



February Housing Security Update

The Housing Security work is progressing as planned. We want to provide you with regular updates about the work of each team to provide a clear picture of how it is all connected. As we knew going into this, the process is complicated, messy, and uncomfortable. The practice of understanding systemic inequalities and becoming self-aware of our own mental models can be challenging. Despite this difficulty, it is encouraging to see that those of you who are part of this work are trusting the process and focusing on the end result – a meaningful, sustainable community plan that leads to equitable outcomes for marginalized communities. Thank you for taking on this work on behalf of our community.

Design Team

The Design Team is working to answer three emergent questions that will define its purpose:

- Is the focus on the homeless response system or the broader housing system?
- Is the focus on families, children, and youth or all households (including individuals)?
- Is the focus on People of Color or everyone?

Team members are reflecting on where their collective effort can have the greatest impact and lead to more equitable, less racialized outcomes.

Also, at the February 21st Design Team meeting, representatives from the Content Expert Team presented a draft of the “Types of Housing Situations” continuum. There was positive dialogue on how the two teams can support each other.

Content Expert Team

The Content Expert Team is examining how the housing system works and how it was designed to work. Team members put together a continuum of “Types of Housing Situations,” ranging from stably housed by choice (in a community in which the individual/family wants to live) to unsheltered. They will continue to define how individuals fall within that continuum, which will help with consistency of language and data. It was encouraging to see people representing more than a dozen organizations work together to map out our first look at the housing system.

The Content Expert Team will continue to work closely with the Design Team to ensure that each has the information it needs from the other to advance the collective work.

Communication Team

This team's initial focus is ensuring that all of the teams are staying informed about what the rest of the Housing Security network is doing. Team members are also discussing how and when to bring attention to this work in the broader community.

The Communications Team acts as a resource to all of the other teams. If there are any communication pieces you would find helpful as you share this work at the tables where you sit, please contact KConnect's Communication Manager, Katie Hop, at khop@k-connect.org.

Scout/Research Team

Research and best practices from around the country are being compiled while team members continue to be added. The first formal meeting will be scheduled soon.

Context Experts

This team is in the process of being formed. The other Housing Security teams are discussing how and when to engage people with lived experience.