

COVID-19 Housing Stability Task Force Streams of work

August 14
2020



LISC
HOUSTON

The first 12 weeks will involve three distinct work streams

[1] Respond to immediate requests

- Discuss with key stakeholders to determine if super majority support is likely
- Develop a response with multi-sector TF members
- Vote as a task force
- Co-Chairs bring recommendation/response to Recovery Czars

[2] Launch workgroups to develop creative solutions to immediate problems

- Rental assistance (develop a New Proposal)
- Access to justice (will review external proposal and provide recommendations)

[3] Develop our shared knowledge base

- Help understand the size and scope of the problem
- Create a common understanding of the problem
- Identify the issues we want to address
- Understand the available data that we can use to measure impact
- Map local stakeholders in the housing stabilization landscape to understand gaps and local capacity
- Research best practices and bring additional subject matter expertise

[4] Backbone Infrastructure

- Guide Strategy & Program Design
- Data, Communications and Engagements supports

Recap: The First Four Weeks, and looking forward

Kick-Off Meeting

Meeting # 2

Meeting # 3

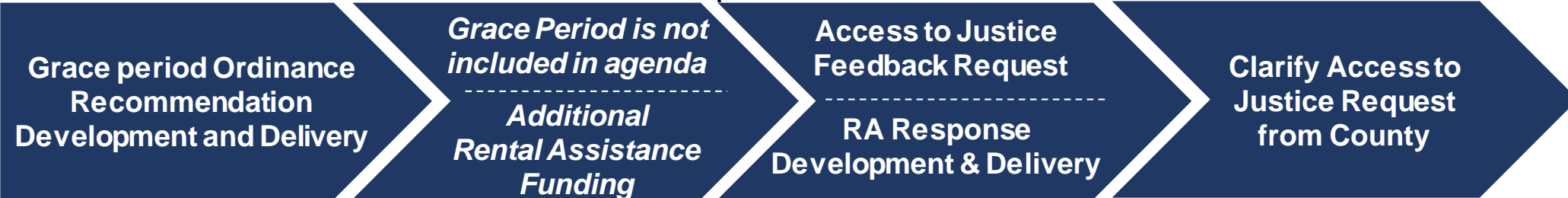
Responding to External Rapid Requests

Week # 1

Week # 2

Week # 3

Week # 4



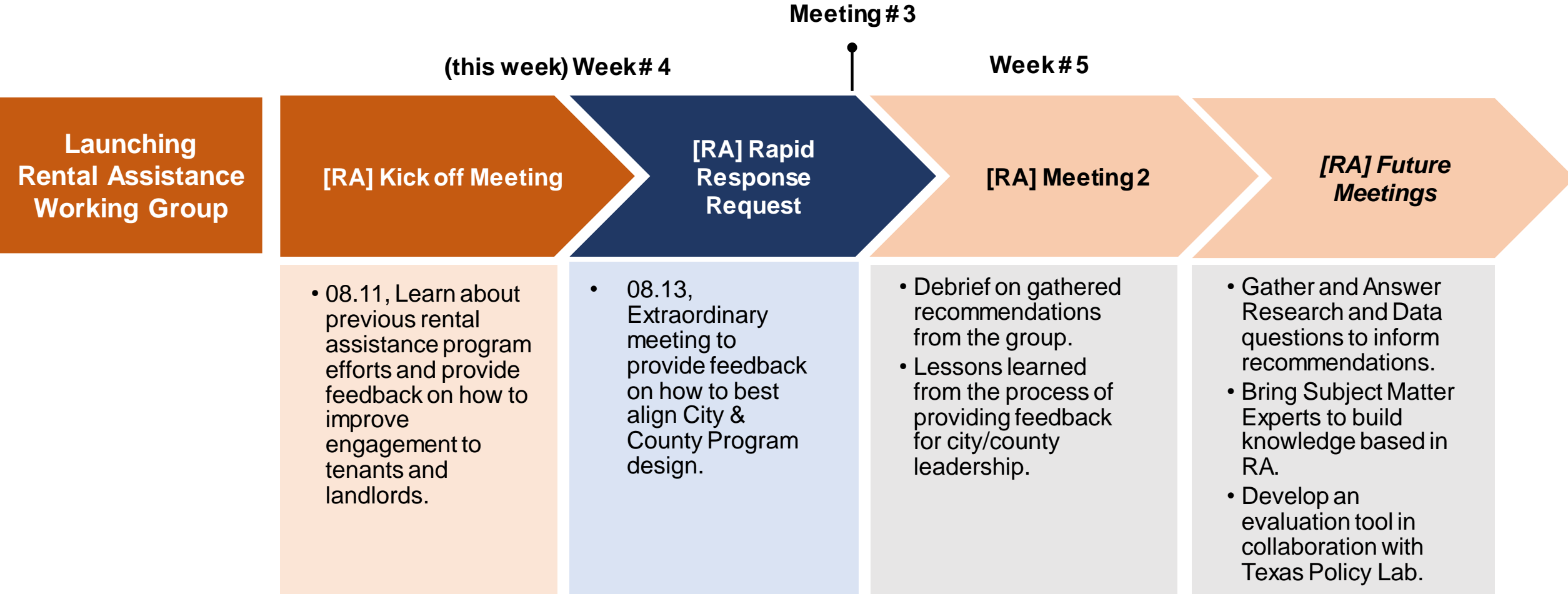
- Review other cities ordinances
- Design proposal with Cross-Sector Representation
- Unanimous vote from TF
- Recommendation is sent to Recovery Czars

- TF members spoke in support of Grace Period Ordinance.
- Media reports on TF Recommendation and Mayors Position.
- COH Mayor announces a 19M Rental Assistance program.
- Harris County added 10M to an initial 15M Rental Assistance allocation, and 25M for direct payment.

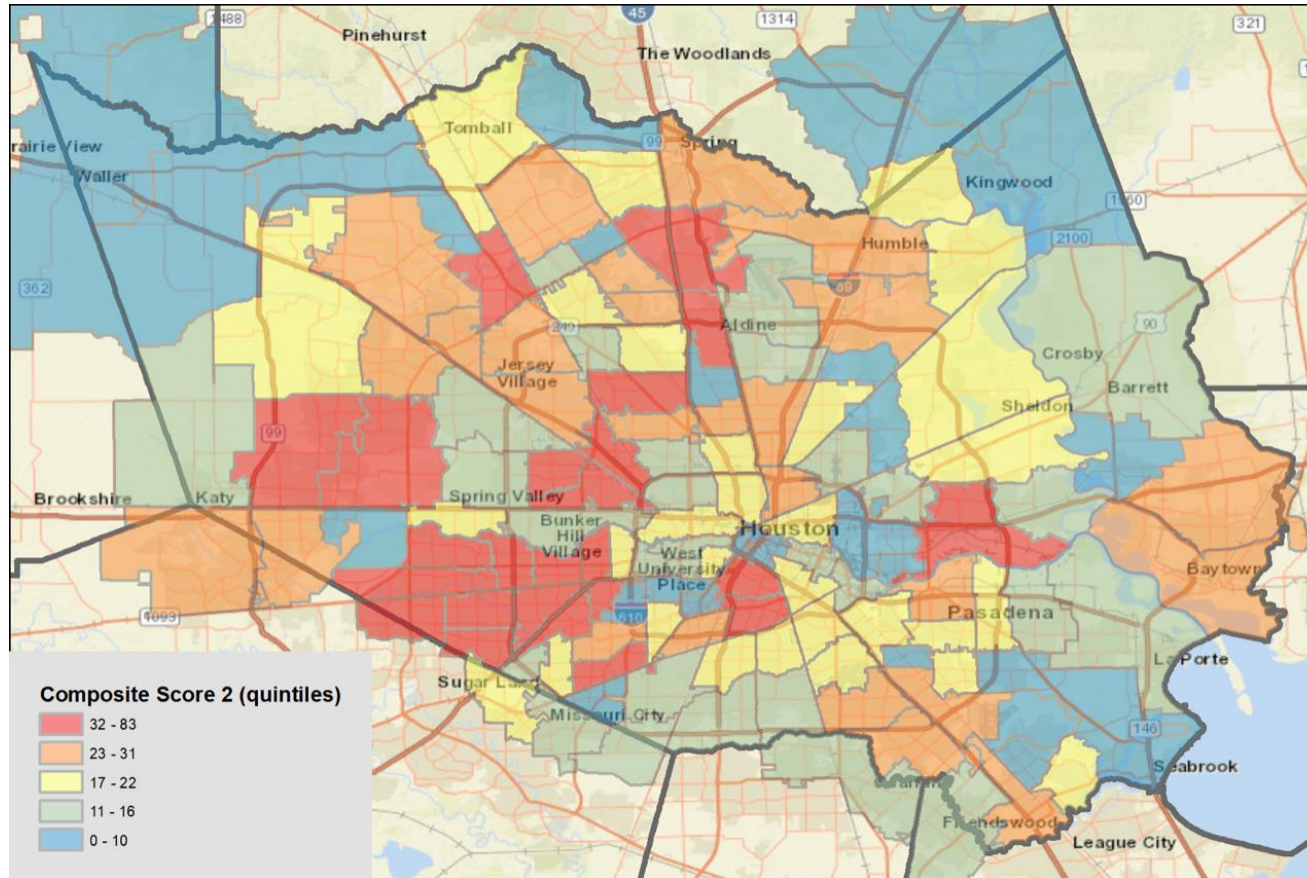
- BakerRipley shares draft proposal with Rapid Response Team.
- BR presents to Rapid Response Group and receives direct feedback.
- Rapid Response group evaluates proposal against guiding principles and submits individual comments.
- A set of principles is compiled and delivered to Recovery Czars.

- In a previous Commissioners Court session, Commissioner Rodney Ellis shared his interest in receiving feedback from the TF on an Access to Justice proposal his staff had been working on.
- The County and the City will invest 1.5 million under this effort.
- After conversations with County staff we will launch a working group to address this effort.

Recap: The First Four Weeks, and looking forward



Kinder Institute working on Renter Vulnerability Index



- Map of Renter Vulnerability Index (distribution-based, quintiles), weighted accordingly:

- a. 20% for Unemployment insurance claims between 06/24/2020 - 07/25/2020

- b. 20% for Evictions filings between 4/1/2020 - 7/31/2020

- c. 20% for Cost burdened renter HHs spent 30% - 50% on housing

- d. 40% for Severely cost burdened renter HHs spent 50% or more on housing

- Additional Data available includes:

Renter households below 80% AMI/50% AMI/30% AMI, Monthly avg eviction filings (pre-pandemic monthly avgs), Total number of renter households, Single parent renter households with children (One or more people under 18 years old), Renter households below poverty level, Population foreign-born, Population not speaking English at home

Rental Assistance: Working Group

Working Group Members:

- Maria Verdeja
- Mark Thiele
- Tom McCasland
- Diana Zarzuelo
- Zoe Middleton
- Celeste Arredondo
- John Boriack
- Mary Lawler
- Chrishelle Palay
- Howard Bookstaff
- Claudia Aguirre
- Cynthia Colbert
- Jeff Reichman
- Ana Raush
- Sharon Zachary (ACAM)
- Sonja Gee (MAM)

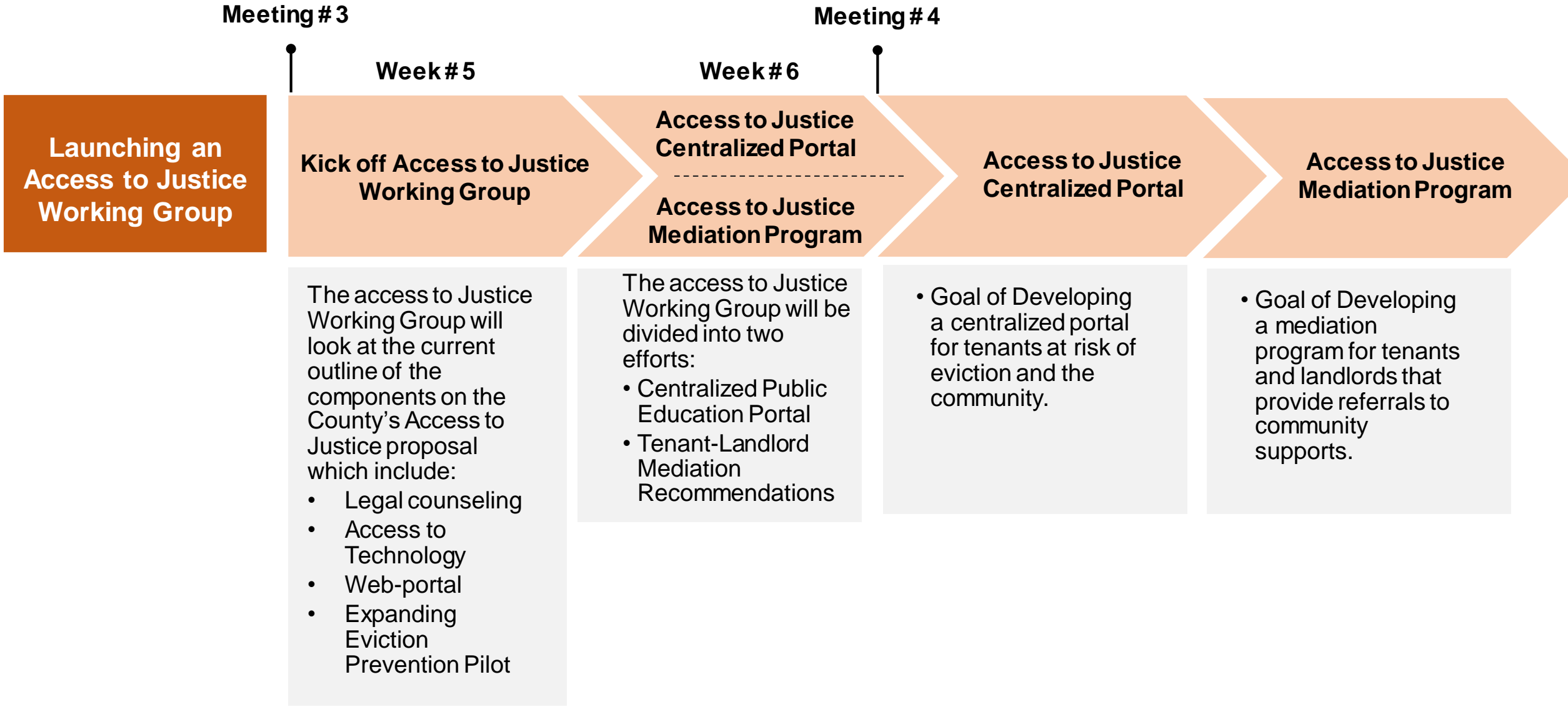
Working Group Facilitator:

- Martha Macris

Next: Knowledge base presentation open to all TF members

- What: Research on Rental Assistance Programs
- Calendar invite TBD

Recap: The First Four Weeks, and looking forward



Launching an Access to Justice Working Group

Meeting # 3

Week # 5

Kick off Access to Justice Working Group

The access to Justice Working Group will look at the current outline of the components on the County's Access to Justice proposal which include:

- Legal counseling
- Access to Technology
- Web-portal
- Expanding Eviction Prevention Pilot

Meeting # 4

Week # 6

Access to Justice Centralized Portal

Access to Justice Mediation Program

The access to Justice Working Group will be divided into two efforts:

- Centralized Public Education Portal
- Tenant-Landlord Mediation Recommendations

Access to Justice Centralized Portal

- Goal of Developing a centralized portal for tenants at risk of eviction and the community.

Access to Justice Mediation Program

- Goal of Developing a mediation program for tenants and landlords that provide referrals to community supports.

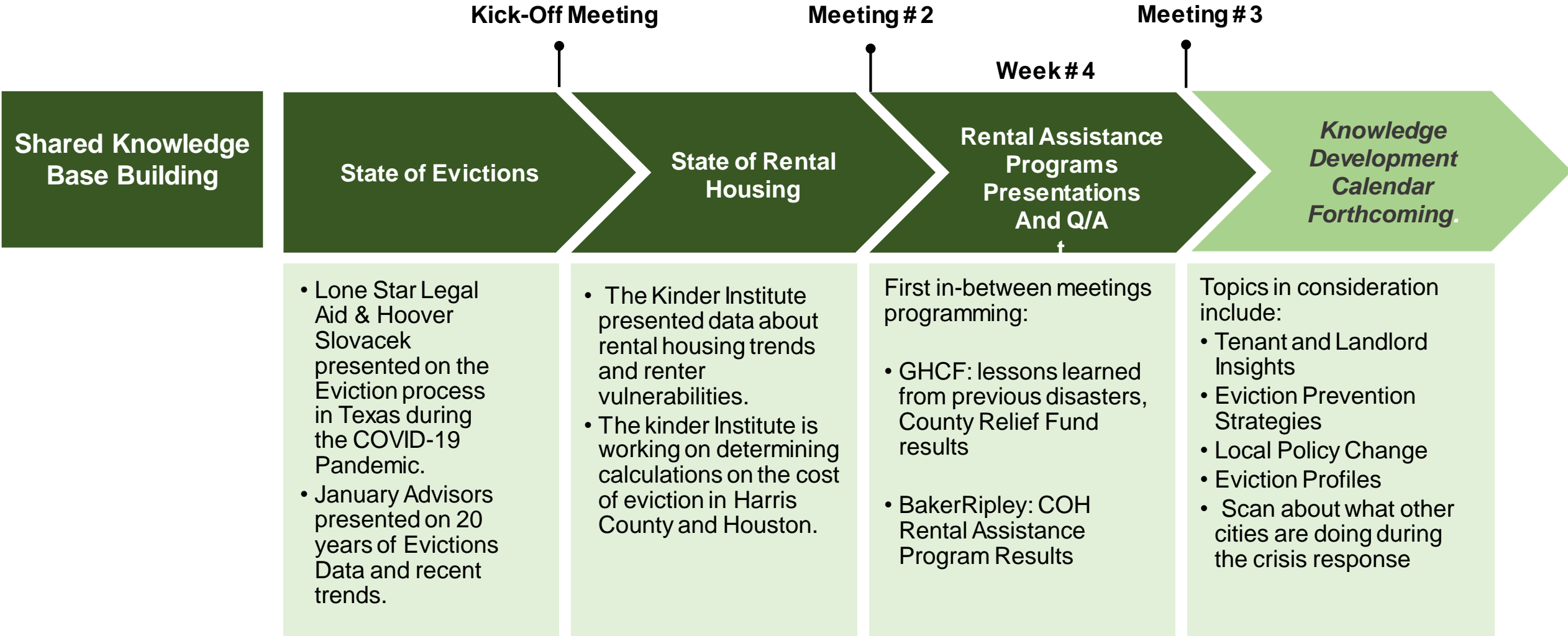
Working Groups: Looking forward

Potential Areas of Intervention

- Public Education & Outreach to Tenants at Risk of Eviction (access to justice)
- Tenant-Landlord Mediation (access to justice)
- Support a coordinated approach to local legal assistance & counsel
- Housing Counseling Strategy
- Landlord Assistance / Property Stabilization Programs
- Support a coordinated approach for Strategic Financial Supports
- Temporary Housing Solutions
- Policy Making and Advocacy

*All these will consider policy or program recommendations, public engagement, and system navigation.

Recap: The First Four Weeks, and looking forward



Backbone Work Streams : In development

Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• Communication Strategy
Data & Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data documentation, analysis & visualization in support of research questions• National Best Practices & Case Studies• Development of tools
Citizen & Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listening Sessions: focus groups to ensure community voice in knowledge and TF recommendations development• Community Forums: learning from and providing feedback to local nonprofits, CBO's and community groups active in the current crisis response