

## YOUTH GROUP HOUSING WORKSHOP

**Date:** April 29, 2025

**Location:** Montgomery County Business Solutions Center

### Workshop Summary

**Workshop Purpose:** The goal of the workshop was for participants to come away with a better understanding of the issues with Youth Group Housing and the potential challenges and solutions for both their local community and within the region. The workshop provided an opportunity to learn the definition and background of Youth Group Housing issues faced by local jurisdictions and hear from a panel discussion involving three case studies from around the Miami Valley region.

**Workshop Attendees:** A total of 35 participants, ranging geographically from Montgomery, Miami, and Greene County representing City, Township, and County levels of government in fields of planning, economic development, BZA, law enforcement, emergency responders, and children's services were in attendance. In addition, several group home operators attended the workshop.

**Workshop Summary:** Mr. Martin Kim from MVRPC welcomed participants and introduced Ms. Kyrsten French, who gave an informative definition and background presentation of the topic. In her presentation, she covered how youth group homes are overwhelmingly selecting Montgomery County at a far higher rate than other Ohio counties. She explained some of the issues that the City of Dayton is faced with this influx of youth group houses creates and highlighted some of the potential housing youth group homes target, reflecting on some poor housing and neighborhood conditions. Kyrsten shared City of Dayton's approaches on addressing the issues through zoning regulations and insights on legal challenges and considerations.



Following Kyrsten, the panel made up of Ms. Emily Crow (City of Dayton), Ms. Shannon Meadows and Mr. Chad Adkins (Harrison Township), and Mr. Tyler Hauck (City of Trotwood) began to delve into sharing their experiences with youth group housing at their communities on the following questions.

- What was the initial indication that you were having an unusually high number of group homes moving into your community?
- Who was the first group/person that identified the trend?
- What were the biggest concerns from community members?
- What kind of resistance did you have to the moratorium? Where are you in your process?
- How is your community approaching regulations for group housing? Zoning, registration, other?



Shannon explained that these 3 jurisdictions are a hotbed for the state of Ohio, emphasizing they are not just highest in the region, but that they are highest for the entire state. She also clarified that any issues aren't with individual group homes locating somewhere, it's the concentration of group homes, and that they are looking at coordination with the state and counties on this issue.

Audience had many questions for panelists, including topics such as impacts to property values, impacts on community resources, and system barriers like the lasting impacts of redlining that make it more likely to focus on these areas.

MVRPC and panelists shared that a series of workshops are anticipated going forward. The specific topic for future workshops, however, is unknown at this time.