

**Authorizing a  
Resolution in Support  
of the Metro Denver  
Homeless Initiative  
(MDHI) Pledge to  
Coordination on  
Homelessness**

May 4, 2021

Boulder City Council



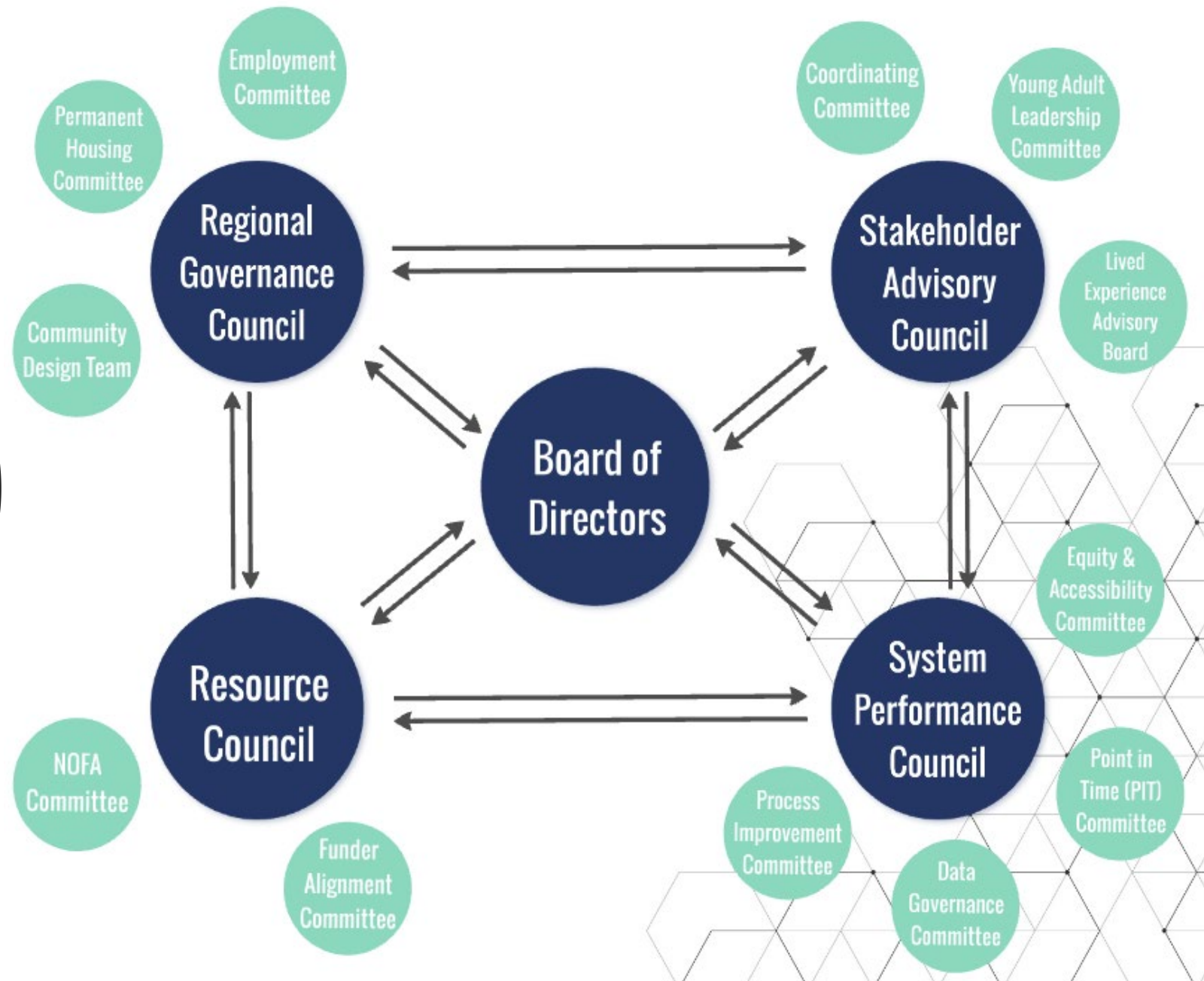
# Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI)

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- Mission: Leading and advancing collaboration to end homelessness in our region
- Metro Denver Continuum of Care (CoC) - a regional system that coordinates services and housing for people experiencing homelessness
- Region Includes: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson
- Coordinates the Point-in-Time (PIT), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), OneHome (Coordinated Entry System), Annual HUD Funding Application, State of Homelessness Report, participation with HSBC



# MDHI Structure



# Built for Zero

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- Movement of over 80 cities and counties
  - Primarily through CoC's
  - Goal to measurably end homelessness, one population at a time
  - Regional focus on veteran homelessness
- Functional Zero
  - When community can demonstrate that it has effectively eliminated homelessness
    - Homelessness is brief, rare, and non-recurring
- Working in collaboration with all local partners, cities and counties
- Using veterans as a proof point



# Veteran Homelessness in Boulder County

- Late 2019 – HSBC and VA identified a data gap that resulted in under-counting veteran homelessness
- Identified 93 veterans experiencing homelessness (compared to 34 in previous years)
- HSBC working group supports Built for Zero efforts
  - Collaborating with Metro Denver and Cheyenne VA regions
  - Working with Boulder County Housing Authority to increase Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher allocation

# Built for Zero Model and HSBC

## Shared, Measurable Aim

- HSBC and Boulder have clear visions and strategies for ending chronic homelessness in the community
- Data is shared between governmental entities to measure and develop new strategies

## Nimble Command Center Team

- Provides a mechanism to bring all players to the table
- The Policy Implementation Team functions to address issues, evaluate programming, and to bring initiatives to the Executive Board
- The Executive Board is an accountable shared authority with representation from cities, county, housing authorities, and MHD

## Proven Technical Strategies

- HSBC requires evidence-based interventions with all available funding.

## Rapid, By-Name Feedback Loop

- Connected database that provides quality by-name data for cross-referencing and care
- Boulder hosts dashboards on its website
- By-name lists are used for multiple activities including outreach, case conferencing, and housing prioritization

## Flexible Housing and Services

- Data-targeted housing development
- Working to remove barriers to housing and repurposing funds in response to data
- Leveraging Federal and State resources with local funding for housing-focused services



# Pledge

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1. Homelessness does not end at a city or county border.
2. The coordination with the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative on Built for Zero is how we reduce homelessness regionally.
3. Commitment to help pave the way for this work to continue at the local level.

