



City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Agenda - Final-revised

Climate, Environment & Infrastructure

Chairperson, Meeka Owens
Vice Chairperson, Mark Jeffreys
Councilmember, Jeff Cramerding
Vice Mayor, Jan-Michele Kearney
Councilmember, Seth Walsh

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

10:00 AM

Council Chambers, Room 300

PRESENTATIONS

Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Program: An Introduction

Tyler Meenach, MS, CDCA (Health Coordinator); Philip Graham MPH, CDCA (Senior Health Coordinator)

Impact Award Recipient

Kevin Finn, President/CEO, Strategies to End Homelessness

AGENDA

- [202301633](#) **RESOLUTION**, submitted by Councilmember Owens, from Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor, **EXPRESSING** the support of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cincinnati for employees who are recovering from substance use disorders, and further **REQUESTING** that the Administration take all steps necessary to formalize the City's designation as a Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace.
Sponsors: Owens
Attachments: [Transmittal](#)
[Resolution](#)
- [202301751](#) **PRESENTATION**, submitted by Councilmember Owens from Tyler Meenach, Health Coordinator, Hamilton County Public Health, titled Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Movement.
Sponsors: Climate and Environment & Infrastructure
Attachments: [Presentation](#)
- [202301755](#) **PRESENTATION**, submitted by Councilmember Owens from President/CEO Kevin Finn, titled, Strategies to End Homelessness.

Sponsors: Owens

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

4. [202301800](#) **COMMUNICATION**, submitted by Councilmember Owens from Greg Kesterman, Health Commissioner, Hamilton County Public Health regarding Recovery Friendly Hamilton County.

Sponsors: Owens

Attachments: [Communication](#)

ADJOURNMENT

20230633

Date: June 14, 2023

To: Councilmember Meeka Owens
From: Emily Smart Woerner, City Solicitor *EESW*
Subject: **Resolution – Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace**

Transmitted herewith is a resolution captioned as follows:

EXPRESSING the support of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cincinnati for employees who are recovering from substance use disorders, and further **REQUESTING** that the Administration take all steps necessary to formalize the City's designation as a Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace.

EESW/IMD(dmm)
Attachment
384849

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2023

EXPRESSING the support of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cincinnati for employees who are recovering from substance use disorders, and further **REQUESTING** that the Administration take all steps necessary to formalize the City's designation as a Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace.

WHEREAS, the drug addiction crisis in the United States continues to have a substantial and significant impact on the City; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 an estimated 433 people died of drug overdoses in Hamilton County, which is a 112 percent increase from the 204 overdose deaths experienced in 2012; and

WHEREAS, according to The National Drug Intelligence Center, drug abuse costs the nation more than \$120 billion per year in lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition (the "Coalition") consists of a group of community members, leaders, advocates, and experts dedicated to ending the opioid epidemic in Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Coalition created a Business Subcommittee that coordinates public- and private-sector efforts to help businesses be part of the solution to combat the opioid epidemic in the community; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 the Business Subcommittee launched the Recovery Friendly Hamilton County ("RFHC") initiative, which helps workplaces in Hamilton County treat substance use disorders among their personnel and designates those workplaces as RFHC Workplaces; and

WHEREAS, when businesses and organizations take action to combat substance use disorders, they are also addressing workplace challenges such as productivity, absenteeism, health care costs, workplace safety, and employee health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2022, the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution endorsing the RFHC initiative and adopting recovery friendly workplace practices; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to join the RFHC initiative and to offer support for City employees who are struggling with and recovering from substance use disorders; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council express their support for employees who are recovering from substance use disorders.

Section 2. That the Mayor and this Council request that the Administration take all steps necessary to formalize the City's designation as a Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Workplace.

Section 3. That copies of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and provided to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Todd B. Portune Center for County Government, 137 East Court Street, Room 603 – Cincinnati, OH 45202, and the Hamilton County Public Health Department, 250 William Howard Taft, 2nd Floor, Cincinnati, OH 45219.

Passed: _____, 2023

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Meeka Owens

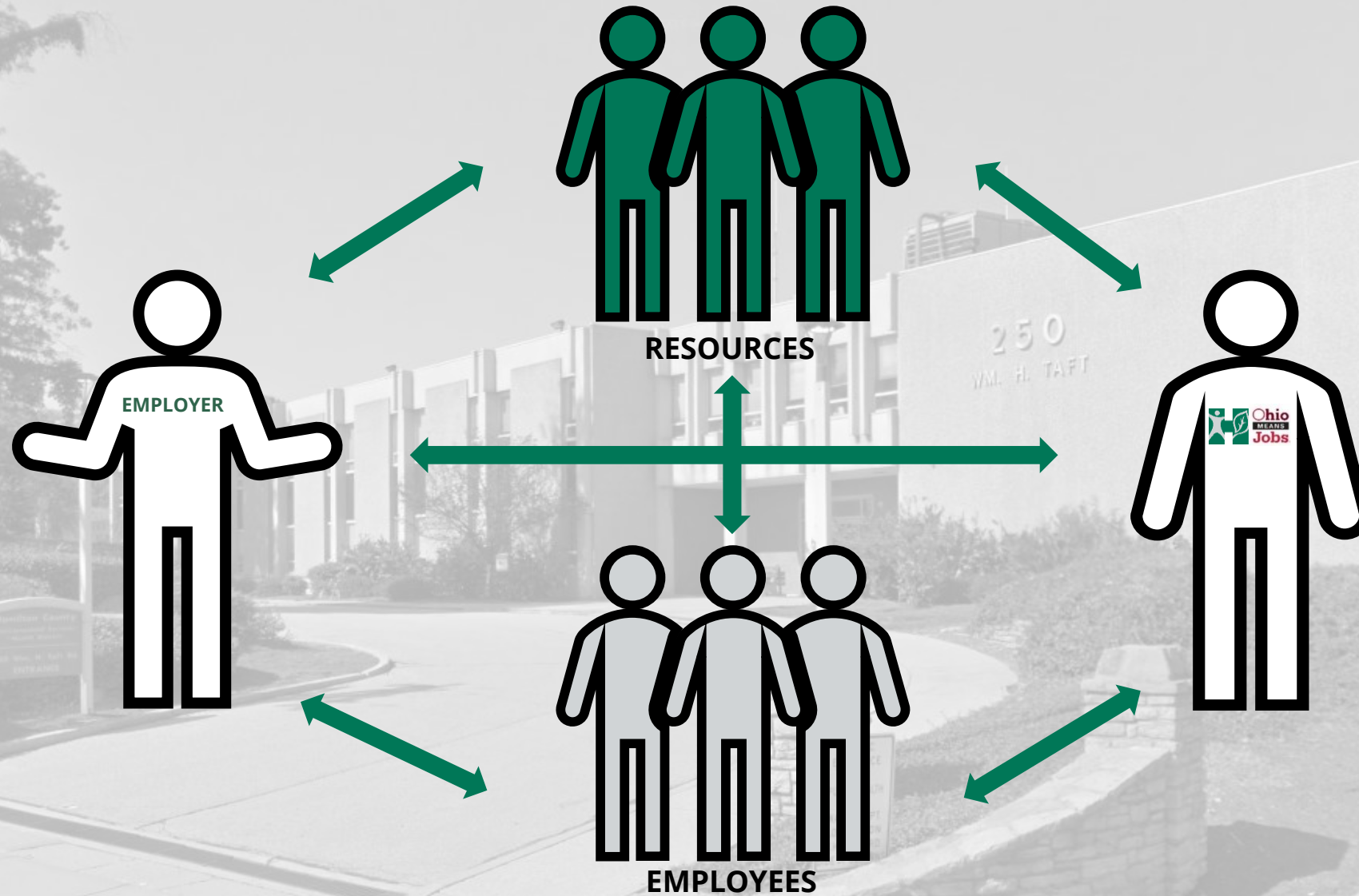
Recovery Friendly Hamilton County Movement



PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.



RECOVERY FRIENDLY
HAMILTON COUNTY

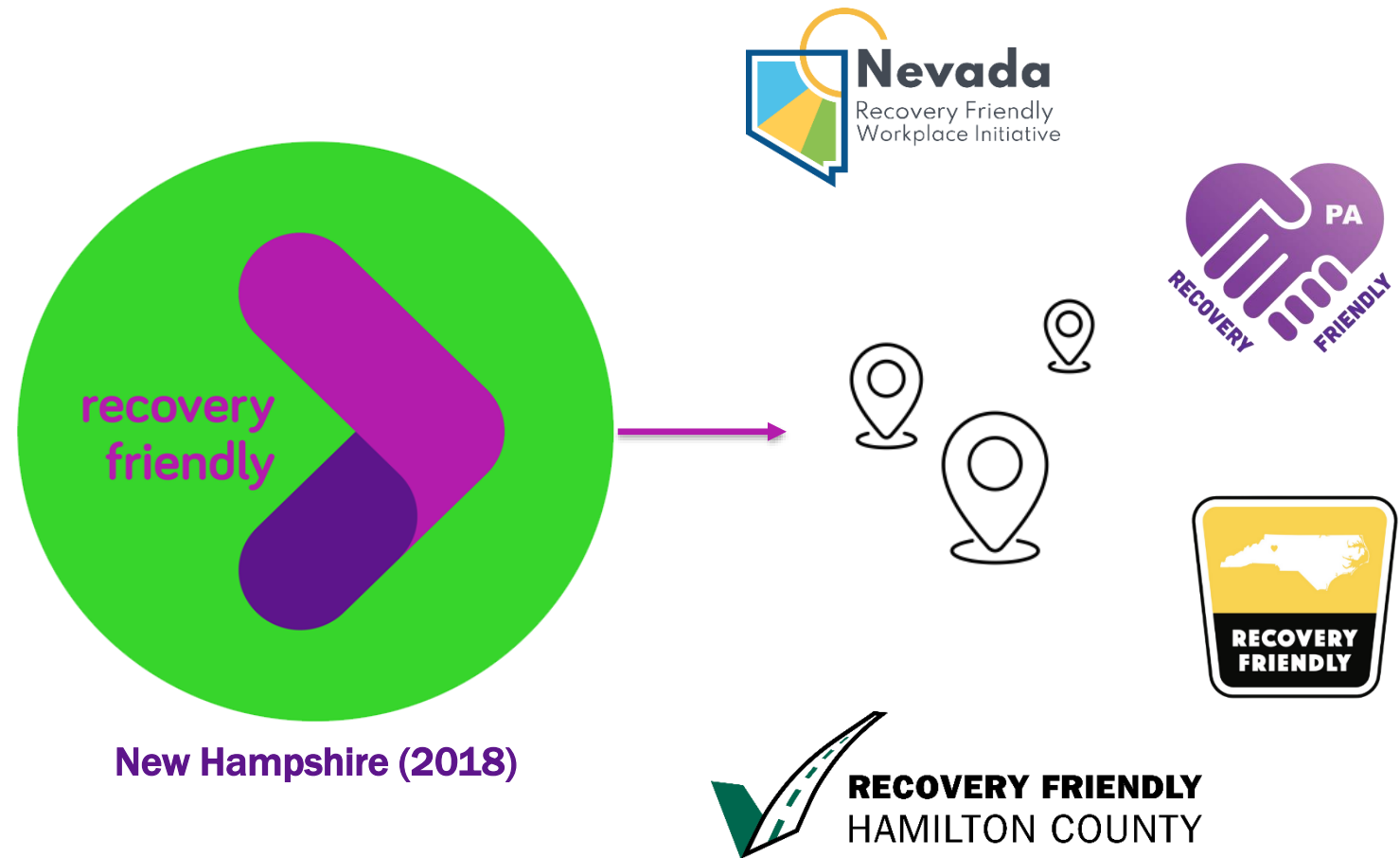


Philosophy

Recovery Friendly Workplaces support their communities by recognizing recovery from substance use disorder as a strength and by being willing to work intentionally with people in recovery.





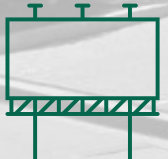



Recovery Friendly Workplaces encourage a healthy and safe environment where employers, employees, and communities can collaborate to create positive change and eliminate barriers for those impacted by substance use disorder.

Origins



New Hampshire (2018)

What We Offer

| Required | Optional | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p data-bbox="242 382 535 421">Linkage To Care</p>  | <p data-bbox="802 382 1197 421">Training/Consultation</p>  | <p data-bbox="1490 382 1681 421">Recruiting</p>  | <p data-bbox="2025 382 2331 421">Policy Resources</p>  |
| <p data-bbox="165 863 598 902">Designation/Promotion</p>  | <p data-bbox="802 863 1197 902">Wraparound Services</p>  | <p data-bbox="1363 863 1821 902">Harm Reduction Supplies</p>  | <p data-bbox="1949 863 2407 902">Cost Saving Connections</p>  |

What's Required for Designation?

- Letter of intent
- Declaration of commitment to employees
- Post resources for employees
- Training/orientation with HCPH (45 Min)
- Annually
 - *Remind staff about ATOD policies*
 - *Remind staff about RFHC*

Brand Identity



Advantages of Joining!

- **Advantages for employers**
 - **Demonstrating versatility in a difficult market**
 - **A host of resources for employees**
 - **<https://www.nsc.org/forms/substance-use-employer-calculator>**
- **Advantages for job seekers**
 - **An employer supportive of recovery**



RFHC Workplaces



Q & A

Feel free to direct any questions to Tyler.Meenach@hamilton-co.org



STRATEGIES TO END HOMELESSNESS

Impact Award:
Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization
Collaborative

Kevin Finn
President/CEO
kfinn@end-homelessness.org



STRATEGIES TO END HOMELESSNESS

Mission: Lead a coordinated community effort to end homelessness in Greater Cincinnati.

Accomplishing this goal by:

1. **PREVENT:** prevent as many people from becoming homeless as possible
2. **ASSIST:** provide high-quality assistance to help people back into housing
3. **SOLVE:** offering solutions to homelessness through housing





STRATEGIES TO END HOMELESSNESS

Partner Agencies

Bethany House Services

Caracole, Inc.

Center for Independent Living Options (CILO)

Center for Respite Care

Cincinnati Metropolitan

Housing Authority

Community Action Agency

3CDC GeneroCity513

Cincinnati Health Network

Cincinnati Union Bethel

City Gospel Mission

Emergency Shelter of NKY

Excel Development Co.

Found House Interfaith Housing Network

(formerly IHNGC)

Freestore Foodbank

Greater Cincinnati Behavioral

Health Services

Hamilton County Job & Family Services

Joseph House

Lighthouse Youth & Family Services

Northern KY Independent

Health District

Ohio Valley Goodwill

OTR Community Housing

Shelterhouse

St. Francis / St. Joseph Catholic

Worker House

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Talbert House

Tender Mercies, Inc.

The Salvation Army

Veterans Administration

Volunteers of America

YWCA Greater Cincinnati

Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization Collaborative

- Strategies to End Homelessness (lead agency)
- Bethany House Services
- Found House Interfaith Housing Network
- The Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
- Lighthouse Youth & Family Services
- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- YWCA of Greater Cincinnati

- 84.51- a retail data science, insights, and media company, which has been providing pro bono data analysis assistance to STEH since 2017.
- **Flywheel Social Enterprise Hub**- startup accelerator that connects innovators and social entrepreneurs to training and resources needed to develop their vision for social change into a sustainable service line.



Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization Collaborative

What are we are going to do?

Use predictive data analytics to identify households in the very early stages of a housing crisis- perhaps before they even realize their situation could lead to housing loss or homelessness- and proactively offer assistance in resolving the situation



Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization Collaborative

Key Components:

1. Planning:

- Homeless Hack: in partnership with Flywheel, convene community leaders and local organizations to brainstorm ideas, solutions, data sources, etc.
- Access Data: access data, access more data & assess existing resources.
- Coordinate Entry: develop strategy regarding prioritizing households identified through data analytics.
- Engagement Strategy: develop a strategy for engaging and then helping at-risk households to overcome the barriers that threaten their housing (e.g., lack of employment, transportation, childcare, or other resources).



Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization Collaborative

Key Components:

2. Predictive analytics:

- In partnership with 84.51, analyze data to determine what characteristics, patterns, etc. are most predictive of future housing instability, eviction, homelessness.
- Identify families with identified characteristics.

3. Proactive Service Delivery: proactively offering case management, connection to community resources, etc. to address each household's situation well before eviction or homelessness.



Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization Collaborative

Key Components

4. Property Owner Engagement:
 - Assist with landlord relationships; mediate between the client and landlord when needed.
 - Maximize Cincinnati's limited housing supply, adding affordable, safe housing units to the collaborative's portfolio of available properties.

5. Legal Aid Society:
 - Assist tenants who have been locked out or their utilities shut off by the landlord.
 - Obtain repairs of unsafe housing conditions that may lead to vacate orders if not addressed.
 - Provide legal services to prevent evictions.



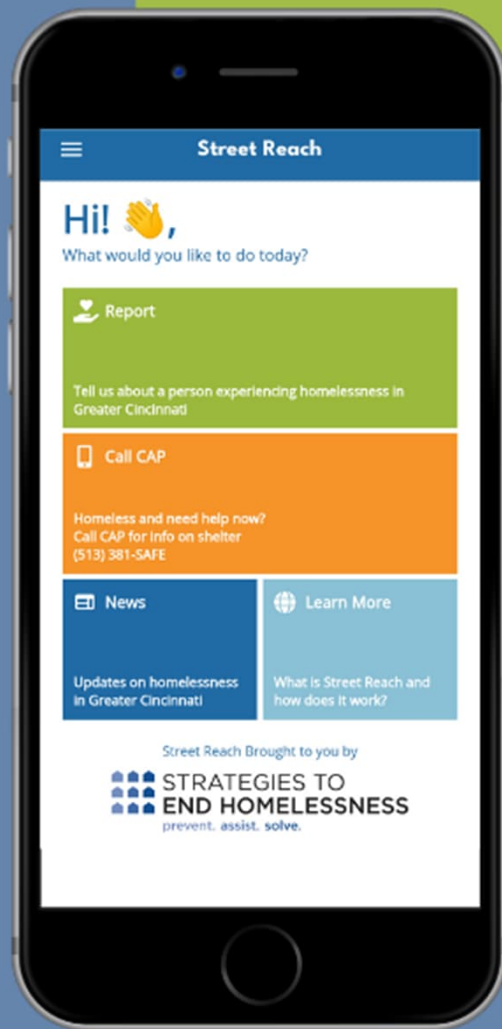
Cincinnati Family Housing Stabilization Collaborative

Outcomes:

- **Reducing evictions for families and children**
 - Earlier intervention reduces chances of eviction
 - Reducing trauma of housing loss, homelessness for children
- **Reducing community costs associated with evictions**
 - Preventative services are far more cost effective than assisting households post-housing loss.
- **Maximizing limited housing supply**
 - Ensuring tenants can get needed repairs
 - Reducing turnover and vacancies
- **Creating a better quality of life for residents of all our neighborhoods**
 - Stable resident base is beneficial for neighborhoods
 - Stable resident base allows for a stable workforce in neighborhoods



Concerned about someone sleeping outside?



Download the
Street Reach
app to send help!

Kevin Finn, President/CEO

kfinn@end-homelessness.org

strategiestoendhomelessness.org





PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

250 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, OH 45219
Phone: 513.946.7800 Fax: 513.946.7890
hcph.org

June 21, 2023

The Honorable Meeka Owens
City of Cincinnati
801 Plum St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Dear Ms. Owens:

We are very excited that the City of Cincinnati is considering joining the *Recovery Friendly Hamilton County* family of companies and organizations committed to changing how we deal with substance use disorder.

It is estimated that 23 million people in the United States are in recovery from substance use disorder. Further, some 75 percent of these people are in the workforce. Given these statistics, it is evident that we need to re-think our approach to how to work with our friends, neighbors and co-workers in recovery.

Eliminating the stigma of substance use disorder and allowing people working toward recovery the opportunity to engage in the workforce is a forward-thinking approach. Participation in the *Recovery Friendly Hamilton County* helps to create a paradigm shift in the way we deal with addiction and substance use disorder. Most people struggling with this disorder want nothing more than an opportunity to return to normalcy. Participation in society through regular work is a tremendous step toward beating the struggle with substance use.

We commend Cincinnati for consideration toward offering those in recovery a chance for a more productive life. In addition, we would like to thank Councilor Owens for her leadership and sensitivity in working to make the City of Cincinnati an even better employer. My team is available to answer any questions or concerns as you move forward. Please call on us anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Kesterman", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Kesterman
Health Commissioner

