

2024 Fatherhood Summit
Table Group Discussion Consolidated Notes

Housing

Barriers for Dads -

- Eligibility calculations don't consider child support obligation for paying dads
- Reentry dads not eligible and are excluded from housing due to criminal record
- All housing services/resources very narrow for dads
 - Considered single
 - Tax credit goes to CP/mom only
- No emergency/transitional housing for dads with kids
- Hours of housing organizations – dads work 8 to 5, when they are open

- Costs due to housing shortage
- Lack of housing
- High cost of housing
- High interest rates make impossible to buy a house
- Not enough income and much goes to support their child
- Wages not keeping up with housing costs
- Being house poor

- Long waiting list for housing/housing funds
- General unavailability results in a hurry up and wait mindset

- Commerce grants don't find non-profits that work w/volunteer staff
- Unable to get kids from CPS without housing

What Government Can do Better -

- More funding for dads unique situations
- More funds for shelter and transition for dads with kids
- More help with first/last rent or camp move in costs
- Need to extend tax credits to Non-Custodial Parents /Dads

- Build affordable housing
- Convert old buildings to affordable housing – so many office building vacant
- Remote work will free up office space to be converted into housing

- Co-locate affordable housing brings benefits
 - Other services
 - Childcare
 - Gardening
- Make all options accessible – one place – increase access!!!!

- Meet dad where they are at – PM shifts don't work well with shelters
- Shorten the process and application
- Reduce red tape
- Need to include extend housing protections to reentry dads
- Those who have paid high rent and child support – should be eligible to own a home
- Stop needing to make 3x rent to qualify
- Too many fees – Washer/dryer fee, file fee, application fee, etc.
- 3x rent income requirement is too high – change that

- Rent control
- Make sure affordable housing is truly affordable
 - Not just \$50 below market
- Shared housing – give tax incentive for rather than just developers getting it
- Tax breaks to renter not the owner
- Solutions to shrinkflation – corporate greed – take away tax incentives

- Stop banks from predatory lending – give to nonprofits
- Food and gas prices too high
 - Have grocery stores donate the expired food
 - Focus on food insecurity

Hoping to see today that we did not -

- Would have liked to see it part of the panel discussion
- Add to the panel next time
 - Have a child talk about how a program helped their dad
 - Have children talking with dads
- Q&A with the government panel

- Statistics of effect of inflation on housing
- Educators/education system – the impact of housing instability on kids/students
- Bring this into schools
- School system needs to understand dads' experience with school system
- This would help tell practitioners what is needed and why

- Have the table discussion earlier in the day
- How state resources can flow to the local level
- How fathers can help the locally
- Advocate more (schools)
- Got a CHOP voucher and not a FUP Voucher

- Options for affordable housing
- Tables with resources

What Excited Me About Today -

- Panel with Fathers – Liked the emotional part
- Relating to dads panel
- People are mad enough to ask questions
 - Hold people accountable
 - Good trouble
- Info from Ohio
- TANF Purposes 3 & 4 can fund dad programs
 - Expand resources
 - Could fund positive activities like sports with mentor dads
- Data from Survey – have now about dads to share, to lobby
- Excited to have public discourse
- Great to see all the fathers today
- Nice for dads to see women in support of dads
- The breadth of experience and expertise here
- Spokane fatherhood group was good to hear about