

Housing Access and Support Alliance Workgroup Minutes April 24, 2025, 1:30PM – 3:00PM

Boone Electric Community Building (1413 Rangeline, Columbia MO) and via Zoom

Meeting Objective: Continue actions to make progress on 2025 workgroup plans

Attendees: Alice Leeper (Columbia Board of Realtors (CBOR)), Shawna Neuner (CBOR/Columbia Apartment Association), Andrew Grabau (William Guitar Little (WGL) Foundation), Sarah Melchert (Frontier Property Management), Lori Acton (Love Columbia), Tionna Lawson (Voluntary Action Center), Roy Kroeger (Boone County Resource Management Department), Carmelita Wright (Salvation Army), Brandon Shults (Burrell Behavioral Health), Ashley Haymart (Burrell Behavioral Health), Sidney Everhart (University of Missouri – Columbia), Joanne Nelson (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Gina Jenkins (BCCSD)

- Welcome and Introductions
 Gina opened the meeting with everyone in attendance providing introductions.
- Follow up from last meeting
 Gina guided discussion using the next steps generated during the previous meeting to address the planned
 follow up items.
 - As follow up to the <u>ARCH</u> presentation <u>by Tower Grover Community Development Corporation</u> being shared with the workgroup, Joanne shared responses Conrad Hake (Love Columbia) received to questions about the platform. A landlord recruitment flyer from ARCH to <u>join the platform</u> was also shared.
 - Alice and Shawna shared more information about the RentSpree platform newly utilized by <u>Columbia</u>
 <u>Board of Realtors</u> which allows a single application to be shared from multiple properties. Some
 potential benefits and limitations were discussed related to software integration, costs, and the extent
 to which the platform could be used.
 - Lori provided information on her initial research into systems for shared applications and background checks, introducing the group to the term commonly used for this (Portable Tenant Screening Report Systems). Some initial information was provided on several systems, including Table 1. Portable Tenant Screening Options from page 37 of a report.
 - Joanne shared updates from the Adult Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) housing taskforce group, providing a background on their formation and an overview of their current objectives. The workgroup recognized several areas of overlap and was interested in having the groups come together to avoid any duplication of efforts.
 - Gina provided draft versions of the "Ready to Rent?" and "Ready to Move In?" information sheets which were updated with previous workgroup feedback and additional input from individuals who volunteered time since the last meeting.

3. Action on 2025 workgroup plans

a. Information sheets

The workgroup reviewed the two information sheets currently drafted. Following discussion of potential changes, it was decided to finalize them with some minor formatting updates and no change to their content. Distribution of the information sheets will involve anyone sharing them as they would like. The workgroup also plans to provide access to them on the workgroup page of the Upward Mobility website and will explore adding additional language to the website inviting anyone to feel free to use them.



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In discussing what information to include for each topic, potential content for additional information sheets was suggested. The workgroup planned to draft additional information sheets for move in and move out days to highlight activities specific to those times and continued thinking about other ideas for future information sheets.

b. Streamlined application and/or universal background check Using the information shared about Portable Tenant Screening Report Systems earlier in the meeting, the workgroup engaged in further discussion on how to approach potential adoption of such a system locally. The workgroup decided it would be worthwhile having more information about the different systems as well as further discussion with housing providers to better understand their interest in utilizing them. The workgroup anticipates creating a Portable Tenant Screening Report Systems crosswalk document that could be used to provide some background information within a survey to housing providers. Survey distribution plans were briefly discussed.

4. Next Steps

- Final versions of the "Ready to Rent?" and "Ready to Move?" In information sheets will be created by Gina and shared with the workgroup for distribution as everyone chooses. The information sheets will also be added to the Upward Mobility website for the workgroup.
- Shawna and Sarah will provide draft content for two new information sheets geared towards move in day and the day someone moves out.
 - Tionna and Lori will review this information and provide additional suggestions on the content for the information sheets.
 - Gina will convert the information provided into draft information sheets to be reviewed by the workgroup.
- Communication will continue with the SIM housing taskforce group to help coordinate similar efforts.
- The workgroup will research and compile additional information on Portable Tenant Screening Report System options during the May workgroup meeting. Individuals were encouraged to bring laptops or other devices to the next meeting to assist with online information gathering.
- Further plans will be developed for a survey to be completed by housing providers, with distribution to potentially occur in October.

5. Closing

a. Partner Updates

No partner updates were provided.

b. Comments and Questions

The workgroup concluded with a reminder of the next workgroup meeting date and location with no additional comments or questions shared.

Next Workgroup Meeting: May 22, 2025 from 1:30 – 3:00 PM at Boone Electric Community Building – Amp Room or virtually <u>via Zoom</u>