

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
July 19, 2022**

Present: Don Bradley (Duke), Charlene Reiss (community member and consultant), Brian Goings (Duke), Bria Miller, Angel Romero (Duke), Onyema Nwanji (Family Medicine Resident, Duke), Kearston Ingraham (Duke), Manuel Hyman (Alliance Health), Charita McCollers (Lincoln Community Health Center)		
Topic	Major Discussion	Recommendations and Action Steps
Welcome/ Introductions/ Icebreaker <i>Brian Goings 8:30-8:40</i>	What is one fun thing you have done for the summer?	
Review June Minutes & Updates <i>All 8:40-8:45</i>	<p>The minutes were approved.</p> <p>Charita McCollers has seen an increase in the unhoused elderly population. Many of them own property but could not live on their own for a number of reasons. It is important to add information for elderly population. Uplift the weatherization program. There are not many referrals from Durham. Habitat Housing can do repairs on roofs, etc. It is important to make sure housing is safe. Some elderly people don't have air condition. Also, there are property tax accommodations to help low-income folks. The main obstacle seniors face is the red tape for eligibility. It can be very discouraging.</p> <p>The Weatherization program is a good resource for seniors who have difficulty paying heating or cooling bills. This program is available through Operation Breakthrough (if they still exist) 919-688-8111 and Central Piedmont Community Action 919-797-3888.</p> <p>This committee is focused on fulfilling the Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs) and decided to focus on the areas of radon, mold, and lead. Brian went to a meeting and Reginald Johnson was there. Their staff works on housing and Brian invited them to join the Health and Housing committee.</p>	<p>Bria will send this group a link to the Golden Life Partnership meeting.</p> <p>Aging Well Durham is another good group for us to connect with. If they have an Executive Director, we could reach out to them.</p>

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<p>Radon Presentation <i>All 8:45-9:15</i> Kearston L. Ingraham, MPH <i>Partnership for a Healthy Durham, Access to Care Committee Chair & National Society of Black Engineers- Research Triangle Park (RTP) Chapter, Public Health Advisor, Healthcare Innovation Special Interest Group (SIG)</i></p>	<p>Radon is a naturally occurring element. Radio Nucleotides is radiation in rocks. High levels of radiation can be harmful and can cause lung cancer. Lung cancer rates are high, and radon is the leading cause. Many do not know that they can test their homes for radon levels. Radon in well water can increase the chances of stomach cancer.</p> <p>One strategy is working with buyers and realtors to make sure they are properly testing radon or have a radon mitigation system. Kearston will send follow-up information on radon and interventions. Kearston would like to add radon mitigation systems or testing to the Multiple Listing Service. Radon Awareness Month is in January. The committee could host a panel/information session. Philip Gibson focuses on radon for North Carolina.</p> <p>The price for installing radon mitigation system is \$800 to \$1,200, with the national average at \$1000.</p> <p>Questions and comments: What resources are available for folks to find out if their living spaces have high levels of radon and how to mitigate the radon?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy adoption would be most impactful because all homes moved into would be required to have a radon mitigation system. • There is a radon test available for homes. People should test the area of their home where they spend the most time. There are some tests available for purchase online. NC will send kits for free during Radon Awareness Month. North Carolina Radon Program NCDHHS • Durham County Radon Page (county-radon.info) • Getting information for free radon testing to community members would be a good initiative for this committee. This group can also look to implement policies that may already exist along with proposing the new one. There are resources available that highlight renters' rights. Look at methods to empower those who are renting. 	<p>Kearston will reach out to Phillip Gibson to see if there are test kits available.</p>
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	<p>Does the County have any more granular mapping where the radon rates are higher?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radon mapping https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2014-08/documents/north_carolina.pdf or https://raleighradon.com/radon-map/ <p>Be mindful of those who install radon mitigation systems and make sure they have proper credentials.</p>	
<p>Discuss Partnership Needs and Solutions <i>All 9:15-9:25</i></p>	<p>Create a list of deliverables that we can start to collect data and resources for. We can pull from the CHIPS list.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting: August 16, 2022, 8:30-9:30 am</p>		



Objectives:

- Radon Solutions in Durham Housing