

Draft Unhoused and Equity Work Plan

Goal 1 (Priority): Identify and advocate for modifications to policies and practices to remove barriers across the housing continuum for BIPOC, immigrants, migrants, refugees, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+, those with low incomes, and other marginalized populations.

Strategy: Require municipalities to include residential (rural, urban, suburban) input to identify and address redlining, exclusionary zoning, and other discriminatory policies and practices that result in inequities and residential segregation including but not limited to appraisals, assessment of state equalized value, loan application denials, and insurance premiums

KPI Goal: Hold region-wide trainings/workshops on the lasting impact of redlining and exclusionary zoning as it pertains to homeownership rates and the steps to take to rectify these actions.

Owner: Lead RHP

1. Explore existing training with MSEU and Kalamazoo Library for examples- [Completed](#)
2. Create a list of best practices for furthering fair housing, inclusionary zoning, homeownership, zoning ordinances and historic discrimination- [Completed](#)
3. History of redlining and exclusionary zoning- [Completed](#)
4. Find example of non-discriminatory ordinance and source of income protection ordinance- [Completed](#)
5. Add on housing zoning training for a full day- [Completed](#)
6. Provide education to 10 municipalities – [Completed](#)

Notes: Spring 2024 RHP Leads worked with MSU Extension to facilitate four workshops on equity in zoning. These workshops were held in three towns across the region, Lawrence, Coldwater and Kalamazoo, to ensure they were accessible to each municipality. One training was hosted virtually for those unable to attend an in-person training.

The in-person workshops were attended by 49 community leaders, realtors, landlords, and other individuals working in the field of housing and development and other interested parties. Participants expressed gratitude for the training and spoke on how they might use the information they were given in their master plans and other projects. See summary attached. The shorter virtual training was attended by 13 individuals. This is recorded and is posted to the RHP website in the resource page.

KPI Goal: Create a website to share RHP Trainings and other organization trainings on best practices and funding opportunities.

Owner: Lead RHP

1. Collect website quotes- [Completed](#)
 2. Secure funding- [Completed](#)
 3. Hire consultant - [Completed](#)
 4. Host trainings from partner organizations- [Completed](#)
- [Resources - Southwest Michigan Regional Housing Partnership](#)

Notes: Website is completed and resources can be added at any time! Do you have resources you would like to see hosted here?

Goal 2: Improve the quality of the homelessness response system to be client-centered, flexible, grounded in respect, trauma informed, and aware and inclusive of the cultural values, beliefs, and practices of those they serve.

Strategy 3.3: Fund capacity in local organizations to implement evidence-based service models that address the needs of specific populations and marginalized communities, and in the homelessness response system.

KPI Goal: Collaboration of homelessness housing services across the Region.

Owner: Lead RHP

1. Create a list of all homelessness service providers in the 7-counties- [Completed](#)
2. Draft survey questions to Homelessness Service Providers to identify needs- [Completed- Completed](#)
3. Use survey results to investigate collaboration opportunities including the HMIS system. [August Working Group Meeting](#)
4. Create ways to support housing services across the region to increase services, efficiency and collaboration. Clarify action to be taken based on survey results and working group feedback.

[Notes: The survey results are in with 49 responses! A short report has been prepared for the August working group meeting in order to determine the next steps for this goal.](#)

KPI Goal: Assist Continuum of Care's and Local Planning Bodies (LPDs) with support for planning and mapping services including listening sessions.

Owner: Lead RHP

1. Find completed CoC and LPDs plans regionally
2. Identify planning or funding gaps for coordination and collaboration

Goal 3: Increase access to stable and affordable quality housing options for households with extremely low incomes.

Strategy 3.3: Fund capacity in local organizations to implement evidence-based service models that address the needs of specific populations and marginalized communities, and in the homelessness response system.

KPI Goal: Diversify housing options focusing on adding affordable housing in a range of types.

Owner: Lead RHP

1. Investigate alternative housing models, like shared housing, host homes, etc.
2. (Roomster, Roomiemarket, [Roommates.com](#)) [Housing Exchange — Housing North, How States and Cities Decimated Americans' Lowest-Cost Housing Option | The Pew Charitable Trusts](#)
3. Connect with those doing this work like Tobi with Housing Matters- HomeShare program in Kalamazoo