Eau Claire County Poverty Summit

INCOME & JOB SKILLS Action Team

Clear Vision
www.clearvisioneauclaire.org

ACTION TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

April 2017	• Presented Charter Statement and Action Plan at Poverty Summit Presentation & Celebration event. • Acquired list of employability resources from UW-Extension.
May 2017	• Refocused on new time-sensitive opportunity: Senate Bill 206 would create pilot program to connect homeless adults with children with job opportunities and submitted letter supporting selection of Eau Claire County to local and state elected officials.
July 2017	• Recruited new team members. • Gathered samples of intake forms to review to determine whether a streamlined form would better serve clients' needs.
September 2017	• Discussed an integrated system/services model to support Eau Claire families with children and address needs of this population. • Gathered information about newly implemented model in La Crosse that focuses on systems care coordination to bridge between health and social needs.
November 2017	• Learned that funding through 2017 Senate Bill 206 will not be available. • Discussed Great Rivers 2-1-1 and Comprehensive Community Services program (through Eau Claire County). • Verified that an integrated service model including case management is needed to address the target population of families with children experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness. • Looked into assessment tools that could be used.
December 2017	• Completed One-to-One Meetings with executive directors for Eau Claire and Chippewa county housing authorities to discuss targeting households on the waiting lists for Section 8 housing. • Met with Marcella Wilson, author of *Diagnosis: Poverty,* to learn how to implement her Transition to Success (TTS) model in our community.
January 2018	• Discussed contacting Department of Children and Families (DCF) to ask them to consider including Eau Claire County within new pilot program to implement TTS model to work with non-custodial parents.
February 2018	• Refocused on initial plan to target a group of Chippewa County citizens eligible for Section 8 housing program. Workforce Resource, Inc. wrote for a grant to serve this population with case management services.

May 2018	• Partnering with WESTconsin Credit Union to host free "Life Simulation" event to help local business leaders/managers better understand needs and challenges faced by local residents who live paycheck to paycheck, and to engage these leaders in conversations around how they can help be part of solution for ALICE individuals and families. • Requested Poverty Summit funding to help offset costs for venue, food and marketing.
September 2018	• Hosted Life Simulation event on 9/13/2018. A follow-up survey indicated that the business professionals who attended felt it was valuable, enlightening, and would definitely recommend it to others. • Workforce Resource was awarded a grant to provide case management services to Chippewa County residents who qualify for Section 8 housing.

PROJECT CHARTER STATEMENT
Action Team: Income & Job Skills

April 6, 2017

We, the INCOME & JOB SKILLS Action Team, believe that the lack of a step and bridge benefit program is a serious problem and contributes to underemployment, lack of upward mobility, and workforce (skill) shortages in the Eau Claire community.

We care about this problem because it limits potential of employees AND employers.

We propose to increase public awareness of step program availability and bridge funding where needed.

We believe that this will help solve the problem by increasing funding for workforce training and other sources (communication with legislators.)

In order to implement this solution, we intend to: partner with local business and community leaders to bring resources and information directly to the people who need it most.