

# Ice-breaker on Updating the ICH Logo



**Purpose:** get your feedback while we gather and settle in. Showcase the emerging design capabilities of the ICH Team.

**Background/Context:** The ICH is fully staffed. On our team is a talented graphic designer who will be helping us communicate the structure and function of the ICH. [Meet Daisean Foster.](#) [Meet the ICH Team.](#)

## The Design Journey



# Icebreaker Continued



## Need Your Feedback re Integrating Stars & Bars

①



②



③



④





**Convention for Recording ICH Committee Meetings:**

- ❖ Recording for purposes of complying with the open meeting act requirements
- ❖ Available for anyone who requests a copy at [ich.info@dc.gov](mailto:ich.info@dc.gov).



***Interagency Council on Homelessness***  
***Executive Committee***



***14 February 2023***

# Agenda Review



- I. **Welcome & Agenda Review (5 mins)**
  - a) Intro & Call for Announcements
  - b) Adopting Notes & Managing the Listserv
- II. **Encampments (30 mins)**
  - a) Supporting Impacted Residents (15 mins)
  - b) Role of the ICH & Strategic Planning (15 mins)
- III. **Client-Centered Strategic Planning (30 mins)**
  - a) Design for New York Avenue Redevelopment (10 mins)
  - b) PFFC Initiative to Support Participation of Women with Lived Experience (10 mins)
  - c) Partnership with the District's Poverty Commission (10 mins)
- IV. **Announcements & Reminders (as needed)**
  - a) DHS & ICH Performance Oversight Hearings
  - b) ICH Hiring: Veterans Project Manager
- V. **Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)**
  - a) Next Meeting: March 14 from 1:30 – 3 pm

# Intro & Call for Announcements



## ❖ Intros:

- Chat intros for attendees: name, pronouns, org, title/role
- Quick round of hellos from Co-Chairs and ICH staff with formal roles leading or supporting meeting

## ❖ Call for Partner Announcements/Reminders:

- Please “chat” any significant partner announcements, especially those changes/updates that impact the system
- We will make time on the agenda, as appropriate, or include in the notes



# Adopting Notes & Managing the Listserv



## ❖ **Adopting Prior Meeting Notes:**

- Automatically adopted unless meeting attendees flag issues
- Generally, ICH team sends out meeting notes within a week
- Please review as soon as possible and flag any errors/issues
- If we don't hear back within a week, assuming good to adopt

## ❖ **Managing the Listserv:**

- Meeting materials are only distributed to listserv members
- If you are **not** on the listserv, you will **not** receive materials
- To join the listserv, email [ich.info@dc.gov](mailto:ich.info@dc.gov)

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# Role of the ICH & Strategic Planning



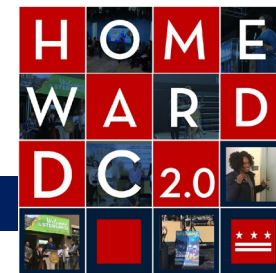
- ❖ Emphasis that we're not wavering on our commitment to Housing First and ensure that we are leading with housing but also being fair
  - Single Adult System poll highlights concerns about prioritizing encampments over shelter residents
- ❖ Acknowledging the decision-making authorities that are larger than and lie outside the ICH
  - Including urgent and public health/safety
  - Some resource decisions are also larger than the ICH

# Encampment Conversation Continued



- ❖ CAHP Prioritization and Encampments
- ❖ Call for DMHHS presence at Strategic Planning & ERSO so we can ensure ICH conversations are comprehensive (holistic) & allow for meaningful coordination
- ❖ Need to house encampment residents so we can avoid encampment closures
- ❖ How do we leverage vacant units across the District?
- ❖ Encampment closures harm our ability to locate and engage residents
- ❖ PFFC has been doing outreach for 2.5 years and as individuals with lived experience, it is very traumatizing. But also agree that encampments are an eye-sore and there is significant public health impacts. And recognize the tension with individuals that are in shelter. Violence at encampments is real and has been happening for the last 2.5 years. Bothered that the encampment was slated to stay open until April. We need to think through solutions for drug-use at all encampments, not just McPherson.
- ❖ Advocacy for leveraging PEPV and conversations w MMB at the Mayor's Engagement Forum. DHS clarified that there is limited availability at Bridge Housing. We do have 100 vacant beds across the shelter system and can accommodate individuals displaced at McPherson Square.
- ❖ MK's position is to not close encampments (ensure that they are rare) and when we do, we need to ensure impacted residents are connected to housing. Need to name the harms that take place when close encampments. What is a different playbook that can help us meet and hold to our principles? We need to build trust and transparency that helps us all get on the same page that we are only doing this when we absolutely have to!

# Encampment Conversation Continued



- ❖ Part of the problem at McPherson is that people moved from Scott's Circle and the McPherson encampment size got too large and unruly.
- ❖ What are the promising practices from across the nation?
- ❖ If we are sanctioning encampments, we need to be clear about the acceptable size, the public health issues and solutions and the infrastructure needed to support encampments
- ❖ Recognition that we have many resources to take advantage of as we have this conversation (including infrastructure like the Downtown Day Service Center)
- ❖ Appreciating our accomplishments in housing people over the last 3 years especially.
- ❖ Acknowledging that people are coming to DC because DC is housing people and our neighboring residents know this. We need to coordinate with our neighboring jurisdictions, we can't solve homelessness for the region or the nation.
- ❖ Need to be touching everyone and ensuring safety. Concerns about Wards 6, 7, and 8.
- ❖ Understand that everyone doesn't want encampments but need for the ICH to understand experience at shelters are traumatizing: including experiences of rape, attacks, theft, and the inability to secure ourselves.

# Next Steps



- ❖ Committee and Workgroups
- ❖ Let's take time to think through the feedback and then strategize about next steps!

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  - b) PFFC Initiative to Support Participation of Women with Lived Experience (10 mins)
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# New York Ave Shelter Design Recommendations

Tuesday, February 14, 1:30



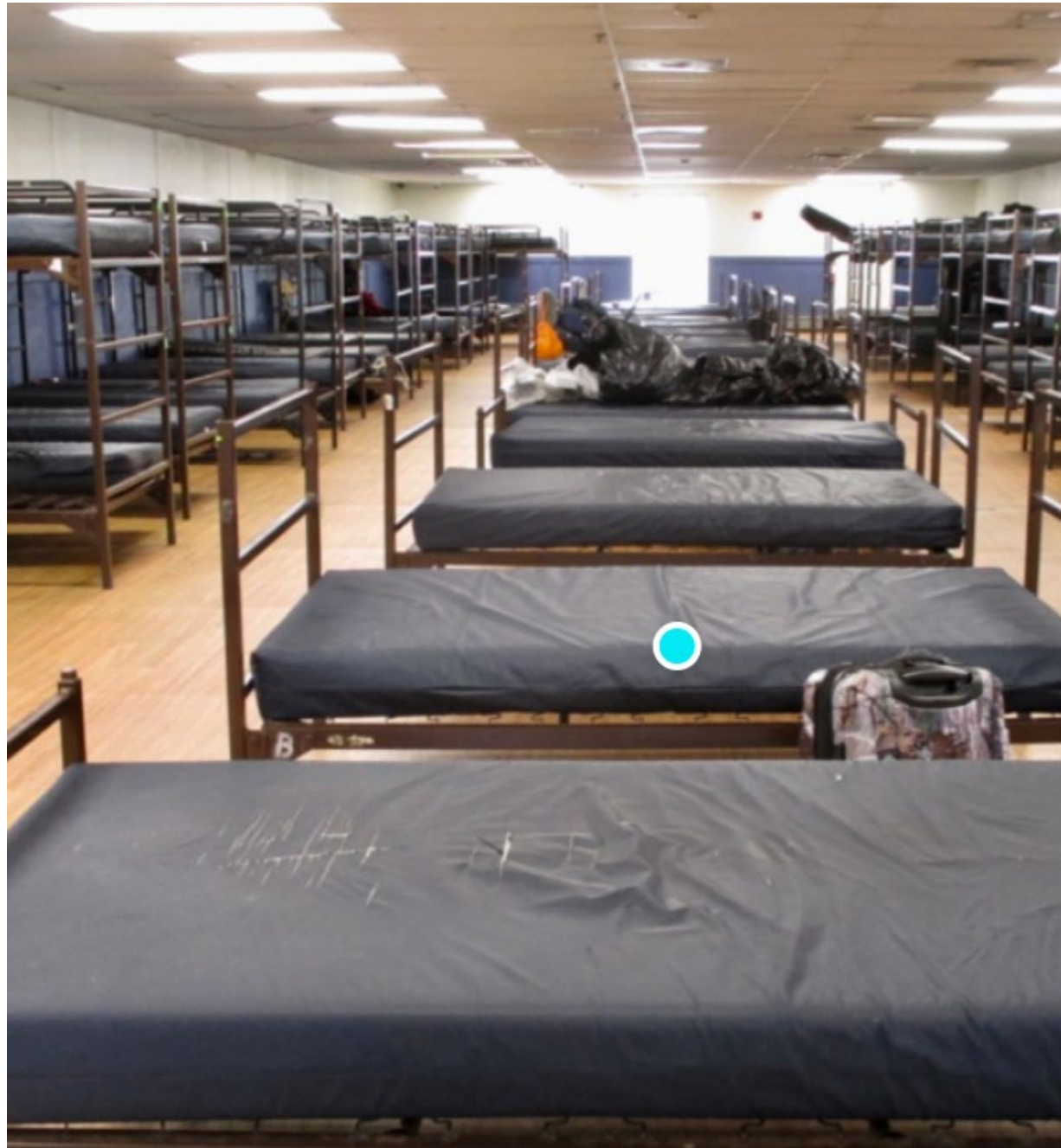
# Where We Are in The Design Process

Task	Status
Pre-Engagement Sessions	COMPLETE (11/29 & 11/30)
Town Hall Session at New York Ave	COMPLETE (12/6/22)
Town Hall Session at 801 East	COMPLETE (12/7/22)
Update ERSO	COMPLETE (1/4/22)
Develop Recommendations	12/6/22 – 1/26/23
Architect develops initial design	2/6/23 – 3/6/23
Architect presents to Capital Team	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of March
Architect presents to ERSO	March 29

# Factors Guiding the Recommendations

# Trauma-Informed Design



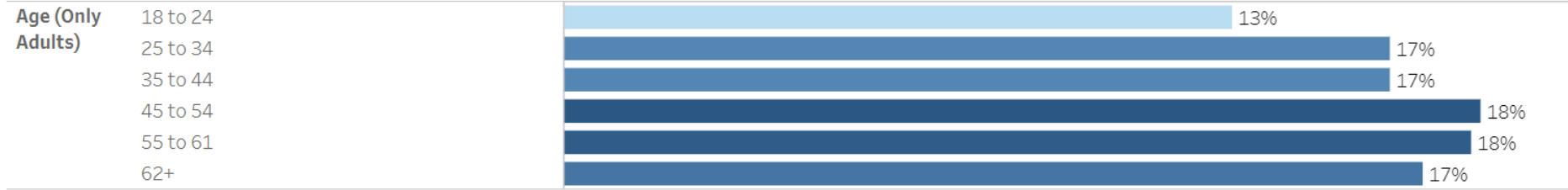


# Lessons Learned from 801 East

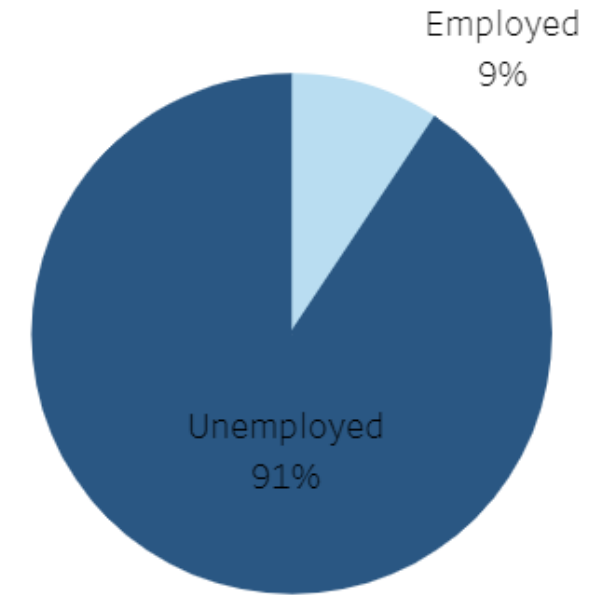


# PIT Data

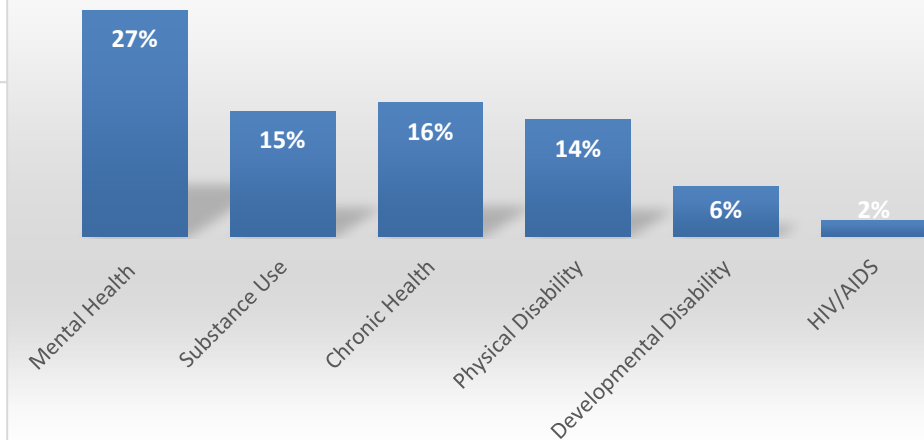
## Demographics of Total Population



## Employment, Adults



## Types of Disabling Conditions, Adults

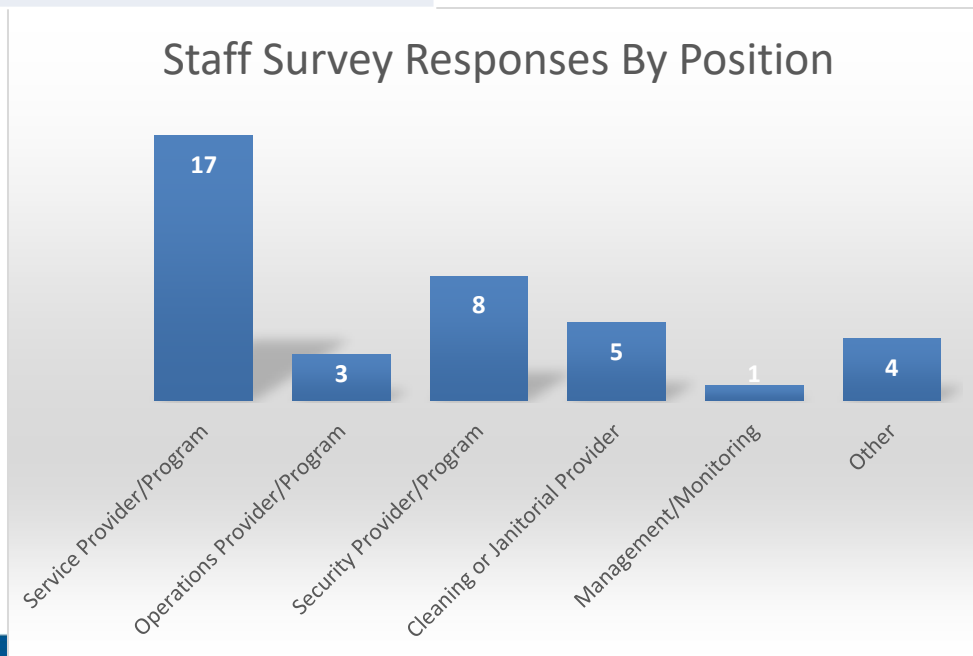


# Shelter Staff & DHS Feedback

## Written Staff Surveys

## Shelter Design Feedback Sessions

Shelter	Staff Responses
New York Ave	27
801 East	12



Private small focus groups for shelter staff during feedback sessions at 801 East and NYA

Feedback from Community Connections on 801 East Facility

Analysis from Unity on the Number of Medical Respite Beds Needed

DHS shelter design work group & surveys



# Resident Feedback

## Written Resident Surveys

Shelter	Responses	Percent
801 East --Subtotal	37	37%
801 East - English	34	34%
801 East - Spanish	3	3%
NY Ave --Subtotal	63	63%
NY Ave - English	45	45%
NY Ave - Spanish	18	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

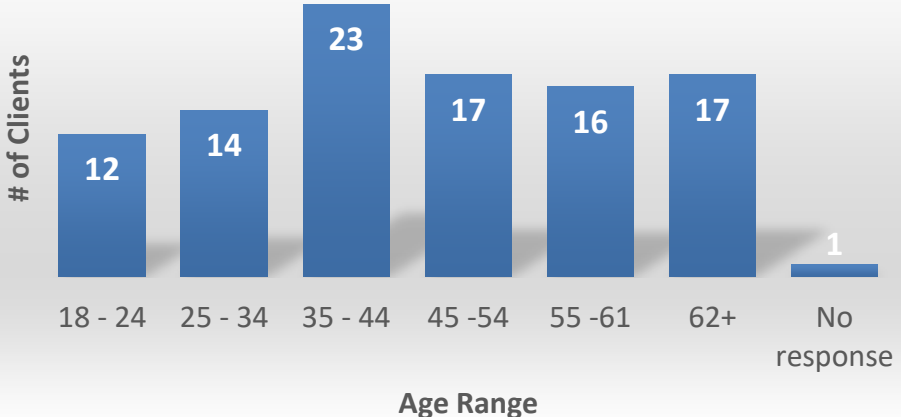
## Shelter Design Feedback Sessions



Over 100 participants (49 @801 and 68 @ NYA)  
 Small group discussions on focused topics

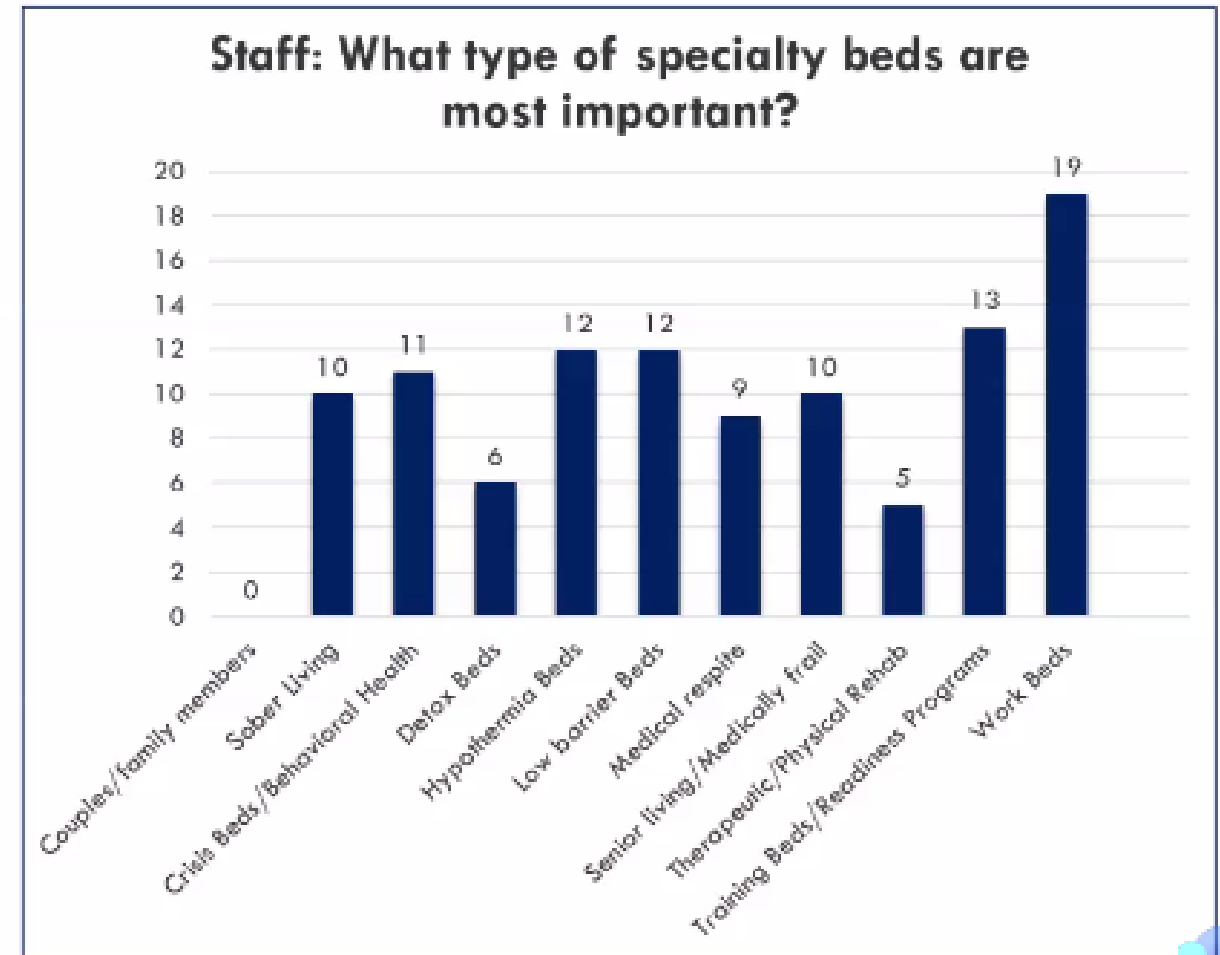
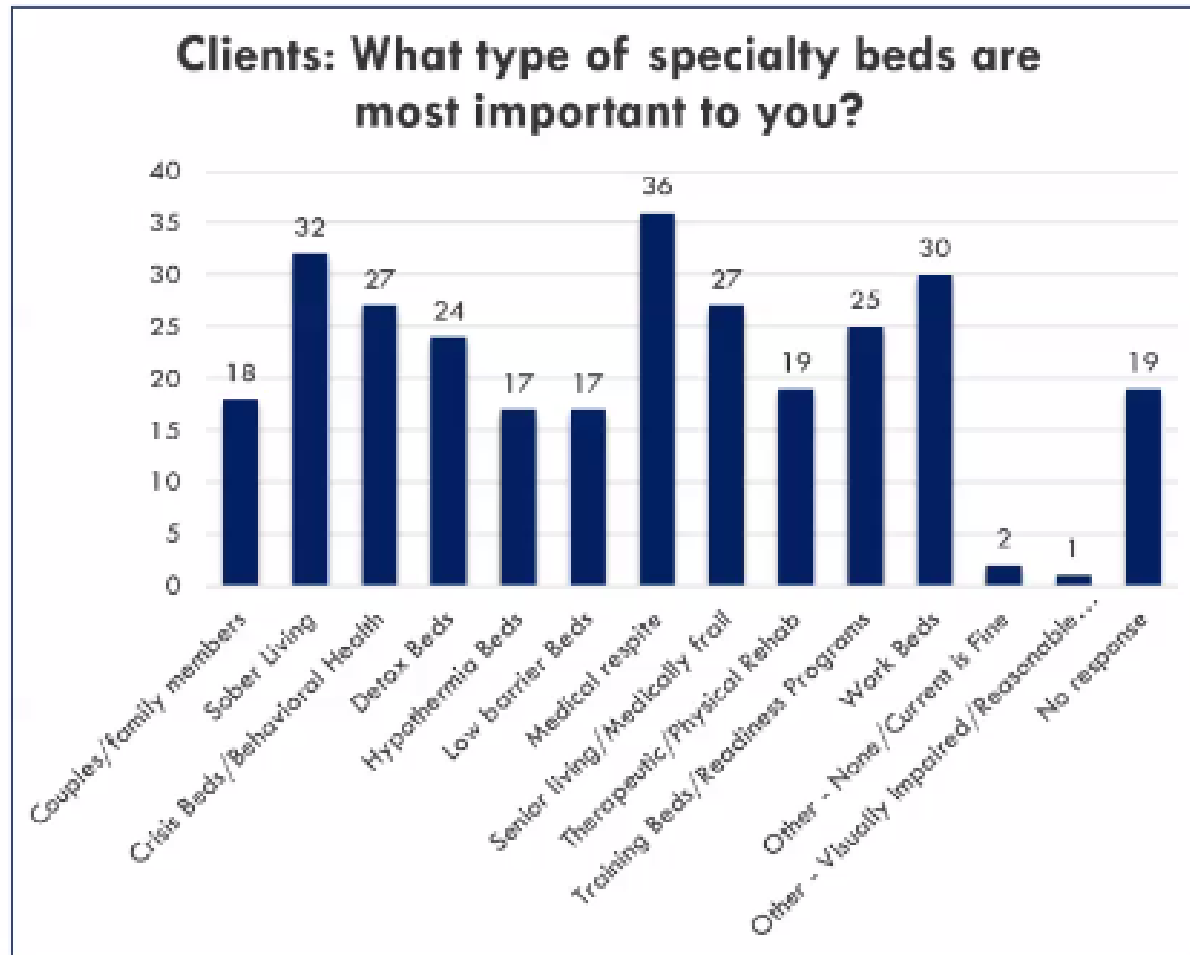


Client Surveys by Age



# Design Recommendations

**Top 5 for Clients:** Medical respite, Sober Living, Work Beds, Crisis Beds/Senior Living  
**Top 5 for Staff:** Work Beds, Training Beds, Hypo/LBS, Crisis Beds



# Design Recommendations

- Flexibility – must meet the needs now and be flexible to meet the needs years from now.
- Welcoming & Healing Space – throughout the building
- Community Living – bringing people together in meaningful ways based on common interests
- Incorporating options for physical exercise
- Additional options for more privacy & storage

# Recommendation: Specialty Beds

Program	# of Beds (360 Total)	Comments
LBS	~155	Will include a specialized smaller dorm connected to a bathroom that could be used for special circumstances – eg quarantine or sobering up
Community Dorms – (exact specifics TBD)	~80	Separate programs for residents who have common interests & goals – might be engaging with case management or sober living – residents will decide
Work Beds	~50	These will have additional privacy and storage options.
Medical Respite/Seniors	~75 A) Medical Respite(25) B) Seniors/Frail (50)	To assist clients who have acute health needs but are not sick enough to need hospitalization.
Day Center	Room 1: 50 cots Room 2: 50 cots	Will have a separate entrance. Two rooms are adaptable to meet needs during hypothermia season

# Next Steps

- Architect will develop initial design & reshare for feedback
- Present design to ERSO on March 29
- DHS is starting zoning process for New York Ave



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## Rhonda Whitaker Streets to Life Dc Women's Initiative PFFC

THE WOMEN ONBOARDED TO THE CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT WORK GROUP, HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GREATER WASHINGTON FOUNDATION THROUGH THE WALDON ADAMS GRANT.



# BIOs for the women Onboarding to ICH Consumer Engagement Work Groups

▶ RACHELLE – CO LEAD OF THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVE AND THE SENIOR MENTOR ADVISOR OF PFFC, MY PASSION IS RACIAL EQUITY AND HAVING A SEAT AT THE TABLE, TO GET REAL TIME INFORMATION TO BE ABLE TO EFFECT CHANGE. I HAVE 17 YEARS LIVED EXPERIENCE AND WANT TO HELP OTHERS BE THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES THAT THEY CAN BE . THE PARTNERSHIP IS NEEDED FOR ME TO EFFECTIVELY HELP HOUSING INSECURE INDIVIDUALS . I'M INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COMMITTEES.

▶ NIKKI- CO LEAD OF THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVE, I'M HAPPY TO BE HERE . I WANT TO LEARN WHAT'S GOING ON IN WASHINGTON DC WITH EACH AGENCY AND HOW EFFECTIVE THEY ARE IN HELPING THE HOUSING INSECURE.

▶ MAYAALLA- I HAVE BEEN ATTENDING ICH FOR SOME TIME NOW, MY OBJECTIVE IS TO LEARN AND BE PART OF THE COMMITTEES ONBOARDING NOW, BUT I HAVE EXPERIENCE. THESE MONTH ATTENDING ICH HAS EXPANDED MY KNOWLEDGE AND EVOLVED MY IMPACT IN OUTREACH AND SOCIAL WORK. 1 MINUTE TO SPEAK

▶ QUEENIE – THAT I MAY BE AN ADVOCATE FOR THE HOUSING INSECURE, SO THEY MAY BE SUCCESSFUL AS I AM. THAT'S WHY ITS IMPORTANT FOR ME TO BE AT THESE COMMITTEE MEETINGS TO SHOW THERE IS HOPE

▶ NAOMI- I WOULD LIKE TO GET CURRENT, UP TO DATE INFORMATION AND ACCURATE ANSWERS TO MY QUESTIONS. AS A GROUP I WOULD LIKE TO HOLD ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ALL INVOLVED IN CREATING POLICY AND DECISIONS FOR HOUSING RELATED TO DC RESIDENTS, WHICH INCLUDES A WIDE RANGE OF OPERATIONAL EFFORTS ACROSS THE BOARD.

▶ MICHELLE-

▶ CHRISTINA –



# Purpose of the Partnership

- ▶ To establish a racially equitable consumer engagement work group

By lifting the women's voices in the Coc.

To create leadership roles for women with lived experiences.

To Continue to strengthen the advocacy and the community partnership to end homelessness.

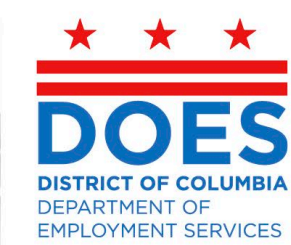
To Begin to build support systems for women led by women with lived experience.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES



# Commission on Poverty

Overview of the Commission



# Establishing the Commission

- Established in March 2021 by the District Council: *D.C. Law 23-184*
- The bill was first introduced in January 2019 and reintroduced in 2020.
- At least 3 staff members will support the Commission.
- The Poverty Commission will have 19 community Representatives:
  - 11 at-large Representatives
  - 8 ward Representatives
- The Commission will have 8 non-voting ex-officio members from the DC Government.
- Part of a nationwide movement of local government commissions.

D.C. Law 23-184. Commission on Poverty  
Establishment Amendment Act of 2020.

AN ACT

# Strategic Planning

## **Vision:**

Study issues surrounding poverty, evaluate current and previous poverty-reduction initiatives in the District and throughout the country to determine their effectiveness and, based on its research and evaluations, make comprehensive and continuing recommendations to the Mayor and the Council for strengthening and enhancing the economic status of person(s) in poverty in the District through initiatives that will improve individuals' educational, wellness, and housing outcomes.

## **Theory of Change:**

Help District residents transition from poverty to economic stability and social inclusion.

## **Goals:**

- Reduce poverty in the District by 50% by 2026 (legislated target)
- Eliminate all poverty in the District by 2036

# First-Year Activities

## Year One Priorities:

- 1) Nominate the 19 external members of the Commission on Poverty.
- 2) Develop a comprehensive, strategic poverty-reduction plan that can achieve a 50% reduction in poverty in the District by 2026. (§ 3-641.06)

## Activities to support the development of a poverty-reduction plan:

- External consultant will develop a draft poverty-reduction plan
- Commission members will contribute their expertise
- Listening sessions will enable learning from people with lived experience

FY22 - FY23	Poverty Commission Milestones
December – July	4 Listening Sessions Commission Members Appointed
July	Final consultant recommendations sent to Commission
August	Commission begins finalizing Poverty-Reduction Plan
End of FY22/FY23	Final Poverty-Reduction Plan submitted to Council

# Long-Term Activities

After approving a poverty-reduction plan, the Commission on Poverty will continue its work through the following responsibilities (§ 3–641.03):

- Issue annual reports on the poverty-reduction plan
- Conduct studies on best practices
- Host expert forums
- Review the progress of programs and District agencies engaged in addressing poverty
- Make recommendations to the Mayor and the Council
- Continue hosting listening sessions
- Approve an updated poverty-reduction plan every 5 years

# Proposed Partnership with the ICH

- Work with the appropriate ICH Committees and Workgroups to think through how we can engage the breadth and depth of homeless services, especially:
  - Constituents with Lived Experience and
  - Front-line staff
- Potential activities identified include:
  - Reviewing the draft Survey Tool to ensure that it is trauma-informed and makes sense for constituents with lived experience and front-line staff
  - Identifying potential locations for listening sessions specific to the homeless services system
  - etc

THANK YOU!

For questions or connecting:

[Gordon.Fletcher@dc.gov](mailto:Gordon.Fletcher@dc.gov)



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  - b) ICH Hiring: Veterans Project Manager
- V. Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)

# Performance & Budget Hearing Schedule



## Committee on Housing

### Performance Oversight Hearings

\*Note: the online schedule may not reflect this update\*

- ❖ Mon 2/13, 9:30 – 6 pm: DHCD
- ❖ Thurs 2/23, 9:30 – 6 pm: ICH, DHS, DC Housing Finance Agency and Housing Production Trust Fund (HPTF)
- ❖ Thurs 3/02, 9:30 – 6 pm: DCHA

### Budget Oversight Hearings

- ❖ Fri 3/31, 9 – 6 pm: DHS
- ❖ Mon 4/03, 9 – 6 pm: DHCD (Housing Production Trust Fund)
- ❖ Thus 4/06, 9 – 6 pm: DCHA

# ICH Hiring Veterans Project Manager



- ❖ ICH is hiring a project manager to lead specific initiatives as the District advances progress on reducing and ending Veteran homelessness.
  - ICH will distribute the job description and application questions with the meeting notes.
  - Applications will be accepted via email to [ich.info@dc.gov](mailto:ich.info@dc.gov) until Friday, February 24th.

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