

City-County Homeless
Issues Committee

March 2025

Presented by: Alicia
Spry

Lived
Experience
Council
(LEC)
Interim
Report

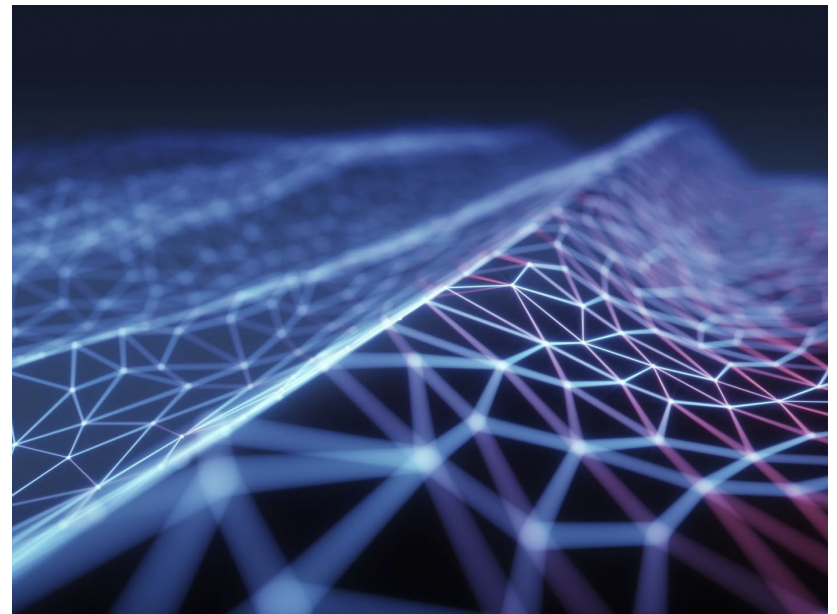


Introduction

- This report provides an interim update on LEC activities, progress, and challenges over the last six months. As we navigate the current political climate, we continue to adapt, advocate, and evolve in response to the needs of our members and the community.

Wins (Achievements)

- Our advocacy was heard at the state level: The Governor's office acknowledged LEC's work before the budget proposal, leading to including proposing funding for the state's homeless response system.
- Secured compensation: Leftover funds from the 2024 goal planning grant and additional fundraising by The Road Home allowed all LEC members to receive compensation after months of unpaid work.
- Increased participation: Feeling empowered by these wins, LEC now meets ****bi-weekly**** instead of monthly, enhancing engagement.
- Policy advocacy: LEC will present a proposed policy revision and an ****hourly pay request**** to the HSC Board of Directors in March 2025.
- Strengthened internal structures: The ****core group's leadership**** has helped develop strong internal frameworks, improving efficiency and sustainability.



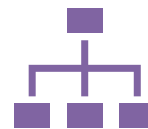
Losses (Challenges)



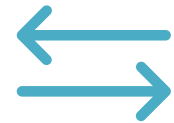
- Despite funding improvements, sustainable long-term financial support remains uncertain.



- Continued lack of HUD support: Federal funding mechanisms still fail to **directly compensate** LEC for its vital work.



- Leadership capacity: While LEC members take on leadership roles, balancing commitments and capacity remains an ongoing challenge.



- The need for policy change: LEC's advocacy has pushed for structural change, but bureaucratic delays continue to be a barrier.

Political Climate & Adaptation

- Like many advocacy groups across the country, LEC is navigating political shifts that impact funding, housing policies, and homeless response strategies. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to strengthening our work, amplifying lived experiences, and pushing for equitable policy changes.



2025 Goals & Future Planning

****Ensure sustainable funding****

Securing a long-term funding structure for LEC.

****Strengthen partnerships****

Expanding collaborations with local nonprofits for joint fundraising.

****Advance housing advocacy****

Pushing for increased policy protections for low-income tenants.

****Enhance LEC's influence****

Increasing public visibility and securing more statewide/national representation.

****Internal growth****

2025 will bring significant structural changes as LEC refines its approach and long-term strategy.


Closing & Next Steps

- The past six months have been a time of growth, challenges, and progress for LEC. With increased participation, funding wins, and recognition at the state level, we are positioned to push forward stronger than ever. As we continue to evolve, we remain committed to ensuring that people with lived experience are not just at the table, but are driving real change.

Need More Information?

If you have any questions or need further details, feel free to contact me at:

 **Email:** With-us@danecountylec.com

 **Subject Line:** Please include "AS or Alicia Spry" to ensure your inquiry is directed appropriately.

We appreciate your support and look forward to connecting with you!

