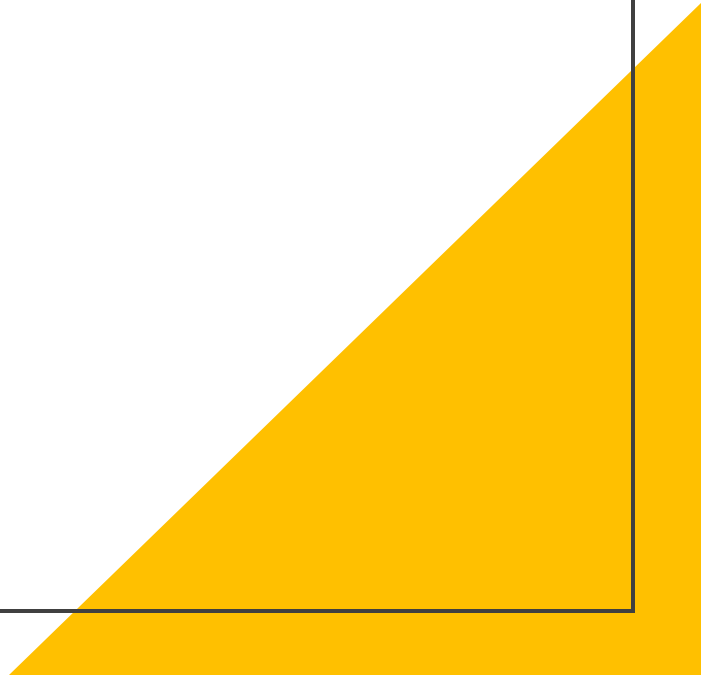




EveryOneHome

# Outreach, Access and Coordination Committee

February 12th, 2025



# Welcome/Introductions

- New folks say hello!
- OAC is tasked with:
  - Ensuring people experiencing homelessness receive available services tailored to their individual needs
  - Supporting providers in the system to offer welcoming and effective points of engagement
  - coordinating, monitoring, and improving the quality and effectiveness of outreach, coordinated entry and other services



# Agenda

1. Welcome / Introduction
2. Minutes
3. Public Comment
4. Urgent Items and/or Homeless System Updates
5. **Centering Racial Equity**
6. **Unsheltered Workgroup – Recommendations to TWG**
7. **Focus Strategies - Equity Analysis**
8. **Action Item – 2025 Work Plan**
9. Closing



# Approval of Minutes

- No roll call vote is needed, corrections not already received by Homebase will be noted and minutes changed accordingly.



# Public Comment



# Homelessness System Updates



# REC Share to OAC Committee: Why We Share

The Racial Equity Committee is committed to sharing updates! This is important because **racial equity is a CoC commitment:**

- The entire CoC is responsible for racial equity.
- Sharing racial equity committee updates helps us all to learn and participate in racial equity work.
- Sharing helps introduce committees to racial equity resources that can help us to prevent and end homelessness equitably.
- Sharing gives CoC members and the community the chance to ask questions about racial equity work and figure out how to support the CoC's commitment to racial equity.



# Racial Equity Committee Update

The Racial Equity Committee is requesting each committee: **select a Workplan Equity Goal**

- Current Status: REC liaisons are currently sharing this update with their committees!
- What Has Already Been Done: each committee is working to finalize their workplans. The REC feels this is the ideal time to select at least one workplan item where the committee will lead with equity.
- Where Are Things Going: committees are asked to review their workplans and think about which workplan item(s) will have an equity goal. Please select your workplan equity goal as you are finalizing your workplans.
- Request from Racial Equity Committee: the committee is available to meet with committees who may need additional support! Once you select your equity goal, the team asks that each committee shares their goal with the REC so the team is able to provide support if needed or identify areas where committees can collaborate.



# Selecting a Workplan Equity Goal

You can set any goal you like, but some examples are:

- Disaggregate data by race to better understand impact on people experiencing homelessness.
- Host listening sessions with people with lived experience who are most impacted (e.g. Black males).
- Holding racial equity training that will support the committee to lead with equity on the workplan item.
- Use a racial equity impact analysis (or root cause analysis) to guide the process for the workplan item.

**Remember that the racial equity framework is also a resource for you. You can use the framework principles to decide which workplan item should be selected and what your goal will be.**



# Racial Equity Resources

Remember that the Racial Equity Committee is always working to provide resources and guidance to the CoC on leading with equity. Key resources are linked below!

- Racial Equity Framework
  - CoC Racial Equity Framework ([click this text to access](#))
  - If you need additional support, please see the support tools and resources at the bottom of the framework.
- Racial Equity Committee Google Drive Folder: Folder and Racial Equity Resources
  - Racial Equity Committee Google Drive Folder ([click this text to access](#))
  - Racial Equity Committee Google Drive: Racial Equity Resources folder ([click this text to access](#))



# Attend Racial Equity Committee Meetings!

## Racial Equity Committee Meetings

2nd Thursdays of each Month

11:00 am - 1:00 pm PT

## Racial Equity Committee Zoom Information

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/88193971818>

Meeting ID: 881 9397 1818

+1507-473-4847

**Racial Equity Committee meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested is welcome to attend!**



# Recommendations to the Mayor's Technical Working Group



Unsheltered Workgroup

# TWG Encampment Matrix

The Matrix and its corresponding implementation guidance do the following:

- Provide a point in time analysis of an identified encampment site and should be used for re-assessments at regular intervals as conditions can change.
- Serve as a framework to reduce harm and equitably triage encampment interventions by utilizing resources to prioritize response based on health and safety factors over complaints
- Define key terminology from the matrix
- Offer best practices to coordinate across departments and agencies

# TWG Encampment Matrix - Suggested Edits

The purpose of the memo is to highlight the recommended edits to the Matrix as determined by the Unsheltered Workgroup.

Comments and questions were grouped by topic and paired with their list of suggested recommendations and next steps:

- **Purpose and Scope of the Matrix Document**
- **Encampments and Reducing their Risks**
- **Best Practices – Acknowledging Gaps in Homeless Response System**
- **Racial Equity and Inclusive Policy Practices**
- **People Centered Recommendations and Guidance**
- **Notices and Relocation Protocol**
- **Health and Safety**
- **Oversight and Accountability**



# TWG Encampment Matrix – Suggested Addendums

The Unsheltered Workgroup also recommends the following addendums could be created to work in conjunction with the Encampment Prioritization Matrix:

- Factor Definitions
- Best Practices for Pre-Sweep Engagement with Encampments
  - Outreach Written Standards
  - Timeline of interventions to be done before sweep
- Updated Shelter Written Standards (reducing barriers to shelter)



# TWG Encampment Matrix – Purpose and Scope

## Comments/Concerns

- Purpose is too focused on municipalities
- Include what this document applies to (i.e. jurisdictions, public/private, etc..)
- State what this Matrix document is not and acknowledge lack of resources

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Add clear statement that the document is not a complete solution
- Expand the purpose to align with CoC and service providers
- Define the scope, including jurisdictions

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Encampments and Reducing their Risks

## Comments/Concerns

- How can high-risk encampments be supported to reduce closure risk?
- Encampments provide mechanisms for survival and have positive aspects
- Disruption to encampments without considering these benefits can have negative impacts

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Develop strategies to reduce closure risk
- Include a section detailing the positive aspects of encampments and the potential harm caused by poorly planned disruptions
- Balance this with an explanation of the need for safety and order

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Best Practices: Acknowledging Gaps

## Comments/Concerns

- Clarify the focus of best practices
- Consider pre-sweep engagement expectations, outreach standards, and timeline
- Include details about preventing re-encampment
- For high priority cases, actions should not proceed unless sufficient offers of shelter or housing are available
- Acknowledging that not everyone will accept shelter, what is the right way to handle those left?

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Add “No sweeps without sufficient resources” as a guiding principle.
- Define best practices for each stage (i.e. offering services, appropriate engagement, and preventing re-encampment
- Add timelines and outreach standards
- Develop policies to establish sanctioned areas or safe parking
- Allow displaced encampment residents to relocate to low to moderate sensitivity locations

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Racial Equity and Inclusive Policy Practices

## Comments/Concerns

- Racial equity isn't well-reflected in the policy. How will equitable triage look in practice?
- Are vulnerable populations protected from harmful practices, and how do acceptance rates influence decisions?
- Can policies like Oakland's equity analysis/assessment be used to track impacts of sweeps and avoid disparities?
- Shelters often don't meet the diverse needs of individuals
- Offers of shelter are not equivalent to offers of housing

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Center Racial Equity to ensure equitable triage and interventions
- Acknowledge gaps in resources and when possible, allocate sufficient and appropriate resources, with offers tailored to populations
- Acknowledge difficulty in coordinating across local jurisdictions when encampment residents move around or are displaced.
- Track acceptance rates for congregate vs non-congregate offers and emphasize outreach to build trust and improve acceptance

# TWG Encampment Matrix – People Centered Recommendations and Guidance

## Comments/Concerns

- Policies should empower collaboration and include the voices of all stakeholders, especially People with Lived Experience
- Did People with Lived Experience participate in developing the current draft? How can they be involved in refining it?
- Good neighbor guidelines place undue burden on encampment residents and require clear definitions, realistic expectations, and resource support.

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Ensure People with Lived Experience participate in ongoing discussions and are engaged in drafting localized guidelines and feedback processes.
- Form Homeless Working Groups that include People with Lived Experience
- Ensure “Good Neighbor Guidelines” are co-designed with local encampment residents to reflect their needs and priorities.
- Rename “Good Neighbor Guidelines” to avoid stigma, such as “Community Guidelines”
- Ensure guidelines are clear, in plain language, and include resources

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Notices and Relocation Protocols

## Comments/Concerns

- Notices lack clarity and sufficient minimum timeframes, creating inconsistency.
- More information is needed about storage policies for belongings. Possessions must be stored adequately, and barriers to reclaiming them must be addressed.
- How do you build trust and buy-in to the offers of resources

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Consistently mention a minimum notice period for moderate to emergency levels of sensitivity and ensure notices are clear, in plain language, and posted in accessible locations
- Develop possession storage policies, ensuring easy retrieval, possibly linked to HMIS for easy retrieval.
- Develop vehicle relocation policies, ensuring easy retrieval.
- ‘Sufficient’ resources should be offered to those living in an area where a sweep is anticipated.
- Add a subsection outlining pre-sweep engagement expectations, including outreach components.
- Support policies to increase resources and improve access to CE assessments for encampments

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Health and Safety

## Comments/Concerns

- Imminent health hazards may extend beyond environmental factors to include individual circumstances.
- It is unclear what resources are provided to prevent and/or mitigate health hazards
- It is important to note that sweeps are harmful to all encampment residents. Some vulnerable populations face greater harm from sweeps. In all cases, potential harm should be minimized through careful planning and resource management

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Clearly define health hazards and outline preventive measures and resources provided
- Reduce sweeps
- Identify high-risk individuals in encampment communities and ensure assessors are trained to identify vulnerabilities. Prepare resources to mitigate sweeps' impacts in the context of specific community compositions

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Oversight and Accountability

## Comments/Concerns

- Who interprets factors in the matrix, and how is consistency ensured across jurisdictions?
- How do we prevent cities from signing on and not following the guidelines?
- Lack of oversight and accountability mechanisms to track the implementation and impact of the policy.

## Recommendations/Next Steps

- Include transparency measures, such as regular reporting and a grievance process for impacted individuals.
- Define factors explicitly to minimize interpretation disparities and provide oversight mechanisms, such as collaborative weekly meetings to coordinate resources.

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Factor Definitions

Need to define many of the “factors” provided in the Matrix itself to minimize ‘room for interpretation.’  
Examples include:

Factors	Emergency	High	Medium	Low	Definition
Imminent health hazard		X			<i>Please define</i>
Active health crisis	X	X			<i>Please define for each level of sensitivity</i>
History of violent criminal activity		X			<i>Please define</i>
Proximity to objective dangers			X		<i>Please define</i>
Excessive waste				X	<i>Please define</i>

# TWG Encampment Matrix – Best Practices & Shelter Written Standards

Applying the Matrix to encampment situations requires great sensitivity on the part of city workers, service providers, and advocates. There is a need for a **'Best Practices' addendum**:

- **Outreach Written Standards**
  - To emphasize building trust with encampment through consistent engagement and providing interim services like health care, sanitation, and low-barrier shelter option
- **Timelines of Interventions**
  - List of core actions that are mandatory steps to complete before conducting a sweep. Critical Outreach steps could be given expected timing

The CoC should also review and update the existing **Shelter Written Standards**. These would prioritize reducing barriers to entry and accommodating diverse needs like those of individuals with pets or possessions.

- By focusing on accessibility and tailored services, these standards will create more equitable approaches to connecting people with shelter and resources

# Coordinated Entry Equity Analysis



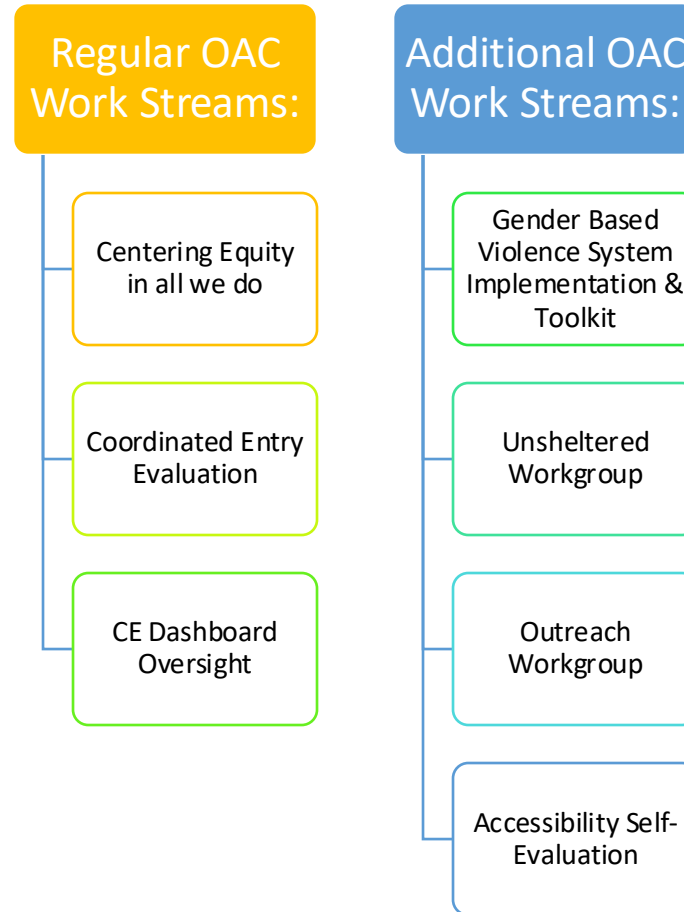
Focus Strategies

# Action Item: 2025 Work Plan



OAC co-chairs/H&H

# 2025 Workplan Projects



# Centering Equity In all we do



- In an effort to Center Racial Equity within all committee spaces, each meeting contains standing time for equity liaisons to provide updates or host discussions with the committee on equity topics

# 2025 Coordinated Entry Evaluation

## Part 1 – Coordinated Entry Entity Self-Assessment:

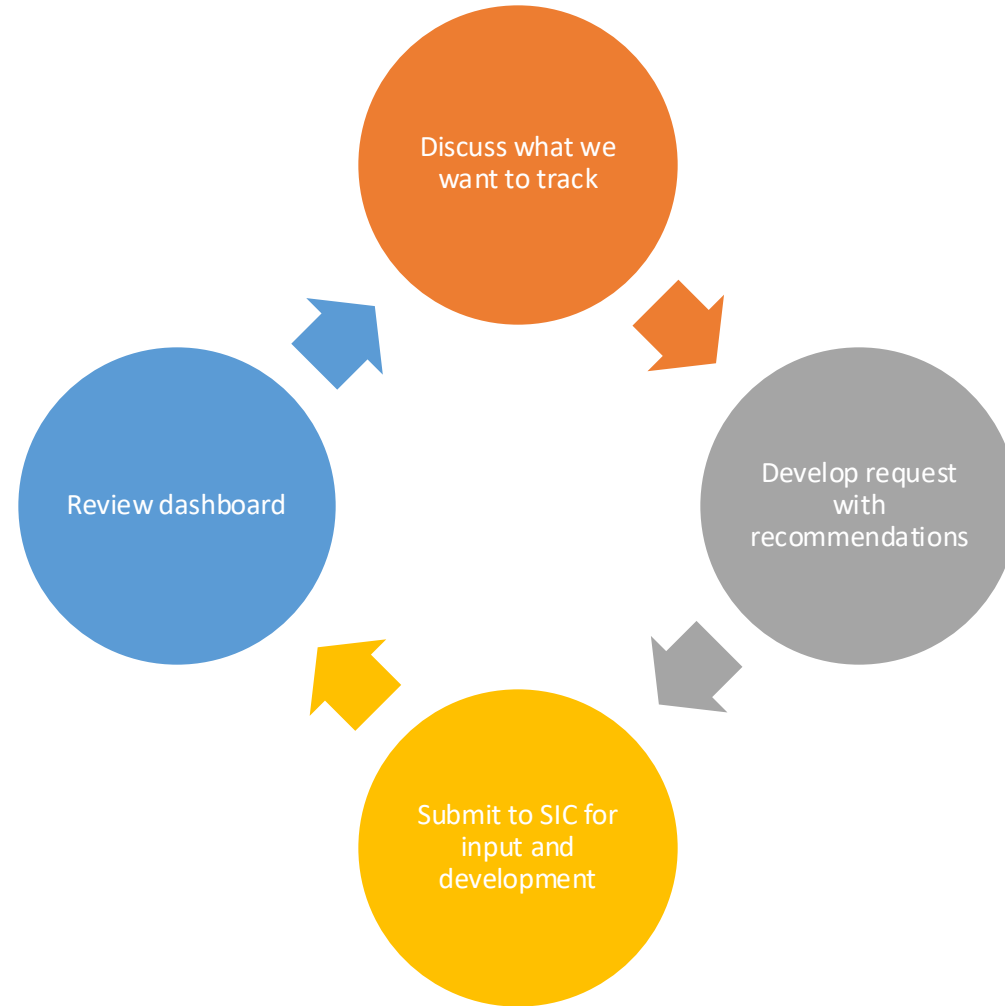
- Completed!

## Part 2 – Coordinated Entry System Evaluation:

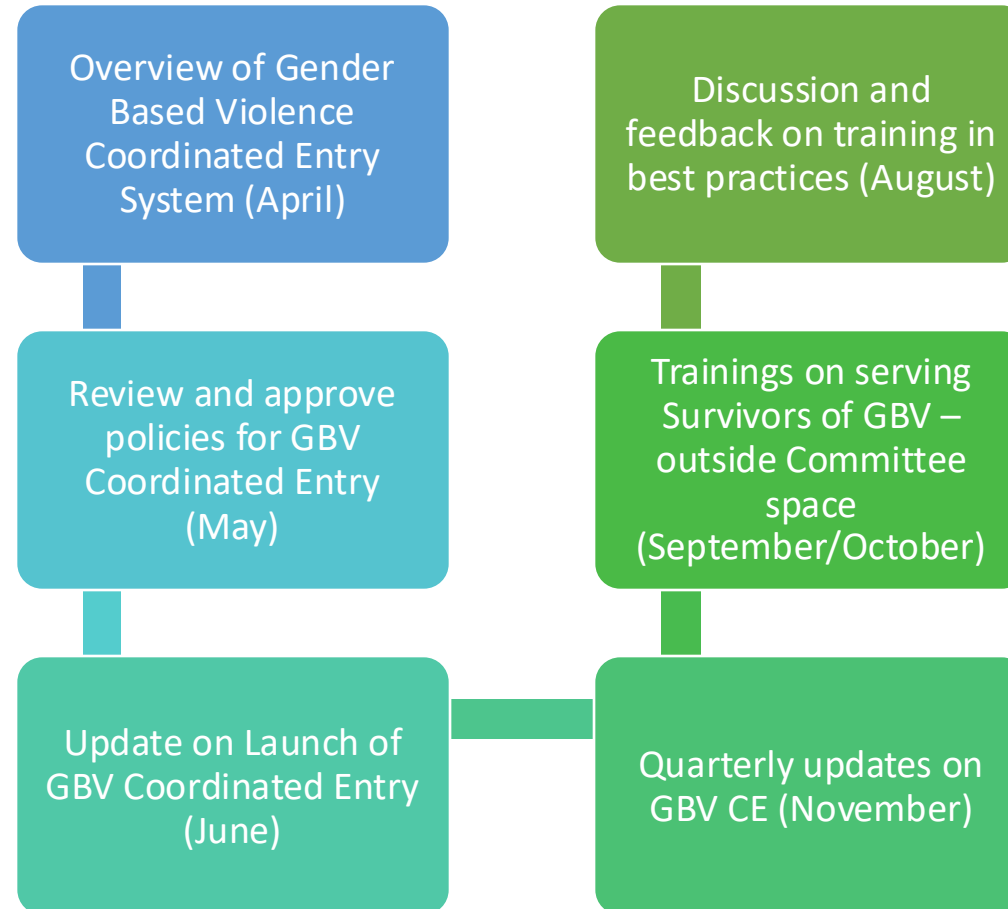
- Survey
- Focus Groups - Pending
- Targeted Conversations – March and April
- Recommendations 3.0 – May/June 2025

# CE Dashboard Oversight

Development of dashboard will take place during Fall 2025

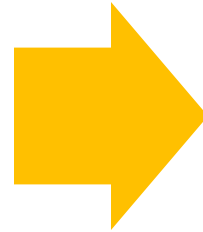


# Gender Based Violence System Implementation



# Gender Based Violence Toolkit

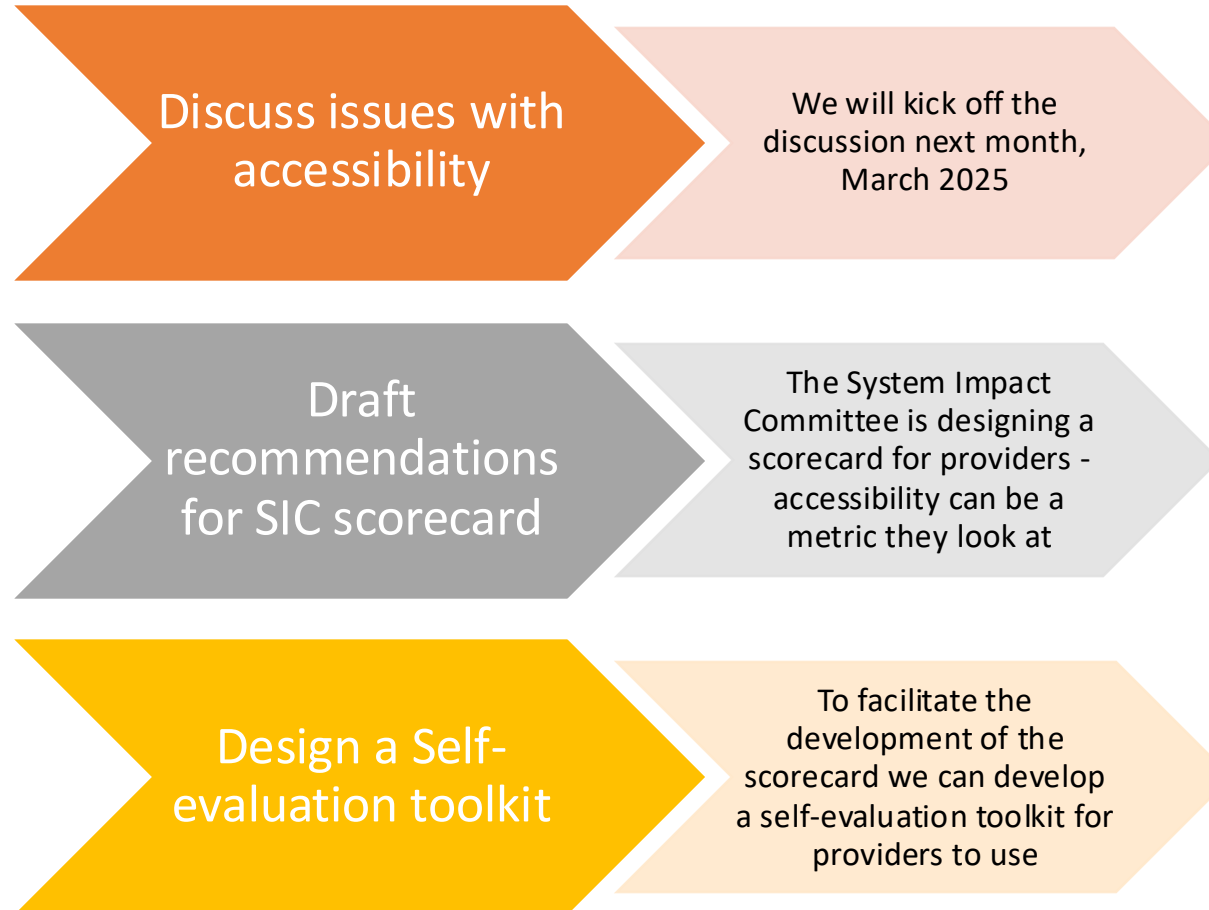
Review needs for non-DV providers when serving folks that experience gender-based violence



Discuss strategies for working with survivors

- Design toolkit for providers to adopt when working with survivors

# Accessibility



# Unsheltered Workgroup

- Recommendations to Technical Working Group
  - Included is an ask for the Standards, Compliance, and Funding Committee
  - Included is an ask for the Outreach Workgroup
- **Paused pending response from Technical Working Group to start dialogue**

# Outreach Workgroup

- Originally created January 2024, but not opened.
- Tentatively opening early 2025

## **Outreach Workgroup Purpose :**

- Define current outreach strategies, capacity, and capability
- Understand landscape of key players, engage with those directly in the field
- Define goals for outcomes and impacts
- Develop strategies to enhance efforts and increase both output, outcomes, and impact

# Closing

- Next Meeting to be held February 20th
- Upcoming Meeting Agenda Items:
  - Results of County-funded independent contractor reviews of Coordinated Entry

