

Wednesday, May 8 – 9:10 – 10:00 a.m. – Shaping Policy Breakout

Topic A: Housing & Health – Applying a “Whole Person” Approach (to address housing and other key health-related social needs/social determinants of health.)

Policy Table Discussants: Jennifer Angarita, Peggy Bailey, Sarah Dobson and Susan Newton

Breakout Rooms: A-1 to Conference Room 4 (Jennifer & Sarah) and A-2 to Conference Room 5 (Peggy & Susan)

Context/Background: Lutheran Services in America members apply their expertise in health and social services to their housing work, advancing innovative approaches to address a range of individual and community needs. From developing affordable housing units to revitalizing existing housing stock and managing housing – all often inclusive of addressing health-related social needs through a variety of supports and services. And they do this across a wide variety of populations including children and families, older adults, veterans, people with disabilities, New Americans/refugees and more. In this breakout, participants will engage with policy discussants to better explore existing and needed policy levers based on existing gaps/challenges to better address demand and needs in communities.

Discussion Questions:

1. Based on existing practice, experience, and future plans – what barriers/challenges have you faced and what is needed to deepen and expand a “whole person” approach to housing?

Consider:

- Data (what is known/where is information needed?)
- Financing (including pre-development, construction, longer-term as well as equity investment / grants.)
- Availability of services and service providers (including workforce capacity, coordination, aligning providers and services, etc.)
- Multi-sector Partnerships (health systems/centers/providers, other CBOs, levels of government (city/county/state), business, faith, and community leaders, etc.)
- Civic engagement/community voice.

2. What federal/state/local policies have supported OR challenged your efforts locally? And what is needed to ensure greater equity and sustainability?