



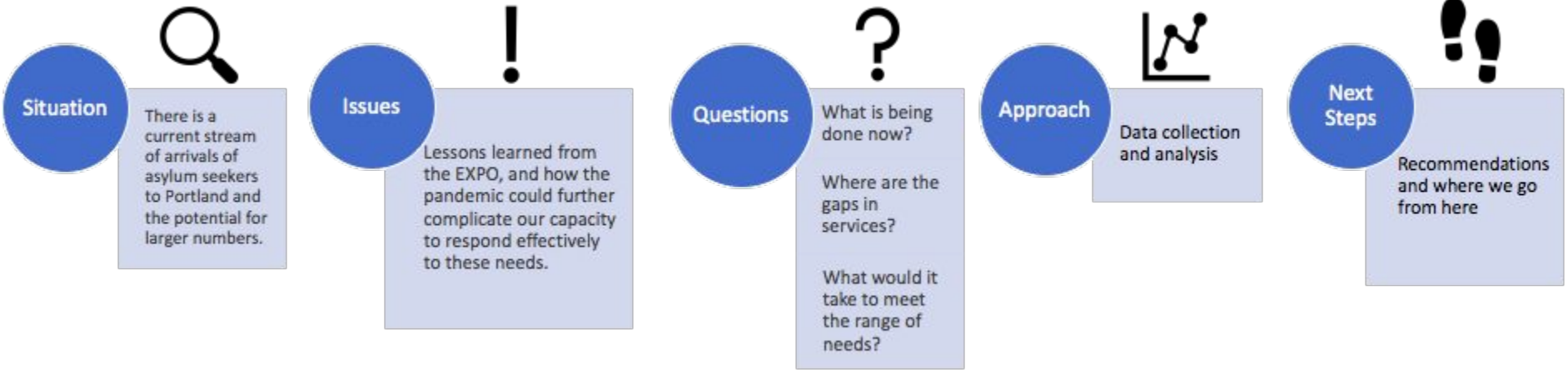
Asylum Seekers Working Group:

New Arrivals Assessment

Friday, April 2 2021



February 5th ASWG Meeting



Data Collection

ASWG Member Survey



Google Form sent out to
ASWG member
organizations

EXPO Reports



MIRC's report concerning
the ECBO involvement
and challenges at the
EXPO

COVID Social Support Data



Highlighting community
needs, barriers, and how
services are being
adapted

Recommendations

Leverage tools and resources built during the pandemic

- Social services referral system
- Working groups and educational material
- New sources of funding
- Robust networks

Convene around issue areas

- Existing working groups in place
- Create new groups that are issue-focused
- ASWG to continue to provide a space to discuss legal issues

Proactive over reactive

- How can we prepare now?

What is being done:

- **Housing**
 - Quarantine Shelter Discussions - Tues. @12pm
 - <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6351811685?pwd=dnovUTlvYXpkdFccwFZjcUgwWXQ2UT09>
 - Contact: Charles Mugabe (Catholic Charities Maine, cmugabe@ccmaine.org)
- **Immediate/Ongoing Social Support Support**
 - COVID-19 Social Support Providers Meetings
 - Wednesdays @ 10am <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4430493660>
 - Fridays @ 11am <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88084860893>
 - DHHS referral system for Social Support Services
 - Contacts: Charles Mugabe (Catholic Charities Maine, cmugabe@ccmaine.org) and Jayde Biggert (MIRC, jbiggert@maineimmigrantrights.org)
- **Education**
 - Portland Public Schools - contact Susan Wiggins (wiggis@portlandschools.org)
 - New Mainers Educational Needs Collaborative
 - Bi-weekly on Mon. @12pm, next meeting Apr 5 <https://zoom.us/j/99149400054>
 - Contact: Fatima Saidi (MIRC, fsaidi@maineimmigrantrights.org) and Fatuma Hussein (Immigrant Resource Center, fhussein@uswofmaine.org)
- **Childcare**
 - Office of Family and Child Services - [Coronavirus-Related Funding Opportunities for Child Care Providers](#)
 - Contact: Crystal Arbour (Maine DHHS, Crystal.Arbour@maine.gov)
- **Outreach and communication**
 - Culturally-Appropriate Education/Messaging Group - Wed. @9am
 - <https://zoom.us/j/91630800010>
 - Contact: Fatuma Hussein (Immigrant Resource Center, fhussein@uswofmaine.org) and Jayde Biggert (MIRC, jbiggert@maineimmigrantrights.org)
 - GA hotel/family shelter vaccine education
 - Contact: Charles Mugabe (Catholic Charities Maine, cmugabe@ccmaine.org) and Jayde Biggert (MIRC, jbiggert@maineimmigrantrights.org)
- **Legal**
 - ASWG Meetings
 - Contact: Sally Sutton (NMRC, Portland Adult Ed., suttos@portlandschools.org)
 - Workshops & legal aid clinics through ILAP and Portland OEO
- **Transportation**
 - MANA's COVID-19-related transportation system (car@mana-maine.org)
- **Food**
 - MIRC's food support system
 - Good Shepherd Food Bank grants
- **Coordination**
 - City of Portland - Resettlement Coordinator Position

Next Steps

- Continue connecting with immigrant community leaders and ECBOs
- Digging deeper into these issue areas through existing and new working groups to further refine problems and identify potential solutions
- Presenting findings to key groups
- Connect with others doing similar research in the state

Questions?

Thank you!

For more information, please contact:

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