

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham  
Health and Housing Committee**

ZOOM

**September 15, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**Facilitator: Donna Biederman**

**Meeting Outcomes**

- Outcome 1: Prioritize action plan items
- Outcome 2: Determine one priority item for completion this calendar year
- Outcome 3: Increase understanding of Partnership identity

**Present:** Caressa Harding, Rion Thompson, Marissa Mortiboy, Waldo Rogers, Don Bradley, Dexter Richardson, Lenora Smith, Charlene Reiss, Angel Romero, Manuel Hyman, Alyssa Platt, Nancy Kneepkens, Van Nguyen, L'Tanya Gilchrist, Brian Goings-Reid

Project/Topic/Goal	Major Discussion Points	Recommendations	Action Steps
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	What is your favorite thing to do on a rainy day?		
<b>Review of August Minutes</b>	There were no changes to the minutes.		
<b>CDC Moratorium on Evictions</b> <i>Donna Biederman,</i> Duke University School of Nursing	<p>In early September, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a moratorium on evictions. Most rentals are owned by small companies and they need to pay mortgages. Without rental income, owners will be foreclosed on which could lead to more evictions. This is not a moratorium on rent, back rent will need to be paid. There are loopholes such as the evictions can still take place if non-payment is not due to COVID.</p> <p>According to DataWorks, temporary state and federal protections preventing evictions expired earlier this summer, leading to a steady increase in evictions in July and August of 2020. □□ Another issue is anecdotally that landlords are bring more cautious about who they rent to such as requiring a steady history of employment and pay stubs as far back as two years. The City of Durham Water Department will start turning off water due to non-payment the week of September 14. The Water Department is willing to work with residents. They asked that people contact them to set up payment plans and pay what</p>		

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	they can. The main mode of communication is through the internet and everyone may not have access. The housing crisis is escalating.		
<b>Prioritize Action Plan Items</b> <i>All</i>	What does the committee want to work on through the end of the year? The action plan is divided into research, education and advocacy. Action plan focus is on compiling and sharing data, educating people in the community and decision-makers about the relationship between health and housing, developing an elevator pitch around health and housing.		
<b>Determine one item for completion</b> <i>All</i>	<p>Ideas from the committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile sources on eviction and other types of important data</li> <li>• Compile information on what you residents can do to avoid eviction and/or what to do if you do receive an eviction notice-share with owners as well, information on what tenants should know to not get additional charges when being evicted, work with the community.</li> <li>• What policies can City of Durham or Durham County put in place to ensure landlords are following the proper steps for evictions?</li> <li>• Talk with John Killeen with DataWorks about housing data sources</li> <li>• Leverage relationships with the health system to get information about housing out to those interacting with the health system/clinics.</li> <li>• Change housing provider's attitudes to support "housing is healthcare", and demonstrating more compassion for those we serve. Teach landlords about the connections between health and housing.</li> <li>• Share the Duke researcher lead mapping project showing where hotspots are in Durham. PEACH is focusing on the Healthy Homes Initiative and tracking health problems related to housing. They would like to work with students.</li> <li>• City of Durham has a lead removal grant/program. It can fix more than 100 units. Put pressure on elected officials and decision makers to move forward with the program.</li> </ul>	<p>Call the Mayor's office about the status of the \$95 million housing bond.</p> <p>Focus on the relationship between health and housing-data on health impacts of substandard housing and evictions.</p> <p>Start by reaching out to high schools and colleges about starting a social media campaign.</p> <p>Build on the elevator pitch developed by Duke students.</p>	<p>Committee members should choose a group they would like to break into workgroups at the October meeting.</p>

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<p><b>Partnership Identity</b> <i>Marissa Mortiboy</i></p>	<p>Based on history of the Partnership, structure and current make-up, the Racial Equity Task Force proposed that the Partnership be a coalition representing organizations and implementing the priorities of the community and centering their voice. The Steering committee approved this definition at their August 2020 meeting. The confirmed identity does not change anything about the function or structure of the Partnership. Community members have always been and will always be welcome. Acknowledging our identity will allow the Partnership to develop strategies on how to be accountable to the community, build authentic relationships and center community voices.</p>		
<p><b>Announcements</b> <i>All</i></p>	<p>The next PEACH Steering Committee Meeting is Tuesday, October 13, 9:30 am. Email <a href="mailto:dexter.richardson@gmail.com">dexter.richardson@gmail.com</a> to get on mailing list.</p>		
<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> October 20, 8:30 am via Zoom- look at elevator pitch and start from there, get into workgroups for a 90 minute meeting</p>			