

## Racial Equity Committee Meeting

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Meeting start: 2:07 PM

In attendance: DaQuanta Copeland, Johnnie Thomas, Letha Williams, Karen Lassiter, Harry Davis, Erin Flynn

REC Survey – Johnnie Thomas said he will send Erin Flynn questions to use in the survey.

Johnnie Thomas is contacting Oak City Cares about starting a legal clinic since it is a centralized location that a lot of our client base visits regularly.

DaQuanta Copeland brought up discussing the new charter. *Erin Flynn informed people in the meeting that if they are to receive any announcements, such as reminders on public comment on the charter, are found in the CoC newsletter every week.*

DaQuanta Copeland begins to share her screen so that the committee can look over the charter together. Discussion on specificity in the charter about the different marginalized groups was brought up by Erin Flynn. DaQuanta asks for someone to explain the Wake CoC to make sure that the committee understands what it is the CoC does. She stresses the importance of the charter and why people should be leaving comments on the charter.

Letha Williams discusses how the Coordinated Entry programs can use some work. For example, people going to Oak City Cares and not utilizing the resources there.

DaQuanta Copeland reminds everyone that the guidelines for this committee also fall under the charter and that we cannot do our jobs without knowing these requirements. DaQuanta identifies that the basic requirements for HUD and the language they use are utilized in the charter. Asks for where people on the committee take issue.

Johnnie Thomas says that he does have comments on what the charter says about the Racial Equity Committee.

1. Johnnie: Is it Racial Equity Committee? Or Racial Equity and Inclusion?
  - a. DaQuanta: It is Racial Equity Committee.
2. An issue on more inclusive wording was brought up – sexual orientation/LGBTQ+ representation and more racial groups. Erin Flynn is going to leave a public comment about wording that can be used to be all inclusive, rather than so restrictive to the three groups mentioned.

DaQuanta Copeland points out the line that says an annual work plan will need to be submitted and that as a committee we need to be looking at ways to address these issues for this plan.

DaQuanta Copeland calls for a free-flowing conversation and starts by asking if we could meet in person. Suggests maybe even meeting a few times back-to-back. DaQuanta also says that her and Johnnie Thomas will start having agenda setting meetings to get an agenda out for meetings.

DaQuanta asks for HUD requirements on DEI policies and procedures. Explains that the requirements are important to understand so that the CoC can best understand best practices.

To prepare for the next meeting:

1. DaQuanta is going to schedule the next REC meeting and find a place to meet in person for two hours.
2. Get at least 3 priorities of different disparate areas to discuss.
3. Read over HUD DEI policies.

Adjourn at: 3:05 PM

***Next Meeting: June 18<sup>th</sup>***

***Location: TBD but attempting to be in person for two hours.***