



Minutes

Committee: Equity Committee

Date: 05/12/2022

Duration: 12:00 – 1:30

Meeting Place: Zoom virtual meeting

Attendance:

P = Present
 TC = Attended via Dial in
 A = Absent

Equity Committee Members							
A	Guen Brown	P	Claire Burrus	A	Junghee Cho	P	Kellee Coleman
P	Jesus Gonzales	A	Kimberly Holiday	P	Soleece Watson	A	Sulipsa Luque
P	Lori Neyland	A	Esteban Olave	A	Tiffany Hart		
Co-Chairs							
P	Summer Wright	P	Netanya Jamieson				
Other Community Members							
	Ana Perez		Benjamin Elias				
	Patricia Barrera						
	Karem Castillo						
ECHO Support Staff							
P	Chris Davis						
Other ECHO Staff							
	Eri Gregory		Preston Petty		Mariane Elzy		Anthony Curtis
	Alesandra Dominguez						

AGENDA		DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
I. Welcome & Check-in	N. Jamieson	Icebreaker: Where would you like to travel in the world?	•
II. Committee Housekeeping	S. Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect phone numbers/alternate contacts from members for outreach purposes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Having difficulty reaching quorum and making sure everyone has materials they need; want to collect phone numbers because texting tends to be easier ○ Voting members: Send C. Davis your phone number if you haven't yet: chrisdavis@austinecho.org ○ Reached out to people who haven't been in attendance; two said they couldn't make the commitment, one person showed up last week, and a fourth still in contact with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Minutes attendance report reflects member slate moving forward</i> ▪ Need to dispel that this is an issue with PLE – this is a big, complicated process and people have conflicts 	- Send your phone number to C. Davis for outreach purposes

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION	
<p>III. API Pilot Questions</p>	<p>S. Wright, N. Jamieson & All</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quorum reached ● Support space update ● Review results of survey (link to survey) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eight responses, tallied them all ○ General consensus around domestic violence – people felt all these questions were important; additional discussion about what people found important ○ Limiter – the time it takes to answer all the questions, which limits the number of questions to add ○ Summer leaves at 12:30 – leaves vote in favor of the top five, depending on discussion ● Discussion of top five <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forced to change location <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreement ○ Correctional facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Important question; recently shadowed CAs, and someone said no to juvenile justice question currently on API, but offered that he had adult experience ▪ Systemic oppression is a leading cause of homelessness ▪ Agreement ○ Housing instability growing up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maybe this can be asked in style of “have you experienced any of the following”? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starts to feel like multiple questions from the client perspective – if Equity votes to add multiple several-part questions, may need to add fewer questions ▪ Concern that doubling up or living with relatives may be a cultural difference, so it might not be an indicator of instability ▪ Maybe threshold can be how many people per room – research shows more than two people per room is an equity and housing instability issue ▪ Agreement to separate out options ○ Violence in home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should we ask what kind of violence? Physical, emotional, etc. – may mean this is another multi-part question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emotional violence can lead to physical violence; maybe language articulating this? ▪ Because it's a triage tool, it's hard to go deep ▪ Potentially traumatizing question already – asking people to describe is potentially more re-traumatizing than yes/no ▪ Question from community member in chat: use abuse instead of violence? Some people may not consider themselves victims of abuse who are ▪ Physical and psychological abuse are different, and would be good to distinguish ▪ Comment from community member in chat: Abuse seems more general (verbal, emotional, psychological) and Violence seems more of a physical ▪ Suggestion to add “abuse” – new language: Have you ever experienced abuse or violence... then in parentheses the kinds – verbal, emotional, psychological ▪ Agreement on this changed language ○ Alcohol or drugs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Question: How do you think people will react? ▪ Sometimes people get offended and don't answer honestly because they think it'll disqualify them from receiving services ▪ Is it possible to add language that your answer would not impact services ▪ Have to define what problems are – housing instability, job loss, legal entanglements ▪ Suggestion: "Interfere with your life in any negative way?" – this is how mental health assessments ask questions – “life or relationships” ▪ Comment from community member in chat: Maybe even go a step further and ask if their alcohol and drug use has led to interactions with the criminal justice. ▪ Agreement on language amended as above ○ Voting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With quorum-ish (Summer's broad approval before leaving), these five are approved with amended language ○ Two current pilot questions 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Both are more likely to be answered yes by trans clients to statistically significant degree; exciting because if they were added, it would increase equity ▪ Don't prioritize any racial group – not acting for or against racial equity ▪ Recommend: remove from pilot since Equity is adding five and we have enough data, and then exploring whether to add them into a future iteration of the API ▪ Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question: Was the population who answered the question representative of the population? – it's everyone who took the API within the last year, so demographics match our system ▪ Agreement on recommendation above 	
<p>IV. Updates & Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quorum discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Options to fill out remainder of membership slate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can look at people who have been attending Equity regularly already ▪ Or can go back to the original list of people who expressed interest ○ Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People who have been attending have shown their commitment, and there wouldn't be as much catching up to do ▪ Chairs will discuss with C. Davis at next agenda setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairs to discuss at agenda setting
<p>Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Meeting: 05/26/2022; 12:00PM – 1:00PM; Virtual meeting via Zoom 	