

**HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
8.25.21 @ City Hall 3:00 PM**

MEREDITH REEVES SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR, Division Manager, Escambia County: Calls meeting to order at 3:05 PM

MARCIE WHITAKER, SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR, Housing Director, City of Pensacola

**INTROS/ATTENDANCE**

MIKE KING, Habitat for Humanity

ALLISON PATTON, Retired Attorney

DONNA JACOBI-PRUITT, Family Promise

AVALON "MAL" MALLORY, 211 Resource Manager/United Way

JASON GRIZZARD, Waterfront Mission

JANELLE BERGER, Director of Operations, United Ministries

TARSHA STALLWORTH, Linkage Resource Coordinator, United Way

KATHLEEN BELLARD

DAVID RENSHAW, Executive Director, Majella House

CONNIE BOOKMAN, TASKFORCE CO-CHAIR, Pathways for Change

BRITTANY AUSTIN, Pathways for Change

BLAIR CASTRO, Shook PR

CHRISTOPHER HILLMAN, Pensacola Osteopaths/LGBTQ Shelter

JOHN JOHNSON, TASK FORCE CO-CHAIR, Opening Doors

PAUL MILLER, NWFMC

MELISSA JOHNSON, Fearless Community Inc.

LAWRENCE POWELL, City of Pensacola

FRAN JONES, Escambia County Finance Authority

LISA BERNAU, Escambia County Finance Authority

KATHY JOHNSON, Escambia County Finance Authority

ELIZABETH BONDURANT, United Way of Santa Rosa County Outreach Specialist

ASHLEY WILKINSON-MEYER, United Ministries

CLARA LONG, Escambia County Neighborhood and Human Services

MAGGIE MCKEAN, Tulane Intern

TORI WOODS, Sunshine Health

## **DISCUSSION**

Co-Chairs will lead interactive discussion on potential expenditure categories on city's ARPA funding, with three main categories to consider: public health, negative economic impact, and service to disproportionately impacted communities.

-Suggestion to Eviction prevention (possibly stay away from this because county is getting other resources for this due to COVID), or public health or medical expenses/payroll or training

-Suggestion of emergency needs where we can immediately isolate COVID-positive homeless people in a quarantine space.

-Need to keep in mind that an organization must have the capability to handle federal dollars, must have a DUNS number, proper reporting, etc. Payments will be reimbursable, usually monthly.

-Discussion of lack of housing to keep families together, lack of housing for trans homeless individuals

-Cannot use this as a match for any other federal grants

-County will be getting very specific \$17 million for rental arrears due to COVID impacts, but \$3 million from city can possibly be leveraged with other resources

-Services exist but buildings much harder to come by

-Can Meredith define boundaries of rental assistance that is to come?  
Demonstration of COVID impact, lost job or had hours reduced, increase in expenses, paid directly to landlord or the utility company, only to Escambia County residents, prioritizations to income below 50%, part of the household that is unemployed in the last 90 days.

-Suggestion of 60 pallet shelters, at 5 different sites, with a charged rental fee, use county dollars to cover services fee, could have different agencies that were responsible for the care of the pallet shelters.

-Could we fund Waterfront, Dream Center etc. as landlords of each site etc? and help with their "rental assistance?" There would have to be a lease in place for that to happen....you would not have tenants that would be in arrears, since there would be no shelters yet, so may be better to look at other sources of funding.

-Must keep in mind zoning ordinances if you are considering tiny homes and pallet shelters; you need to run things by the powers that be.

-Discussion on getting the experts in here to discuss this before we make commitments on things that could not be built- will potentially have zoning speak at the next meeting.

-IDEAS: Retrofitting building and quarantining COVID cases, jobs partnerships, LOTUS model for landlord incentives, pallets, tiny houses, family shelters, LGBT, youth, emergency shelters, container homes, community bath and kitchen, campsites, case management and services for unhoused services, acquisition of IDs and birth certificates

-Discussion on partnership with larger entity such as Baptist Healthcare for mental health care piece or other components

-Members should send ideas to co-chairs via email

**ACTION ITEM-** Someone from planning and zoning to speak next meeting, or meet with co-chairs

-Next meeting is Wed Sept 22, same time same place (3:00 at City Hall)

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 4:40 PM**