



Crawford County Housing Meeting

January 9, 2024

Notes

Topic	Notes
Introductions	Chad Abram, Nate Gilberts, Jann Sturmer, Larry Quamme, Dan McWilliams, Monica Horner, Sonya Lenzendorf, Samantha Martin, Mark Lee, Julie Mullikin, Sheri Bowar, Brandy Thompson, Terri Tippery, Amanda Griswold, Roby Fuller, Steve VanKooten, Brad Steiner, Tom Cornford, Jim Hackett, Melanie Prew, Hillary Burns-Kite
Direct Services Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussed a single county-wide housing application to be sent to multiple landlords.• Discussion regarding different types of housing and eligibility/admission requirements for each - HUD subsidized to include Section 8 and income restricted units. Vital documents required for applications, difficult for some subsets of our population to obtain without assistance.• Discussion regarding the number of individuals involved and the time consumed assisting consumers in completing the variety of applications.• Noted that Richland County does have a position that focuses on housing, Roby Fuller to potentially touch base and identify funding source etc.• Resources broken down by specific towns so individuals know where to go - not only for housing but for all resources. Lacrosse County was mentioned as an example of this. Potential idea to reach out to local high schools and/or SWTC for a project request for students to complete a city/village guide for resources available.
Program Development/Landlord Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identified the need for a central source for identifying current housing availability. Possibly a link on the new county website where landlords could add their listings and residents could look for openings.• Discussed the need to identify the current landlords in the county, particularly those that have smaller units/rooms that they rent out. We are generally familiar with the local apartment managers for the larger housing complexes but need a single source.• Discussion regarding whether this is a current landlord association in the county.• Look at encouraging and educating the landlords in the county. Amanda mentioned the Rent Smart course that is offered through UW-Extension (https://crawford.extension.wisc.edu/rent-smart/)• Need to highlight resources for stakeholders• Discussion regarding the need for a centralized housing source and the previous "Crawford County Housing Authority". Old position was previously held by Rhonda Karnopp. Amanda Griswold volunteered to touch base with

	<p>her regarding the funding source, where it went etc., some discussion that it might have gone regional when Allegiant Took over the HUD applications.</p>
Improving Existing Housing Stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion regarding Airbnb and VRBO properties increasing in Crawford County and how that is negatively impacting our available housing stock. City of PDC does require them to register and collect a quarterly room tax, it sounds as though they are working through that requirement right now as many are not registered. Discussion that potentially Bob Moses at the Chamber of Commerce is assisting the City of PDC with this. Is not currently a county-wide requirement. • Discussed the inclusion of the township officials throughout the county as the Village Boards don't seem to know what to do to increase capacity or infrastructure related to housing. Lack personnel for project management and grant writing, overwhelming. • Sheri Bowar spoke of the Homestyle Renovation information that goes with the WHEDA program. This program does allow 100% financing and up to 6 months of rent included in the loan if the borrower is not able to reside in the property during the construction phase. WHEDA also had a pilot program for Rural Workforce Housing and we did apply to be one of the chosen counties. <p>The old Walter Schmidt building on Beaumont Road, currently owned by the hospital is not being utilized, discussed the need for transitional housing.</p>
New Development/Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed reconnecting with HUD and having a HUD office in the county. • Need to look at housing not only in PDC but in the rest of the county as well in terms of new development. Many village boards aren't aware of the next steps to take with regard to developing land and lack the infrastructure to start and maintain these larger projects without technical support / assistance. Discussed addressing the topic with the township association. • Need for senior housing. Many older residents are holding on to their homes as there is no mechanism/availability to downsize. Large number of one person households in multiple bedroom homes. • Identify the builders and developers interested in developing new stock. • Couleecap was brought up as an entity that has shown an interest in new development in the county.
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Next Large Group Meeting	April 9, 2024 @ 9:00 am in the Crawford County Administration Building

