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Regional Equity Initiative Subcommittee Meeting

LOCATION: 10 N. Ludlow Street Suite 700, Dayton, OH 45402

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Agenda

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Est. Time</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
I.	Welcome & Introductions	11:00	Rap Hankins
II.	Program Manager Domain Updates	11:15	Fabrice Juin
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health & Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement ○ Environmental Justice Academy 2.0 ○ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant ● Technology & Connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach Grant ○ Lead for American Connection Corps Member ○ Connecting Southwest Ohio Coalition ● Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2024 Greater Regional Mobility Initiative Update ● Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community of Well-Being Initiative ○ City of Huber Heights DEI Needs Assessment ○ Montgomery County Equity Plan ○ Justice40 Initiative 		
III.	FY24 Project Focus: Right to Counsel Eviction Analysis	11:45	Fabrice Juin
IV.	Subcommittee Chair & Member Updates/Insights	12:15	All Participants
V.	Other Informational Items	12:45	All Participants
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upcoming Equity Engagements 		
VI.	Action Items, Follow-Up, & Next Meeting	12:55	Fabrice Juin
VII.	Closing Remarks	1:00	Rap Hankins

****NEXT MEETING is May 28th, 2024****

All Information is available on the [MVRPC Committee Center](#)

Interpreters for hearing-impaired individuals are available upon request; requests should be made at least one week ahead.

**MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL EQUITY INITIATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**November 28, 2023
11:00 AM**

REI Sub-Committee Members Present

Peter Benkendorf, The Collaboratory
Nancy Byrge, City of Huber Heights
Tom Kelley, United Way
Nany McHugh, UD Fitz Center for Leadership & Community
Nikol Miller, Miami Valley Urban League
Amy Piner, Montgomery County
Martha Jeanette Rodriguez, City of Dayton
Michelle D. Simmons, City of Dayton
Emma Smales, Learn to Earn Dayton
Barbra Stonerock, The Dayton Foundation

Staff

Savannah Diamond
Fabrice Juin
Leslie King
Brian Martin
Megan Young

Other Guests Present

Tania Arseculeratne, The Dayton Foundation
Kemi Alokhukeu, Whol Sul Inc.
Supera Hunter, Ohio EPA
Jessica Langdon, Ohio EPA

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission hosted the Regional Equity Initiative Sub-Committee meeting on November 28, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the MVRPC Office and via Zoom Video Conference.

I. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Rap Hankins called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Self-introductions were made.

II. SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR & MEMBER UPDATES/INSIGHTS

The following updates/insights were shared by meeting participants:

- Recent City of Huber Heights cybersecurity issue has been addressed and permanent improvements have been made.
- Through collaboration between The Dayton Collaboratory and Welcome Dayton, Ethnosh is committed to getting locals “in the know” and out to eat at the excellent local immigrant-owned international restaurants and food businesses. Pairing a rich online experience with real-world events, Ethnosh fosters cross-cultural discovery and enrichment and drives business to potentially underserved areas within communities. Ethnosh’s casual tasting events, called NoshUps, bring people from all walks of life together to sample authentic international cuisine and meet the families that bring the deliciousness to their communities.
- Learn to Earn Dayton funding eight more community organizations with support for The Dayton Foundation; over \$600,000 being distributed.

- Similar to the City of Dayton's Welcome Dayton initiative, Montgomery County is seeking to become a "Certified Welcoming" county through the national non-profit organization Welcoming America.
- The City of Dayton seeking designation as a Human Rights City.
- In response to recent hateful messages that targeted the Jewish community, the Miami Valley/Greater Dayton Community is coming together to launch its own version of Cincinnati's Upstander Project with the goal of fostering unity and countering hate; led by the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton.
- The Miami Valley Urban League will be moving to the Dayton Arcade in the coming months.
- The Foodbank recorded its highest food distribution this month at the Wesley Center. This is a sign that food insecurity remains high.

III. Program Manager Domain Updates

Mr. Juin, Ms. Kastner, and others in attendance provided updates related to the Institute Domains that the Regional Equity Initiative is actively coordinating or dedicating resources to.

- Health & Environment
 - Environmental Justice Academy could have its second class offering in Fall 2024.
 - Miami Valley Environmental Justice Partnership
 - Convened to prioritize and focus on environmental justice in the Miami Valley Region
 - Participants include MVRPC, ABLE, PHDMC, The Dayton Foundation, and UD (Fitz Center, Hanley Sustainability Institute, Rivers Institute)
 - First collaborative effort was pursuing the EJCTAC grant program (not selected), but it displayed a coalition of partners bringing this issue to the forefront and making the Miami Valley competitive for EJ-related resource acquisition opportunities
 - Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving
 - Provides financial assistance to eligible organizations working to address local environmental or public health issues in their communities; assists recipients in building collaborative partnerships with other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, academia, etc.) to develop solutions to environmental or public health issue(s) at the community level
 - Prioritizes the EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model
 - Partnered with Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE; serving as lead applicant) to prepare and submit a collaborative application
 - Currently designated as selectees, undergoing a negotiation process with EPA; but key features of the submitted application include:
 - Administrative Assistance to support the Miami Valley Environmental Justice Partnership
 - Grant-Writing Assistance to be made available to local organizations pursuing EJ-related efforts
 - Community Micro-Grants to be made available to local organizations toward EJ-related efforts (40% of requested funds – Justice 40 initiative)
 - Community Gatherings engaging local community members, leaders, and stakeholders
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

- Grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement ambitious plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution
 - Funds were awarded for planning in the Miami Valley (Greene, Miami, Montgomery Counties)
 - Public engagement will inform project planning and implementation requests
- Technology & Connectivity
 - Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach Grant (MVUL Selected)
 - Miami Valley Urban League (MVUL) has onboarded a Program Manager and has plans to onboard two interns
 - Connecting partners in the Affordable Connectivity Workgroup (Institute facilitated)
 - MVRPC is currently completing a contractual agreement with MVUL for Mr. Juin to assist with rural area needs.
 - Lead for America (LFA) American Connection Corps (ACC) Member
 - Through our participation in Lead for America's (LFA) American Connection Corps (ACC) program, MVRPC would like to introduce our very own ACC Member Ms. Felicia Elam.
 - Felicia will add one year of critical capacity to support our digital inclusion efforts across the regional community. Felicia will help coordinate and execute rural outreach to better understand the unique connectivity barriers experienced by rural residents in the Miami Valley.
 - Southwest Ohio Regional Digital Inclusion Alliance (United Way of Greater Cincinnati)
 - Public engagement conducted to inform BroadbandOhio's digital equity plan
 - Currently in a coalition-building phase facilitating regional workgroups; prioritizing the different aspects of digital equity/opportunity (affordability, availability, digital literacy, devices)
 - The Miami Valley has displayed greater collaboration and engagement with this matter compared to Greater Cincinnati; will continue to represent the local region to avoid getting left behind
 - Next RDIA meeting on December 12th
- Engagement
 - Pursued Sponsorships
 - NCCJ Friendship Celebration (Oct. 17th)
 - Homefull 35th Anniversary; Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week (Nov. 15th)
 - Tour de Gem Bike Ride fundraiser to raise funds for MVRPC Institute Programs (Oct. 1st)
 - REI Presentations
 - Sinclair Community College (2023 Equity Summit)
 - University of Dayton (Community Health & Health Inequality)
 - Wright State University (Population Health)
 - Community of Well-Being Initiative (Peter Benkendorf)
 - Age-Friendly Internal Workshop
 - Ms. Kastner facilitated a discussion for MVRPC staff on age-friendliness and what that looks like within a metropolitan planning organization; an effort to advance equity internally as well
 - Hispanic Heritage Month
 - Sponsored the Latino Unidos en Dayton banquet. We continue to recruit Hispanic representation to Subcommittee
 - Native American Heritage Month

- Second REACH Fest (commemorating month-long observance) lead by our very own Subcommittee member Stephanie Van Hoose
- Staff visited SunWatch Village and engaged in learning about the Indigenous population that occupied that land 800 years ago

IV. FY24 Project Focus: Right to Counsel Analysis

Mr. Juin expressed that he has been working to get up to speed on right to Counsel Analysis, how it is specifically being approached within the Miami Valley Region, and determining who are the major players/stakeholders across the local community. He shared that the Advocates for Basic Legal Equality are positioned as the main vehicle that would house the effort and move it forward, with Learn to Earn Dayton providing neighborhood-level support and coordination. Fabrice opened group discussion on the project

Subcommittee Members reiterated the need for eviction interventions considering the history of tenant/landlord relations and dynamics. Subcommittee Members expressed analyzing data by socioeconomic status and age be prioritized.

Barbra Stonerock shared that The Dayton Foundation likely has funding opportunities that would align with the project for the Regional Equity Initiative to explore. Mr. Juin expressed that he would follow-up to learn more.

V. Other Information Items

Mr. Juin encouraged the Subcommittee and guests to visit the Regional Equity Calendar for upcoming local and virtual engagement opportunities.

VI. Action Items, Follow-Up, & Next Meeting

Mr. Juin then reminded Subcommittee members the next quarterly meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. He also expressed that, over the next few months leading into the next meeting, he would be working with the appropriate partners to transition both three-year grant projects (ACP Outreach Grant & EJ CPS Cooperative Agreement) from planning phases to action phases. We will also be working toward progress on Right to Counsel Analysis.

VII. CLOSING REMARKS

Rap adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.