NEWHAB CHALLENGE GROUP LIGHTNING ROUND REPORT OUT



5 Challenge groups have met for the last six months to exchange perspectives on complex challenges, uncover new innovations, and explore lessons learned. In this webinar, each group will share highlights, themes, or recommendations growing from their discussions.

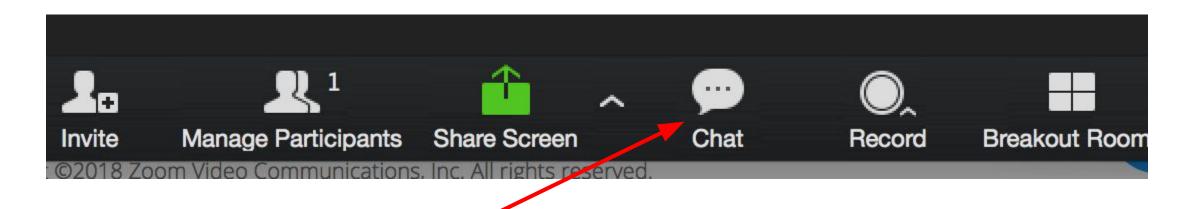
The topics include:

- Equity and Inclusivity in Energy Efficiency
- Solar Financing
- City and County Policies
- Health/Healthcare Round Robin Conversations
- Utility Programs

Each group will have:

- 3 minutes to present
- 2 minutes to answer questions

HOW DO I ASK A QUESTION?



ENTER YOUR QUESTION INTO THE CHAT AT ANY TIME*

*If you're on the phone, unmute yourself and chime in

Equity & Inclusivity Challenge Group

Group Goal: Reach out to tenants and tenant advocacy groups to discuss NEWHAB'S work and mission, identify opportunities for future collaboration

Our Work: Interviews of tenant advocacy leaders—discussed their organizational priorities, experiences of tenants, energy efficiency and affordability needs, and related issues

Top 3 Priority Issues	Local Experience	Key Quote
Housing Affordability & Economic Insecurity	Tenants are paying a substantial amount of their monthly income on utility bills + rent, which leads to having to make trade-offs between food, medicine, and utilities. These tradeoffs have a significant health impact.	"I think we drastically underestimate the impact of stress on low income families directly related to these issues."
Eviction	Residents face loss of housing due to disconnection of utility service. Systems regulating rental properties are often unjust. In Birmingham, tenants have 3 days to correct lease violations.	"Rent court is like a glorified collections agency."
Housing Justice	A common theme in interviews was a lack of enforcement resources for landlords acting in unjust ways, not keeping properties up to code (leading to unhealthy and inefficient conditions), and discriminating against low income tenants.	"There's no real landlord accountability." "If you use the Rent Escrow process to remedy [problems], you must have a city inspector visit. The burden is on the tenant to get issues corrected."

NEWHAB Lightning Report-Out

Equity & Inclusivity Challenge Group

Top 3 Priority Issues	Opportunity for NEWHAB
Housing Affordability & Economic Insecurity	This being one of the core missions of EEFA, there are a lot of resources that could be offered to groups looking to learn more about the intersection of energy and housing affordability. Continue to grow local policy work with housing finance agencies and energy efficiency programs.
Eviction	EEFA and NEWHAB do have legal services organizations and consumer advocates as partners that can help keep tenants in their home legally. But EEFA is also looking into doing some research to directly connect high utility bills and eviction.
Housing Justice	Expanding NEWHAB to include more intentional outreach of housing justice organizations would help establish a link between housing and energy efficiency.

Next Steps:

- Response to workshop idea competition
- Research on related issues of utility burdens and evictions
- Research on inefficiency as a public health issue and impact on occupant health (potential areas of focus: respiratory health, sleep and stress)
- Continued engagement of tenants and advocacy groups

Equity & Inclusivity Challenge Group presented by Laura Goldberg

Questions?

Challenge Group: Solar Financing

(Presenting: Esther Toporovsky)

- Task: Determine the state of the field (best practices and new ideas) for financing low-income solar in affordable multifamily homes.
- Finding 1
 - There is significant variety in the markets where affordable housing solar projects can be deployed.
 - "The devil is in the details" regarding how projects might be financed. We began compiling "info sheets" that describe completed, in-progress, and failed deals.
 - Info sheets present the size, scale, and type of a project, participating parties (e.g., building ownership, financing partners), and the local policy and regulatory environment.
 - Check out our draft info sheets (first page is a template)
- Finding 2 (a caveat)
 - Our challenge group included several different stakeholder types financers, policy researchers, technical assistance providers and property owners. Variety in perspectives and roles made common ground difficult. Each stakeholder's approach varies based on priorities.

Challenge Group: Solar Financing

- Next steps are to compile our findings from the info sheets and distill them into a guide/resource matching financing models with types of projects/scenarios.
 - We can then connect real-world lenders with building owners and operators.
- In addition, we'll share the case studies from this group with existing resources and networks (e.g. <u>SAHLLN</u> on the EE4All site).
- We are still deciding the format and membership of a continued effort.

Links to our work:

- Meeting <u>notes</u>
- Draft deal <u>info</u>
 <u>sheets</u> (first page is a template)
- Resources list

Challenge Group: Solar Financing

(Presenting: Esther Toporovsky)

Questions?

City & County Policies Challenge Group

- Group conducted research to create a well-organized list of policies, programs, and practices (P/P/P) across the country, as well as preliminary evidence of effectiveness.
- Initial Survey on all City & County Policies, Programs, & Practices
 - P/P/P divided by primary & secondary types, if they are required, and the building stock they address
- Additional description on shared spreadsheet for each P/P/P
- Standardize spreadsheet to eliminate duplicates and categorize new entries
- Looking ahead:
 - User-Friendly document, potentially interview some program staff

Presented by Joe Kendrick | BlueGreen Alliance | jkendrick@bgafoundation.org

City & County Policies Challenge Group

Questions?

Presented by Joe Kendrick | BlueGreen Alliance | jkendrick@bgafoundation.org

Health and Housing

Presented by Ellen Vaughan

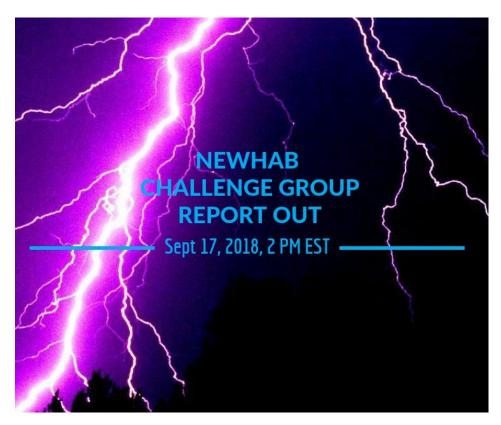
- The Challenge/Goal: At each meeting, feature a guest speaker to share insights on the perspectives (interests, motivations, capacity, constraints, etc.) of nonprofit hospital administrators, public health officials, health-insurance executives and other potential funders for EE/healthy housing retrofits.
- This evolved from a previous challenge for the H&H Group: How can the affordable multifamily community rehab/retrofit developments with coordination and financial help from the health community (insurance companies, hospitals, public health departments)? We realized that before we could ask new potential partners for "financial help" we needed to have an outreach and engagement strategy for each type of partner. And before doing that, we needed to understand their unique perspectives.
- Unfortunately, our group did not have as many meetings as planned and we only had one guest speaker. BUT... The group felt this was a valuable exercise and should continue, either with this Group or a subsequent Challenge Group.
- THANK YOU to Mary Ayala (Enterprise Community Partners) for her terrific presentation during our call on August 1st. Mary shared her experience with nonprofit hospitals and advice for approaching them as partners to address health in housing through their Community Benefit Programs. She also discussed guidance from the IRS and shared a paper from Enterprise and CHA on "what counts" as a community benefit.

Health and Housing

Presented by Ellen Vaughan

QUESTIONS?

NEWHAB CHALLENGE GROUP THANK YOU!



Questions? Comments?
Contact Kathy Choh
NEWHAB Coordinator
kathy@newhab.net

NEWHAB REMINDERS:

- Next Round of Challenge Groups: Solicit topics late fall. Start groups in the new year.
- In-Person Workshop Contest: submit topics this week. Voting period starts September 25th
- Coalition and Network Leadership Training: first session tomorrow, Tuesday September 24th. Contact Odin for questions (odin@digin.org)