

## Committee Meeting

7/22/20

- Present
  - Amy Fusting
  - Chi Song
  - Franklyn Baker
  - Joan Bellistri
  - Karen Anderson-Scott
  - Michele Honick
  - Raquel Coombs
  - Reena Shah
  - Tamar Sarnoff
  - Brenda Gruss
  - Janhae Wallace
  - Michael Summers
  - Talley Kovacs
  - Chijioke Akamigbo
  - Aleithea Warmack
- Introductions
  - Joan Bellistri - law library circuit court of anne arundel county
  - Michelle Honick - liaison with consumer protection committee
- PREC Recap
  - Reena
    - What areas of civil justice system were being exacerbated, as well as created because of COVID
    - 10 committees
      - Public awareness will generally provide support to the engagement/awareness efforts of the substantive committees
    - PREC is overarching with co-chairs of other committees to make sure info and decisions are shared and collaborated on
      - Cohesion approach and strategy
      - Met last friday and yesterday
      - Current push is to extend moratoria on eviction and consumer debt cases
        - Goal of pushing out info stating view of task force
        - Must be approved by AG
        - Housing security and consumer protection would recommend extension of moratorium

- Hopefully by end of week
    - Soon - funding directed towards governor
    - Constant combination of near and long-term goals
    - Timetable for budget requests
      - Breakup structure of committee and then coming up with a ballpark understanding of what costs might be
      - Should likely have a ballpark # within the next week to 10 days
    - Created op-ed
      - As we put things out would it be this committee that is coordinating with AG for press-releases to communicate what exactly the task force is doing
  - Franklyn
    - Preliminary recommendation as of now is to extend to January
    - Not every single communication is going to be pumping out every single bit of information to the public
      - Will be other times where our committee is not in immediate lock-step as a whole but co-chairs have had input on all
- Subcommittees (looking for volunteers)
  - Website
    - Possible that putting things on website is a broader committee on communication as a whole
  - One Pager
    - Talley and Aleithea
  - Printed materials
    - Aleithea would like to be looped in
      - Has experience with printed materials for AG
      - May be able to discuss possibility of handling those materials in house, rather than send them out
    - Other committees may need to talk with other committees to inform on our \$ amount
  - Possibly a committee to create/manage town halls
  - And if anyone has any other suggestions for possible subcommittees
- One/two pager discussion: Updates/edits
  - Unsure what work we are trying to capture with “Ensure Marylanders are Secure”
    - Consumer committee might be helpful in giving their input
      - Honing in on housed and fed, consumer issues may not be as well captured in the other statements
  - Life and health planning comments have been included to a certain extent
  - Would like to have this ready within the next week
    - Finished by next meeting, able to go up by 31st?

- Can go ahead and send around to PREC committee with our blessing, brief discussion
- Would want edits by Sunday evening (7/26)
  - Consumer protection folks could hone in on the security paragraph
- Life and health are also able to provide comments
- One committee is gathering the relevant data, as mentioned in final paragraph
  - Have data collection subcommittee
  - Also could use anecdotal data
- Information # - 211
  - Can this be done through United Way's hotline
  - Most answering calls are Masters educated social workers
    - They need to know about housing, legal services, etc.
  - Build list of resources on website so they can go directly
  - All the information, regardless of where it is coming from should be the same information
    - Consumer committee wanted a hotline
      - But we don't want to recreate structures that already exist
- Legal help – form for referring attorneys
  - Referral form for pro-bono attorneys
  - People don't tend to follow up with phone number
  - Should we draft a form for what that would look like?
    - Quick summary - X is facing eviction, landlord is not licensed
      - Includes some defense - roof leaking, etc.
      - Needs representation at X on August Xth
      - May when they submit it sends directly to an organization
  - Some program with self-help center does have a form
    - Only applies to private attorneys
      - More interested in consumer cases
  - Ideally this would be on your phone/computer
    - Paper would be more difficult
    - Then organization commits to calling people back to ensure someone speaks to the person submitting
  - Could be linked to 211 service
    - Legal services could do initial review
      - Can't just send everyone legal service providers
      - Want to send people with real defenses
    - Some could be sent to mediation instead
    - Would not necessarily place an additional large burden on attorneys
  - Could run report with 211 for number of referrals made to relevant groups
    - Why have people been referred where?
  - Responses over text?
- Town Halls – laying the groundwork
  - A way of spreading info and informing about resources available for them

- Geographic? Content based focus?
- Franklyn
  - More general might be better, people can just talk
  - May not matter if people are calling in from different geographies
    - Could have more specific regional issues but a general base would likely share issues across regions
- Should we go to communities first to understand their issues
- Brenda Gruss
  - Can only go out to people so many times
  - Would be costly
  - Suggestions of constituents
    - LGBTQ+, young people, essential workers, faith communities, nonprofit leaders of color
- May be value in giving groups a sense of what has been developed
  - Do we have that kind of time?
- Do not necessarily have a rigid timeline
- Put together smaller groups to get feedback, rather than get feedback from such large groups
  - Can pull from this committee as well as people off PREC, task force, etc.
    - Inter-faith orgs
    - How to reach group we want feedback from via a targeted means
- Many committees could benefit from a short session
- Could potentially be held at public libraries (still virtual)
  - Tamar could reach out to state directors
- Michael Summers
  - Develop common talking points?
    - Would also help to develop shared info for other groups to share
- Questions/Comments/Suggestions