

Coordinating Committee Minutes 02/28/20

Introductions.

Presentation on House/Senate Bills intersectional with homelessness issues.

- Jack Regenbogen, Colorado Center on Law and Policy, jregenbogen@cclponline.org
- Aubrey Hasvold, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, ahasvold@coloradocoalition.org

[HB20-1332: Prohibit Housing Discrimination Source of Income](#)

- Bill ensures a person's source of income does not prevent them from accessing housing
- Status: Pending until Tuesday March 17, 2020 at 1:30 PM
- Denver and several other cities have already enacted this, with mixed enforcement abilities. This would move the SOI discrimination prohibition statewide.
- [Source of Income Complaint form](#) – [Denver Anti-discrimination office](#)

[HB20-1196: Mobile Home Park Act \(MHPA\) Modernization](#)

- Addresses landlord retaliation, arbitrary eviction, utility bill transparency, landlord responsibilities, and a tenant's right to privacy
- Status: Under consideration until Friday March 6, 2020 at 9:00 AM

[HB20-1201: Opportunity to Purchase](#)

- Sets standards for potential community purchases of a park, allowing resident communities time to obtain financing. Requires landlord notification, transparency, fair negotiation, and public sector/nonprofit involvement
- Status: Under consideration

[HB20-1141: Fees Charged to Tenants by Landlords](#)

- Provides protections to CO residents against unreasonable late fees
- Status: Failed to pass

[HB20-1009: Fairness in Access to Eviction Court Records](#)

- Initially suppresses eviction from public access at the time of filing while the case is pending
- 2 options for tenant eviction services
 - [Colorado Legal Services](#)
 - [Colorado Poverty Law Project](#)
- Status: Passed

[HB20-1092: Medicaid Reimbursements to FQHCs](#)

[SB20-029: Helping Families Access Federal Income Supports](#)

- Increases Basic Cash Assistance (BCA) to make up for the lack of adjustment for inflation and implements an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) so that the value of BCA does not erode in the future
- Status: Under consideration

[SB20-108: Landlord Prohibitions Tenant Citizenship Status](#)

- Prevents landlords from demanding, requesting, or collecting information regarding or relating to the immigration or citizenship status of a tenant, among other related items
- Status: Under consideration

[SNAP for Student Success](#)

- Requests additional funds to provide a portion of the cost of conducting SNAP outreach to students and their families

All Families Deserve a Chance (AFDC) Coalition: This coalition unites direct service providers and policy organizations on efforts to address poverty in Colorado. If anyone has questions or would like to be added to the AFDC email list, they can reach out to Isabel Cruz at icruz@cwee.org or afdccoalition@gmail.com. Next meeting is **Friday, March 13th** from 2:30-4:30 PM. AFDC meets at CWEE at 1175 Osage St. in Ste. 204.

Draft Charter Review:

- MDHI coordinating Committee charter was reviewed and with a few small updates
- Draft was positively received
- Questions were raised on whether advocacy should be a role of the Coordinating Committee
 - Partners in City and County government stated this could present challenges to them participating in the committee
- Request to more explicitly include persons with lived experience of homelessness in the charter stakeholder list, and a noted request for other committees to do the same
- The Equity statement/guidelines from the Equity and Accessibility Committee were not included in the draft review, but they will be in the final document once reviewed by chairs and finalized by the Board of Directors.

Updates from Committee members:

- City of Aurora has hired new homelessness program liaison, Ryan LeCompte to support the HAP program and more.
- Department of Corrections has a Reentry Specialist, who is reaching out across homelessness services to get better connected
- CCLP – Ban the Box is now in effect statewide, meaning no one can ask for a criminal background on a job application (send any complains to Jack at CCLP – email above)
- Employment bootcamp for job retention
- Rapid Re-Housing training in late April
- DHOL – [New lockers are now available for Storage in Denver](#)
 - [Homeless Advisory committee meeting in March 16th](#)
 - Right to Survive Act failed to be heard in committee
 - Sweeps continue in Denver
 - Request to make the VISPDAT more accessible
- Adams County – Severe Weather Activation Plan is now available and can offer motel vouchers when needed, and other shelter not available for county residents. A partnership between the Adams Co shelter providers and the county. [Sign up for activation alerts here.](#)
- Almost Home –
 - Renovated and repaired after January fire, should be reopened by this week
 - Converted the upstairs kitchen (location of fire) into an additional shelter room. Additional 6-10 families will be served with the new additional bedroom
- Severe Weather Shelter Network – so far there have been 52 nights of shelter, housing around 500 individuals
- City Council District 9 –working to serve all constituents and seeing a lack of coordination of services in the city. Seeking additional resources and info to better connect those experiencing homelessness
- Homes for All Veterans – additional 1.2 million in funding for homeless and at-risk veterans, new programs opened across the state
 - Currently hiring a program manager in the Denver area, on website
- Jeff Co. – comprehensive summer count report should be out next week.
 - Standing up a cohort of municipal navigators in 5 different cities to work together as outreach and navigation for those experiencing homelessness. All should be hired by the end of March.
- Coronavirus information to be distributed across streets and agencies
 - [HUD Infectious Disease toolkit](#)
 - [Information from Denver Public Health and Environment on Coronavirus](#)

Meeting Attendance

Adam Lyons (Thornton), Angie Nelson (co-chair, Denver HOST), Ashley Dunn (almost home), Ben Nichols (Thornton), Benjamin Dunning (DHOL), Courtney Fischer (VOA), Courtney Jensen (Family Promise), Dani Paulk (Open Door Ministries), Diane Howald (MDHI), Jack Regenbogen (CCLP), James Sieffert (RMHS), Jamie Rife (MDHI), Jaylin Stotler (Thornton), Jesse Parish (DHOL), Kelli Barker (Jeffco), Kristen Baluyot (Salvation Army), Lara Adamson (Samaritan House), Laura Ware (CCLP), Lauren McClanahan (EOC), Laurie Walowitz (The Action Center), Layla Said (MDHI), Linda Barringer, Liz Stalnaker (DD9), LynnAnn Huizingh (SWSN), Marrton Dormish (The Refuge), Rene Arxoc (Crossroads) Sam Olson (Adams County), Shelley McKittrick (City of Aurora), Shelly Hines (Jewish Family Services), Sue Gilman (Bayaud), Susie Street (Family Tree, Co-Chair), Synthonia Lee (RMHS), Tom Luehrs (St. Francis).