

Denver Welfare Reform Board

The Denver Welfare Reform Board was created in 1997 to:

- Assist Denver Human Services to implement and comply with the federal “Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA),” a.k.a. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
- Focus narrowly on rules, regulations, and policy to implement the PRWORA welfare reform in Denver.

Current State & Plans Moving Forward:

- The 1996 PRWORA welfare reform has been implemented, in line with federal law.
- The restricted focus of the Welfare Reform Board no longer meets the need of the department, to engage the community on a broader range of programs and practices.
- DHS will sunset the Welfare Reform Board, through the ordinance process.
 - The members of the Welfare Reform Board voted unanimously in 2019 to support repealing the Welfare Reform Board.

Continuing Community Engagement:

- Partnership with City Council members to provide information to their communities and garner feedback through town halls, community meetings, newsletters, etc.
- Engagement on the TANF (“welfare”) program, as well as the broad spectrum of programs in DHS, such as SNAP and child welfare prevention. This includes engagement with community partners such as the All Families Deserve a Chance Coalition, Mie High Health Alliance, higher education institutions, community town halls, among others.
 - Go to the community where they are, to garner feedback and hear assessments of proposals.
- Implement [Human Together](#), our strategic vision framework, which informs an intentionality of community and partner engagement in all areas of practice and in everything we do. This envisions a community where all people are connected, supported, safe, and well.
- Engage the existing Denver Board of Human Services to advise the DHS Executive Director on implementation of *Human Together* and other policies and operations.
 - The Board of Human Services has a mandate in city charter to advise the Executive Director on the policy and operation of the Department.
 - The Board voted unanimously on October 12th, 2020 to support this plan.



The Denver Board of Human Services will:

- Advise DHS Executive Director on implementation of the DHS strategic plan, *Human Together*.
- Assist with developing and implementing strategies in line with *Human Together* goals across a broad range of topics and programs.
- Be a venue to solicit feedback from a diverse group of community partners through our Board membership.
- Allow for a nimble and adaptive response to community needs.

Human Together Goals:

