation Center - Jeff Bennett asked that the Navigation Center discussion be tabled until next Blueprint Council meeting on August 15, 2022. He will provide an update at that time.

2. Clinicians at Wheeler and Horizon House - Andrew Merkley informed conversations occurred with Wheeler Men's and Eskenazi and the need for mental health and medical services at Wheeler. Eskenazi does not have capacity to physically house staff at Wheeler Mission but can develop trainings and a toolkit for Wheeler staff to utilize. Kay Wiles told the group HIP medical staff are onsite at Wheeler 4 days/week for approximately 3-4 hours each visit. She suggested HIP be included in future conversations to collaborate and/or learn how they can improve the current services. She also mentioned the ACT Team and suggested they be included in conversations. Amanda Alvis advised Adult & Child is providing mental health services at Wheeler Center for Women and Children. Andrew is researching other cities' models for shelters and medical care in order to reduce ambulance runs.

3. Prop 256 - Andrew Merkley provided an overview of Prop 256 and explained it was drafted as an update to Prop 76. OPHS is concerned about the safety of those experiencing homelessness, which includes the quality and manner of food being distributed. Prop 256 does not keep people/organizations from distributing food on private property. It does

require those distributing food on public property to register with OPHS. Registration is needed if serving more than 10 individuals.

Organizations are subject to citation and fines (\$250 - 500) for failing to register. Feedback sessions are being conducted and Prop 256 will go before the Council on 8/24/22.

Imani Sankofa asked why only two sites were established after Prop 76. Andrew Merkley informed OPHS identified the sites through collaboration with DPW and DMD and the two sites were agreeable to all. OPHS is interested in additional sites but there has not been a need. Carlette Duffy stated OPHS is open to suggestions for additional sites but they need to be accessible by DPW.

Imani Sankofa pointed out she feels like this is criminalizing organizations/individuals seeking to assist those experiencing homelessness. She advised the process for registering is not public knowledge or if it is known the expectations have not been communicated. Carlette Duffy informed the registration process is a 2-page form online. There is a concern that this process is not accessible to all.

OPHS informed their responsibility is to the health and safety of the community and they need to understand who and what is being distributed. Amanda noted not everyone who comes to the distribution is experiencing homelessness. Pastor Greene reminded the goal of the Blueprint Council is to rehouse those experiencing homelessness and unsure how food distribution aligns.

b. Coordinated Entry Refinement Priorities- Need Input/ Guidance

See link to refinement memo in the packet.

1. One of the recommendations in the 2019 CES Refinement strategy session is to "build system pathways through CES to affordable housing and employment to support self-resolution." The intention was to have a workgroup focused on developing a more robust income/employment pathway. This workgroup has not been formed. Is this a strategy that should be prioritized? If so, who can help facilitate this workgroup? Where is there capacity/ opportunities to align with other places this may be happening?
This agenda item was not address due to time constraints and tabled until the August 15, 2022 meeting.

V. Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

a. Announcements

1. 2022 Point-in-Time Count is now publicly available.

[Point-in-Time Count - Indianapolis Continuum of Care \(indycoc.org\)](https://www.indycoc.org)

2. CoC Lunch & Learn- PIT, HIC, and System Performance Measures

Tuesday, July 19th 11:30-1:00

[Indianapolis Continuum of Care \(CoC\) July Convening Tickets, Tue, Jul 19, 2022 at 11:30 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/indianapolis-continuum-of-care-coc-july-convening-tickets-tue-jul-19-2022-at-11-30-am)

VI. Next Meeting Date

a. Business Meeting- August 15th, 2022

1. Location and Format

City County Building - Room 2001

VII. Adjourn

Pastor Greene adjourned the meeting at 4:58pm.