



**Thursday, April 10th, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Physical – UWDC Community Room: 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205**

**Virtual – Zoom Video Conference Link Attached in Email**

**Agenda:**

I.	Welcome & Introductions	Chair/Co-chair	3 min.
II.	February Meeting Minutes	Chair/Co-chair	3 min.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>VOTE – Approval of Meeting Minutes</b></li> </ul>		
III.	Point in Time Count Data Preview	Olivia Williams	30 min.
IV.	Christian Community Action: Diversion Program	Daphne Houston	15 min.
V.	Workgroup Report Highlights (inside packet)		15 min.
VI.	Backbone Support Highlights (inside packet)	UWDC	10 min.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Denton County Housing &amp; Homelessness Leadership Team</li> <li>• Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team</li> <li>• Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team</li> </ul>	Olivia Williams Shelby Redondo Shelby Redondo	
VII.	Public Comment	Chair/Co-chair	5 min.
VIII.	New Business	Chair/Co-chair	3 min.
IX.	Adjourn	Chair/Co-chair	1 min.

**Next Meeting Date:**

**Thursday, June 12, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | Hybrid Meeting**

**Physical – United Way of Denton County, 1314 Teasley Lane Denton TX 76205**

**Virtual – Zoom Video Conference Link Attached in Email**





Denton County Housing & Homelessness Leadership Team

8:00 AM Thursday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Terry Widmer opens the meeting and the December meeting minutes were approved.

### **Data Dashboard**

Evelyn Sutton reviews the current information on the Data Dashboard. She explains changes made, and to come, in regard to the presentation of the data dashboard in order to better communicate information. The total number of individuals housed has increased over the last few years. Ms. Sutton clarifies that the data representing “households” refers to individuals and families, not only individuals. Sharon Lee states that the largest barriers to housing are income as well as landlord cooperation. The McKinney Vento definition of homelessness in minors is highlighted, showcasing the increase in children experiencing homelessness in Denton County.

### **Strategic Plan: Community Engagement & Collaboration- Building Strong Partnerships**

Details from the 2025 Point in Time Count are presented by Olivia Mata-Williams and Elena Shehan. Volunteer registration increased in 2025, and more volunteers are needed for upcoming years. In continuing the Strategic Plan goal of Strengthening Community Engagement and Collaboration, participants in planning and community volunteers with the PIT Count are recognized. Volunteer coverage area was increased and will need to expand further in order to identify individuals in more rural areas. Landlord participation, the Amazon Wishlist, lead recruitment, business partnerships, and the use of a North and South Hub were all successful aspects of the 2025 PIT Count.

Increased planning committee membership, business participation, volunteer stewardship, faith-based involvement, and agency collaboration will be essential to the success of the 2026 PIT Count. The Data Reveal of this year’s PIT Count will occur May 2025. A comment was made to emphasize the importance of equipping local businesses with resources to share with individuals experiencing homelessness who enter those businesses.



## **FindHelp Quarterly Report**

Alex Reed and Courtney Douangdara share the impact of FindHelp on Denton County. Since November 2024, searches related to housing assistance have greatly increased, at 54% of all searches in the county. There are 2,202 organizations in Denton County on FindHelp, and more than 18,000 users in the last year. Increased use by both individuals and organizations are goals for 2025 in order to maximize use of available resources. If implemented, a community-wide screen report with FindHelp would allow the collection of client demographic information, given the client's consent. A question is asked about the ability to add agencies to FindHelp that are not currently listed, and Ms. Douangdara answers that they can email her to do so.

## **Backbone Support**

**Housing & Homelessness.** Backbone Support updates were given during the PIT Count Presentation.

**Behavioral Health.** The Strategic Plan was approved in January 2025 for the next 2 years. The new Co-Chair is Chief Deputy Douglas Lee. A 10-Year Anniversary Planning Committee is being created to celebrate Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team success.

**Workforce Success.** Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) launched January 2025, with 8 sites across Denton County. More than 361 returns and \$512,000 in returns have been processed with VITA. A free eye clinic for all ages will be held at United Way Denton County on March 22<sup>nd</sup> with 29 slots available.

## **Public Comment**

A comment was made to recognize generosity of The Colony Police Department's donation of mattresses to Our Daily Bread.

Texas Health Denton will be changing its process of services to underfunded patients, transferring these individuals to the graduate medical students.

The City of Lewisville's Quarterly Round Table, where FindHelp information will be presented, will take place at the end of February. Social Service and Public Infrastructure grants are now open.



**New Business**

Denton County Housing and Homelessness appointments for James Lollis and George Ferrie were approved.

**Adjourn.** Meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> | 8 AM to 9:30 AM | Hybrid Meeting

Physical: United Way of Denton County, 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205

Virtual: Zoom Video Conference, link attached in email and calendar notification

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Horridge", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary, Det. Michelle Horridge



## Housing: March 2025

CHAIR: TERRY WIDMER

### OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Improve housing outcomes for those on the HPL*
- *Identify and plan trainings to support best practices in case managers i.e., motivational interviewing and stages of change*

### Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

Front door agencies participate weekly in problem-solving barriers to support the path to housing for individuals and families on the Housing Priority List.

### Short Term Action Items

- Evaluate data to understand how long it takes to house someone and understand how varying factors impact the outcomes.

### Accomplishments

- Landlord Engagement implemented an updated referral process form, doubling the number of monthly referrals and successful housing solutions.
- From October 2024- March 31; **145 people have been housed** using supports from the Housing Crisis Response System

### Concerns

- Identifying training resources to support agencies staff
- Permanent Supportive Housing beds are at capacity for Denton County

### Next Meeting Dates

Weekly on Mondays, 3 PM- 4 PM (excludes holidays)

Hybrid; UWDC and Zoom



## DATA Workgroup: April 2025

CHAIR: STEPHEN COFFEY

OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

*Identify ways to integrate data support for other HHLT workgroups to advance funding and advocacy efforts*

### Meeting Summary

There are currently 559 households actively experiencing homelessness on our Housing Priority List. The 559 total number for breaks down into:

42 families	31 Veteran households
517 individuals	186 households experiencing chronic homelessness
31 fleeing domestic violence	

Denton County school districts' data was updated in March 2024. The two largest school districts reported the following:

Denton ISD: 439 students (Dec 2024)  
Lewisville ISD: 903 students (Dec 2024)

Housing intervention prioritization breakdown:

Diversion Services: Households (14%; 81)  
Rapid Rehousing Intervention: Households (49.8%; 279)  
Permanent Supportive Housing Intervention: Households (35.6%; 199)

The workgroup discussed how to call out system accomplishments through the data dashboard.

### Short Term Action Items

Meet with THN to explore adding Data Element 4.11.2 back into the HPL download. Committee member will bring ideas for potential data sources to support a housing prevention dashboard.

### Accomplishments

Discussed the missing data element 4.11.2 (Domestic Violence Survivor) and created action plan to capture data.

Committee reaffirmed the importance of maintaining current dashboard data while incorporating additional insights into housing prevention.



Concerns

Next Meeting Dates

May 7, 2025: Zoom



## Healthcare: March 2025

CHAIR: ISABEL RODRIGUEZ

### OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Increase access to healthcare services for people experiencing homelessness*
- *Increase community resources for healthcare workers*
- *Identify data points from participating organizations and agencies in Denton County*

### Meeting Summary

The workgroup discussed next steps in medical respite planning, City of Denton's Deputy Chief Becker presented on the paramedic model. This could be a recommendation to consider mobilizing resources to the unhoused. The group is exploring SOAR advocacy programs to increase healthcare benefits.

### Short Term Action Items

- Continue to work with agencies and medical providers for healthcare needs assessment
- Continue to identify stakeholders and build membership
- Define priorities for 2025 based on both hospital data and agency data for medical needs

### Accomplishments

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### Concerns

- The gap in available healthcare services for people experiencing homelessness and unmet health needs are a growing concern for agencies.

### Next Meeting Dates

- First Tuesdays, monthly excluding holidays
- May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025; Zoom



## CROSS CARE COLLABORATION: March 2024

CHAIR(S): LANDON DICKESON, KATY RUSSELL, ALESSIA DAL MONTE

### OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- ✓ Update local Sequential Intercept Model map
- Educate key stakeholders on system processes

### Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

This group is currently in the knowledge-gathering phase, identifying gaps in the current system as it relates to the unhoused population and determining what can be done on a local level to address these gaps.

### Short Term Action Items

- Data subcommittee: working on completing a cost benefit analysis for an Extended Observation Unit
  - Reviewing agency agreements on data sharing to establish a baseline for future agreements
- Resource subcommittee: updating SIM map monthly and building a resource map to identify prevention resources available

### Accomplishments

- Engaged with Child & Family Systems workgroup and they will update the SIM Map for those under 18 years

### Concerns

- Data Sharing needs across sectors
- There is a lack of adequate mental health diversion options for law enforcement

### Next Meeting Dates

Thursday, April 10, 2025; (Meets the first Thursdays of each month; with exceptions of holidays)

11:30 AM- 1:00 PM Hybrid: UWDC office and Zoom



## Denton County Homeless Coalition: March 2025

CHAIR: ELENA SHEHAN

### OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Expand agency participation in PIT Count*
- *Strengthen education on housing efforts*
- *Increase funding to support housing stability*
- *Increased access to information*

### Meeting Summary

In the March meeting, the spotlight agency was Denton Affordable Housing Corporation. The chair provided an update on the Homelessness Day of advocacy in Austin. A draft presentation of the PIT data was shared to collect feedback from the coalition members.

### Short Term Action Items

- PIT data reveal Save the Date: Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM, 2020 Room Denton County Courthouse

### Accomplishments

- CEPE met in March and the group decided to prepare an independent evaluation of CE for Denton County. Surveys are scheduled to be created and distributed by May 2025
- The exploratory committee is building a business plan for the Homeless Coalition to become its own 501 c3. The group is preparing to present its recommendation to the leadership team at the June 2025 meeting.

### Concerns

- Continue to focus on volunteer stewardship
- Fundraising for Barriers Fund

### Next Meeting Dates

Meets monthly on the last Wednesday of each month, alternating between UWDC and Lewisville.

May 28<sup>th</sup>-State of Homelessness: Denton County Courthouse 2020 room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor



## Diversions: March 2025

CHAIR NAME: DAPHNE HOUSTON

### OBJECTIVE & GOALS 2023-2025:

- *Implement and support Diversion workflow in HMIS for agencies*
- *Identify and apply for additional funding sources to expand Diversion efforts*
- *Increase community dollars sourced for Barriers Fund*

### Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

This group is identifying how existing funding is being spent on diversion efforts. The goal of the group is that this data will establish a baseline to support funding expansion and resources for diversion efforts. The group is also operationalizing Diversion practices for agencies and HMIS.

### Short Term Action Items

- Utilize the Vacancy Reporting Plan to establish a pathway for Diversion data collection
- Using the monthly data dashboard as a guide for goal setting for the 80+ persons that fit criteria for diversion services

### Accomplishments

- Established priorities for 2025: identifying funding resources, diversion categories, integration of Barriers Fund to goals
- CCA leveraged strategic goals from the workgroup to pitch a Diversion project for \$50,000

### Concerns

- Availability of flexible funds to support diversion problem-solving efforts.

### Next Meeting Dates

Zoom- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 2pm



March 2025 Backbone Support Updates:

### **Denton County Housing & Homelessness Leadership Team**

- Point in Time Count State of Homelessness: Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 am at the Denton County Courthouse, 2020 Room.
- Housing referrals from agencies to the Landlord Engagement manager have doubled consistently since relaunching in October.
- UWDC's partnership with Housing Connectors has supported housed clients by providing rental support and landlord risk mitigation funds, totaling \$7,600.

### **Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team**

- The CredibleMind portal is seeing higher usership 2025 YTD compared to 2024.
- The leadership team approved the Mental Health Awareness Month proclamation for Denton County Commissioner's Court. We will not be seeking proclamations from municipalities in 2025 due to limited resources.

### **Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team**

- The leadership team Nominating Committee has identified potential new officers to lead this leadership team in 2025.
- The leadership team Strategic Planning Committee is making progress towards the 2025 strategic plan