

CCHIC Listening Session
6/3/19

John Reuhl

- Shared his frustration with accessing various homeless services in Dane County.

Corey Brown

- Is a veteran, experiencing homelessness for the first time.
- Moved to Madison and found that programs do help, including per diem programs.
- Found that programs can and do help people gain confidence and restore pride but need to consider that people have different needs. Not all people experiencing homelessness have substance abuse issues or mental illness.
- Would like to see programs with fewer or less strict rules (e.g. curfew and visitor restrictions).

Sharon Bell

- Relocated to Madison over 20 years, completed a web development class, had a well-paying job, lost job/income, currently experiencing homelessness and staying at The Salvation Army shelter.
- Found that the main reason for homelessness is lack of affordable housing and housing choice for a person of color is a significant issue.
- Has positive experience at The Beacon and appreciates what they provide; however, the staff seems to tolerate certain negative behaviors, almost enabling them.
- Found that there are few resources available for a single women without children.
- Will be starting an entrepreneurship class at YWCA.
- Found that the Salvation Army shelter has lots of police calls, and activities around the building appear to be due to lack of staffing.
- Would like to see the volunteer policy change at The Salvation Army to make it easier for guests to volunteer.