



Minutes

Committee: Equity Committee

Date: 07/14/2022

Duration: 12:00 – 1:30

Meeting Place: Zoom virtual meeting

Attendance:

P = Present
 TC = Attended via Dial in
 A = Absent

Equity Committee Members							
A	Guen Brown	P	Claire Burrus	P	Junghee Cho	A	Kellee Coleman
P	Jesus Gonzales	P	Kimberly Holiday	P	Soleece Watson	P	Sulipsa Luque
P	Lori Neyland	A	Esteban Olave	A	Tiffany Hart		
Co-Chairs							
P	Netanya Jamieson	P	Summer Wright				
Other Community Members							
	Cassandra Richards		Sam Whiteside		Rachel Sakulenzki		
	Jacob Alan Henson		Jen Pinkley		“vsherman”		
	Lee Summers		Gaby Fernandez				
ECHO Support Staff							
P	Chris Davis						
Other ECHO Staff							
	Danica Fraher		Mariane Elzy		La Shandraia Dwyer		
	Preston Petty		Lyric Wardlow				

AGENDA		DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
I.	Welcome & Check-in	N. Jamieson	•
II.	APAT Updates and Roll-Out	P. Petty	• C. Davis to email presentation and pilot questions to attending community members
III.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background – presentation & discussion led by P. Petty, ECHO Coordinated Entry (CE) Program Director (presentation to be emailed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lots of people who are new to the space, combined with people who have been in this space for a long time; reviewing so everyone is on the same page, using same language ○ CE is supposed to be one-stop-shop to apply for as many housing programs and services at one time; involves prioritization tool to get limited resources to people who need them most ○ Must acknowledge that the fact there aren't enough resources for people is the primary failure we must be addressing ○ Local tool history 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Blindfold” approach – no system, have to be in right place, know right people, etc. – puts burden on people who need help the most ■ VI-SPDAT – tool used across country, created by predominantly white researchers, white clients, white supporting research; severe racial disparities in the tool; Austin used supplemented VI-SPDAT to help with equity, but still a broken tool ■ Developed a local tool with local data and analysis, the Austin Prioritization Index (now called the Austin Prioritization Assessment Tool – APAT) ○ Three content areas for prioritization: barriers/challenges to exiting homelessness, risk of harm from continuing to experience homelessness, affirmative furtherance of equity; most questions cross multiple lanes ○ Process isn’t over until homelessness is over – if prioritizing, have to prioritize as effectively as possible – constant testing, evaluation, and updating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Improvements already adopted: lower age threshold for advanced age criteria, change name to APAT, new pilot questions ○ Index rolled out initially Oct 1 2021, would like to roll out version 2 (APAT) on year anniversary – Oct 1, 2022 – only a proposal, nothing set in stone; only need Leadership Council approval for any public roll-outs (like we did last year) ● Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SW (community member): Can you describe in depth the three content areas? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ PP: These are loose categories, not anything with a hard definition; questions tend to fall into these three categories; affirmative furtherance of equity means white people were scoring significantly higher than Black people on the previous tool, so primary goal of shifting to an equity-centered tool was to close the gap at a minimum and increase support to change the fact that a Black Austinite is six times more likely to experience homelessness than a white Austinite ○ CR (community member): Police breaking up encampments locally, criminalization spreading to other states; how does something like this help when there’s so much urgency around camping? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ PP: Systems in place that are forcing people to experience homelessness, so we have to stop that from happening; in the meantime, how do we prevent as much harm as possible and bring resources to people who are being targeted?; one of the ways this 	

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	<p>group is addressing the effects of the ban is to ask if people have been moved, and if so how frequently</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CR: Fentanyl and health conditions compound for people experiencing homelessness; we need to address this ■ S Wright: Systems Improvement Committee is a good place for this conversation, as well as crisis response; there is a question on the assessment about substance use 	
<p>IV. Workgroup Interest Form</p> <p>V.</p>	<p>S. Wright</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working to set up workgroups and discussed having an Equity-specific interest form; created a similar form for the committees, but it was bare bones (no phone numbers, expression of values, etc.); there aren't voting members on workgroups, but this will provide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S Watson: Support using the committee form as a basis ○ KH: Move to adopt form and make adjustments as necessary; S Wright seconds; majority vote to approve ○ Brainstorm/revisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Add phone number/preferred contact ■ Availability – question asks about time commitment ■ Strong internet connection/access – can add to question about what you might need to do work ■ Agreement to keep fairly bare bones, remove irrelevant questions, and send to committee – S. Wright action item ■ DF (ECHO staff): Clarify difference between tools and APAT workgroups? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CB: Tools can think more broadly about surveys/indices/etc. that could be useful that requires an equity lens; APAT takes a lot of air when it's part of that space ○ Anyone interested in facilitating these spaces (taking attendance, etc.)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S Wright: PLE Support ■ TH: Training ■ CB: APAT Development ■ KH: Policies and Procedures ■ Tools? ■ Professional Development? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●

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VI. Updates & Announcements	S. Wright & N. Jamieson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leadership Council updates ● Workgroup Updates (N/A) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policies & Procedures Workgroup ○ Tools Workgroup ○ Trainings Workgroup ○ Professional Development Workgroup ○ PLE Support Space ○ APAT Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
Adjournment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next Meeting: 07/28/2022 12:00PM – 1:00PM; Virtual meeting via Zoom 	