



Thursday, June 13, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

### Meeting Summary

**Appointees/Ex-Officios Present:** Alice Mankoff, Ashleigh Feryan, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Courtney Cross, Cynthia Harris, Dale Tampke, Dani Shaw, Emily Taylor, Deputy Chief Frank Padgett, Gary Henderson, Jessica DeRoche, Josh Ashford, Kathy Srokosz, Mary Jones, Mayor Chris Watts, Nicole Recker, Roy Metzler, Stephen Coffey, Terry Widmer, Valerie Foster

**Appointees Absent:** Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell (regrets), Herman Oosterwijk,, Isabel Rodriguez, Leroy Schuett (regrets), Herman Oosterwijk, (regrets), Mayor Thomas Muir (regrets), Sheryl English

**Guests:** Sarah Kuechler (City of Denton), Katherine Gonzales (United Way of Denton County), Alyssa Mostaffa (United Way of Denton County), Stephen Thomas (Salvation Army of Lewisville)

### Welcome & Consideration of April 2019 Minutes

Chair Councilperson TJ Gilmore called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Chair requested a motion to approve February 2019 minutes.

Motion: Terry Widmer  
2nd: Dr. Mary Jones  
Motion was approved.

Giving Hope board member Eileen Hall informed the group she was attending in DCHLT Appointee Cindy Harris's place.

### Nominating Committee

Chair requested appointees to serve on a nominating committee to present 2019-2020 slate of officers at the August meeting, stating the time commitment will likely be a conference call or email confirmation of the slate. The following appointees volunteered: Valerie Foster, Nicole Recker, Jessica DeRoche, Cindy Harris and Mary Jones.

### Salvation Army Presentation

Steve Thomas provided a presentation of the Salvation Army's vision and strategy for social services in Denton County. The presentation included plans for a Denton social service center that would include emergency and transitional shelter, spiritual care and ministry, supportive housing and other social services. The Salvation Army also plans to develop a community center in Lewisville, for which they have acquired has secured \$2.0 million of the estimated \$10.8 million cost for the project.

Plans for the Denton Social Services Campus include a first phase for emergency shelter and social services that would require \$7.9 million, and a second phase for supportive housing at \$8.0 million. The campus is expected to take nine to



twelve months to build once funding is secured. The Salvation Army DFW has entered into an agreement with Denton Bible Church to acquire 16-acres at Shiloh Field, and the land will need to be rezoned for the proposed project.

Appointees discussed the relationship of this project to current efforts to expand the Monsignor King Outreach Center. Dani Shaw stated that the current goals of the city to support MKOC are short-term solutions with the hope that MKOC and the Salvation Army can align their long-term goals. Steve confirmed that the Salvation Army shelter expansion in Denton will likely occur in three to five years.

Councilperson Keely Briggs inquired about the timeline to develop the supportive housing units considering the need in Denton County, and Steve stated that the Salvation Army may need to reevaluate their phased approach to develop supportive housing before shelter expansion.

## **Emergency Solutions Grant**

Dani Shaw and Courtney Cross provided an update on the current Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) competition. In 2017 the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDCHA) changed the ESG from a 1-year grant to a 2-year grant. TDHCA has moved away from collaborative applications and has offered for local Continuums of Care to run the grant competition process. Each agency that wished to continue to provide or start providing ESG programs will have to submit their own application. Currently, ESG funding supports the Denton County Friends of the Family Shelter and the Salvation Army Denton Shelter, and supportive housing funding at Christian Community Action and Giving Hope.

The City of Denton and the United Way of Denton County have been facilitating meetings of agencies currently receiving ESG funding to promote continued collaboration with future applications and programs. Councilwoman Keely Briggs asked if agencies were meeting performance goals for ESG-funded programs. Dani Shaw stated that agencies are not required to share their performance data and current performance is not clear.

The Texas Homeless Network is running the 2019 ESG competition. Dani and Courtney reviewed the competition materials and timeline with the group.

## **Workgroup Updates**

### *Data Workgroup*

Courtney provided an update of the Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard. As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, there were 445 actively homeless households in Denton County's Coordinated Entry System. There were 24 Veteran households, 101 households experiencing chronic homelessness and 16 households experiencing homelessness as a result of fleeing domestic violence. Further details can be found online: <https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/homelessness-data-denton-county>.

The workgroup continues to make improvements to the dashboard and has identified a timeline for rolling out the addition of System Performance Measure updates over the summer.

### *Housing Workgroup*

Terry Widmer provided an update on the Housing Workgroup. The workgroup now meets the first Monday of the month to case conference for rapid re-housing and chronically homeless households; they meet the third Monday of the month to case conference Veteran households experiencing homelessness. UWDC staff continues to facilitate training opportunities to address housing and case management barriers that arise during case conferencing.

### *Ad Hoc Committee*



The committee met June 4<sup>th</sup> and proposed a meeting to convene mayors and city managers from across the county to pursue a county-wide housing study. There is potential for cities to collaborate with the City of Denton's current plans to conduct a study.

### *Shelter Planning Workgroup*

Courtney reviewed the funding proposal brought to Denton City Council May 21<sup>st</sup>. Denton City Council will consider funding the Monsignor King Outreach Center to expand from a 3-day operation to be open 7 days a week with a paid staff. UWDC staff will support MKOC with technical assistance during this transition. Council is also considering funding to expand street outreach and a contribution to the Denton County Homelessness Barriers Fund. UWDC backbone support staff is working with City of Lewisville staff to bring similar funding requests to their Council.

### *Ending Veteran Homelessness*

UWDC Backbone support continues to collaborate with Community Solutions' Built For Zero data collaborative to improve local homeless data and work towards the goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness by 2020.

Staff is also engaged in the Denton County Homeless Coalition's goal to a 100-day challenge to house 25-30 Veterans in January of 2020. The DCHLT Housing Workgroup has established Veteran-specific case conferencing to work towards this goal. Additionally, UWDC has engaged the Denton County Veterans Coalition to support the 100-day challenge as a step in the goal to end Veteran homelessness.

The Denton County Homeless Coalition has established sub-committee to support this goal and is developing a fundraising campaign to rally support for the 100-day challenge in the fall. The campaign will target landlords and property managers willing to make units available as well as a giving campaign for the Denton County Homelessness Barriers Fund.

### **Denton County Homeless Coalition Update**

Dr. Mary Jones provided an update on the Denton County Homeless Coalition, including the coalition's plan for a 100-day challenge to house 30 Veterans early next year. Mary reviewed a proposed timeline and funding needs for the challenge. (See attached)

### **Backbone Support Update**

Courtney introduced Hope Rodgers, UWDC's new Community Impact Coordinator hired to support the DCHLT and the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team (DCBHLT). Courtney also highlighted the data posters placed throughout the building; posters were graciously printed by North Central Texas College and used to showcase the 2019 Denton County Homelessness Data Report June 5<sup>th</sup> in Denton. The Colony is interested in joining the efforts of the DCHLT and the DCBHLT.

### **New Business**

Denton City Councilperson Keely Briggs informed the group of an upcoming community meeting for Denton's District 2 on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at the North Branch Library, during which the Salvation Army and Grace Like Rain Ministries will present their future plans.

### **Adjournment**

Chair requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Motion: Josh Ashford



2nd: Stephen Coffey  
Meeting was adjourned.

**Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday, August 8, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way of Denton County, Inc.**  
**(1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)**

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**Secretary**

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**Date**

