Common Ground for Action:
How do We Increase the Effectiveness of the Montgomery County Homeless Crisis Response System?

Community Reflection & Collective Impact Planning Summit
Common Ground for Action Landscape
Blend of Strategies

• Broad + deep support for **Option 2, improving in-shelter services**
• Broad support for parts of **Option 1 (prevention)** and **Option 4 (employment)**
  • Prevention: Implement an eviction prevention program targeting HUD-subsidized housing residents
  • Prevention: Work collaboratively with institutions like jails, hospitals, nursing homes, foster care, and local housing code enforcement departments to prevent clients from being discharged into homelessness”
  • Employment: Expanding paid job and soft skills
  • Employment: Developing a pool of employers who commit to hire homeless/formerly homeless individuals
• **Option 3** (providing rental assistance to all who don’t qualify for PSH immediately) was broadly viewed as too risky
Overlap & Additional Notes from Consumer Forums

• Deep & broad support for **Option 2**
• Slightly stronger support for **Options 1 and 4**, in general
• Also viewed **Option 3** as risky

**Additional notes:**
• Knowledgeable, motivated case managers are the key.
• Transportation is a huge issue.
• Medical care.
• Relationship with staff, feeling of empathy, respect, and personal is also key.
• An incentive system for compliance would actually be welcomed by clients (at least those who participated in these forums).
This summary is ONLY our starting point.

• Our job today is to really make sense of all this together and determine what it means for all of us, individually and as a system, moving forward.
What do we need to talk about today?

- What seems clearest to you based on these conversations? What seems to be common amongst all participants?

  Are there particular actions we all discussed we agree should be implemented?
  - When looked at in totality, do we think the actions in common ground should all be implemented?
  - Are there any others, including any of the notes from consumer forums, that should be added?
  - Any that should be revised or excluded?

- Are there strategies we support that we still need to figure out specific actions to implement?

- Which tradeoffs are we willing to make, and which are we not? Why?

- What shifts or changes in our thinking did these conversations prompt?
  - What did you hear that needs to be acted on?