



## HEALTHY HOUSING, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES (H3C)

Community Based Organizations (CBOs)  
Engagement Session Feedback  
January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Introduction

The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) has received a Nation Council of State Housing Agencies (NCSHA) Healthy Housing, Healthy Communities (H3C) grant to develop a health and housing model for Pennsylvania. In order to do this, PHFA is working with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) to conduct engagement sessions with stakeholders from communities across the commonwealth. The purpose of these sessions is to better understand ongoing efforts, challenges, needs, and priorities related to health and housing in PA. The following is a summary of the feedback received during the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) Session on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2023.

### Summary

- A variety of health and housing partnerships exist in communities across the commonwealth.
  - These range from services coordination to complex investments from both hospitals and managed care organizations.
- Participants asserted that health systems should invest to address service capacity issues as well as to address the lack of affordable and safe housing in their communities.
- There are challenges related to formal collaboration with health systems.
  - Formal legal agreements are often complex and difficult for CBOs to agree to
  - Compensation for services is not always commensurate for the CBO's needs
- People of color and communities who have been disproportionately impacted in terms of access to housing and quality healthcare should be involved in this process in a meaningful way before this pilot is released. This should be done in a trauma informed way that does not damage the relationship with communities of color.
- Need for facilitation of a better formal collaboration between health systems and CBOs.
  - The state and local government should play a role in both providing incentives for health systems to do this as well as requirements making health systems more accountable to communities that they serve.
- Participants were provided with poll questions to rank and identify priority populations for their community. The following represents results from that polling:
  - The three most common high priority populations: Individuals with Behavioral Health Formerly Incarcerated Individuals experiencing Homelessness (older adults and Families would be including if expanding to the top five populations identified)
  - Individuals experiencing Homelessness were ranked as the #1 choice more frequently than any other category.