



HEALTHY HOUSING, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES (H3C)

Housing and Community Developers (CDCs)
Engagement Session Feedback
February 7th, 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 Housing and Community Development (CDC) Session on February 7th 2023.

Summary

- While a variety of health and housing partnership examples exist across PA, there is a desire for statewide programming that structures and incentivizes health system investment in the development and preservation of affordable housing. Participants specifically mentioned include:
 - Creating programming that can structure hospital investment in equity in 4% LIHTC projects.
 - Changes to the QAP or other state guidelines that could encourage more health and housing projects.
 - Identifying funding streams/programming outside of existing programs with existing criteria
- Developers have experienced significant challenges in this space including difficulty maintaining partnerships with hospitals, heightened community opposition to new affordable projects, and difficulty establishing data sharing and MOUs
- The space already created by this initiative is one that is not common enough in communities across PA. Venues to bring health and housing partners are needed focused around the potential for projects that can meet all partners' goals. There is a need for the state to fulfill a convener capacity to establish and sustain necessary partnerships for these types of projects to proceed.
- The state should conduct an examination of regulations that are causing barriers to creating affordable and supportive housing opportunities for vulnerable populations.
- Need to incorporate the participation of BIPOC individuals who experience disproportionately negative health and housing outcomes into decision making processes related to this initiative.
- PHFA should consider the adaptation of other models such as New Jersey's Hospital Partnership Program, Denver's Social Impact Bond, and Boston Medical Center's Investment Fund Program.

PHFA and CSH thank all attendees for their participation and look forward to continuing this dialogue. Expect more information in the coming months regarding opportunities to engage in the H3C planning process. For any questions of follow up conversation, please contact Brian McShane at brian.mcshane@cshe.org