Our Elati GNA Team met for the first time on Tuesday. After introductions, and Steve sharing expectations for the process, D’Wanna Powell, the site manager for the new The Gathering Place Elati site (1375 Elati Street), provided some additional details on plans for this site.

- There will be 44 units serving women, transgendered and non-binary individuals in a secure and gated site.
- The site will have three case managers for a ration of 15:1, which will allow for much better personalized coaching and resourcing.
- The goal is to enable the residents of the site to transition into permanent housing as soon as possible.
- The Gathering Place will also sponsor community building activities for the residents as well as the larger community.
- There will be 24/7 staffing (2 staff members during the day, and 1-2 staff members overnight), as well as security during the overnight hours.
- Denver Police Department will evaluate the site for CEPTED opportunities to improve security and safety.
- Each staff member is carefully selected and receives 35-40 hours of specific training before beginning the job.
- You can find a site plan and more information at - [1375 Elati Street - City and County of Denver](denvergov.org)

There was some discussion and questions about specific aspects of the planned site and program.

Steve had earlier shared a GNA template to save time and get us started. We began reviewing the communication commitments around a successful GNA, clarified a few points and assigned some questions for additional information. Once we get a bit more details on the communication commitments we’ll share them in our summary.

Since The Gathering Place (TGP) will have 24/7 security there was discussion about their role. Is this just for internal security, or can we expect security to “walk the block” to ensure the area is safe and managed as expected. Security is in the process of being contracted and we don’t have a definitive answer yet, but the request is there.

Within the context of the security discussion there were questions about how the “unintended consequences” of any service of this nature in a neighborhood will be managed. It is recognized that DPD is somewhat short-staffed and may not be able to respond in a timely manner to calls. Currently we are working with the Mayor’s office to ensure there is an adequate and timely response.

Several of the team suggested that the neighborhood host events that the Elati residents will be invited to attend, thus building community. This is also homework and we’ll revisit.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30th.
An email you can use to send any questions or comments is [ElatiGNA@FindSolutions.org](mailto:ElatiGNA@FindSolutions.org)