



HEALTHY HOUSING, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES (H3C)

Hospitals and Health Systems
Engagement Session Feedback
February 28th, 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 Hospital and Health Systems Session on February 28th 2023.

Summary

- There are several projects occurring across the commonwealth to address health and housing needs including home repairs and asthma remediation, legal services, a hospital partnership in bonus CoC program (Lancaster Penn Medicine), street medicine, charitable donations, and other investments.
- Participants expressed needs related to creating new affordable units, preserving existing affordable housing that is at risk of losing affordability, eviction prevention, and providing repairs to existing housing stock.
- Participants recommended State funding that would be matched with hospital investment in under-prescribed 4% LIHTC Deals Allocating specific PHAR funds for health and housing programs that build new and repair existing housing.
- 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. Participants want PHFA to coordinate with other state agencies to align efforts and requirements.
- There is no desire to take on a role that does not fit a hospital or health system, specifically as it relates to housing development. Hospitals as investors, community institutions, partners that can enhance community partners capacity, and managers of care are roles that make more sense in this kind of collaboration.
- Hospitals that have begun to focus on race equity have noticed that these efforts have improved outcomes across all racial demographics. There is a need to focus on smaller geography within this statewide conversation if this conversation will occur in a meaningful way.

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@csh.org