



Thursday, December 13, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

Agenda

I.	Welcome & Consideration of October 2018 Minutes	T. Gilmore	2 min.
II.	DCHLT Year in Review	C. Cross	10 min.
III.	Workgroup Updates		40 min.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Workgroup • Housing Workgroup • Ad Hoc Committee • Shelter Planning Workgroup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Presentation of Recommendations • Ending Veteran Homelessness 	K. Gonzales T. Widmer C. Cross C. Cross	
IV.	Denton County Homeless Coalition Update	M. Jones	10 min.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers Fund – Home for the Holidays 2018 • 2019 Point-In-Time Count 		
V.	Backbone Support Update	C. Cross	10 min.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Navigator Update • Independent Bank LOI • Denton Housing Authority – Mainstream Voucher Program 		
VI.	ESG Update	D. Shaw	15 min.
VII.	New Business	T. Gilmore	
VIII.	Adjourn	T. Gilmore	

Next Meeting Date:
Thursday, February 14, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. |
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)





Thursday, October 11, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
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Meeting Summary

Appointees/Ex-Officios Present: Alice Minkoff, Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Courtney Cross, Cynthia Harris, Dani Shaw, Frank Padgett, Gary Henderson, Josh Ashford, Kathy Srokosz, MS, RN, Leroy Schuetts, Mayor Thomas Muir, Mary Jones, PhD, Monica Glenn, Prit Patel, Roy Metzler, Stephen Coffey, Terry Widmer

Appointees Absent: Barton Duffy, Herman Oosterwijk (regrets) Kristi Bledsoe, Isabel Rodriguez (regrets), Mayor Chris Watts, Valerie Foster (regrets)

Guests: Sarah Kuechler (City of Denton), Maryssa Vasquez (United Way of Denton County)

Welcome & Consideration of August 2018 Minutes

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

Chair requested a motion to approve August 2018 minutes.

Motion: Josh Ashford

2nd: Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell

Motion was approved.

Emergency Solutions Grant

Dani Shaw announced that Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDCHA) is changing their contracting system. Until this change, the City of Denton served as lead agency. Shaw said a recent monitoring of TDCHA by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has resulted in the City no longer serving as the lead agency for Denton County's Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) collaborative. TDHCA cited a lag time in agencies being reimbursed in other collaboratives throughout the state wherein government entities served as the lead agency. The result is TDHCA immediately made the decision to change contract, even though it was a 2-year grant. This grant is the most significant funding agencies have – more than 50% went to Salvation Army and Friends of the Family shelters.

Implications:

- City will no longer serve as lead contractor. Each non-profit will now have their own contract with TDHCA.



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- The application process for the next year will likely be different. This could create additional issues with application process, scoring will be different, and each agency could see limits on the amount of funding they are able to request.
- Agencies can no longer request budget reallocations between each other's ESG programs.
- This will not affect the Coordinated Entry process.
- Most dire implication is that more people will be turned away.

In addition, it was mentioned that agencies are coming up short on goals; for example, only 24 percent of goal of 35 percent goal for transitional housing has been completed.

Gary Henderson requested an update at the next DCHLT meeting in December on how agencies plan to collaborate moving forward and any additional information.

Courtney asked how the DCHLT group could provide advocacy for the Emergency Solutions Grant. Dani mentioned voicing feedback in public comment periods when available because feedback is scarce.

DCHLT Strategic Plan & Standards of Excellence Update

Courtney Cross introduced and welcomed Leroy Schuetts from Christian Community Action as the newest DCHLT appointee, as well as Leah Jordan from Denton County United Way.

Previous DCHLT Strategic Goals were not measurable, so committee member Monica Glenn suggested making changes. Courtney ran through updated strategic plan. New metrics adopted were pulled from the Standards of Excellence, a new tool to guide workgroups and agencies in program improvements and performance.

The newest goal is to end Veteran homelessness in Denton County by 2020. Mayor Watt signed onto this challenge. Denton County has already made strides towards this goal including the development and maintenance of a by-name list of households experiencing homelessness. Denton County has a great collaboration with VA, Catholic Charities, and other agencies that are assisting in these efforts. Every day in Denton County, there are 40-50 veterans experiencing homelessness.

The group discussed barriers many Veteran and non-Veteran households face to getting housed such as forms of identification. Increased financial assistance and permanent housing solutions will need to be explored.

Chair requested a motion to adopt the goal to end Veteran homelessness in Denton County by 2020.

Motion: Stephen Coffey
 2nd: Dr. Mary Jones
 Motion was approved.

Chair requested a motion approve the 2018-2021 DCHLT Strategic plan.

Motion: Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell
 2nd: Dr. Mary Jones
 Motion was approved.



Workgroup Updates

Data Workgroup

Courtney discussed continuous improvement of data management. Upcoming goals include cross-sector cost analysis with criminal justice and behavioral health systems. Courtney informed the group the Data Dashboard will be live by next week.

Housing Workgroup

Coordinated Entry (CE) is in maintenance mode, and agencies are now meeting regularly to prioritize households from the Housing Priority List for available housing. Backbone support seeks to expand CE to create system for at-risk populations within the next year.

Ad Hoc Committee

The Ad Hoc Committee will meet in November.

Shelter Planning Workgroup

The workgroup has met twice. They continue to assess the current environment of emergency shelter services for Denton County's homeless population. The workgroup has developed a survey they will administer later in October to gain feedback on experiences or concerns in accessing shelter. The next meeting is scheduled for November.

Denton County Homeless Coalition Update

Barriers Fund – Barriers Fund impact data will be regularly updated on United Way's website: <https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/barriers-fund>.

2019 Point-In-Time Count – The Coalition is planning for the count, currently recruiting volunteers and collective incentives.

Backbone Support Update

Housing Navigator Update – UWDC is in the process of hiring Housing Navigator and plans to have position filled by November 1st. In the same way that the HMIS system helped streamline data amongst agencies, Housing Navigator will continue making all housing efforts even more efficient.

The 2018 Denton County Homeless Veteran Stand Down will take place at the Denton Civic Center October 25th. CE intakes will be done at the Stand Down by Giving Hope.

New Business

The Veteran Community Navigator program that was piloted and incubated at the United Way of Denton County has been transitioned to the Denton County Veteran Service Office. Gary thanked Commissioner Mitchell for her leadership in championing the transition.



Next Steps:

Chair requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell

2nd: Dr. Mary Jones

Motion was approved.

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Secretary

Date



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DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT HOUSING WORKGROUP | CHAIR: TERRY WIDMER

October – November 2018

The workgroup meets biweekly for case conferencing to prioritize the top households on the Housing Priority List. The group reviews households categorized by priority population (chronic, Veteran and domestic violence survivors), and assigns action steps.

UWDC's Homelessness Coordinator conducts weekly phone check-ins with providers to touch base on outflows and reassessments.

Backbone support works with providers to identify gaps in supportive service capacity of case managers and works to incorporate additional partners into regular case conferencing meetings. The workgroup has been connected with behavioral health providers, and backbone support is working to identify income/workforce supports.

The UWDC Housing Navigator, Alyssa Mostaffa, started November 8th. She is currently meeting with providers and landlords and finalizing program details and tools. A Housing Navigator program orientation will take place with area case managers December 18th, and the program will go live January 7th.

The Texas Homeless Network (THN) will be in Denton December 11th with OrgCode to administer a Diversion training. Denton is one of two communities in the Texas Balance of State (Bos) Continuum of Care (CoC) to incorporate an in-depth diversion tool at Coordinated Entry (CE) Front Doors.

Short-term action items

Implement Standards of Excellence

Continued improvement of case conferencing format

Accomplishments

Attendance and collaboration of providers

Connection to local behavioral health providers

Concerns

No access to no-cost detox/substance use treatment in the county

Access to wrap-around services for households with severe service needs

Next Meeting Dates

December 17th

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT AD HOC COMMITTEE | HOUSING SOLUTIONS

November 2018

The committee met with Charlie Price (Development Corporation of Tarrant County) and Marty Mascari (North Central Texas Council of Governments) to discuss affordable housing development and accessibility regionally.

The Development Corporation of Tarrant County is a nonprofit community development corporation and is a designated Community Housing Development Organization (CHoDO). It is a \$25 million company that develops single-family and multi-family affordable housing in Tarrant County. Charlie also engages heavily in advocacy at the Texas Legislature. He shared that many of their Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments stay on school district tax rolls, and they use fee income from various projects to purchase more land and properties for affordable housing development.

Charlie shared his insight into how communities can create an affordable-housing friendly environment:

- City Councils must be open to multi-family housing
- Let developers know you're open
- Invest in purchasing land (housing finance corporations and local housing authorities can play a role in this)

Marty shared information about Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) and the Amy Young Barrier (AYB) Removal Program. Both are available pots of money in our region through TDHCA, and potential low-hanging fruit to increase funding for housing. Neither program comes with administrative funding, so they can be difficult to administer and manage. TBRA acts similar to a Housing Choice Voucher through a local housing authority, and can provide up to 24 months of assistance. The AYB program can provide funding for home modifications up to \$20,000 per household (households must be income-qualified).

The group agreed to inform the DCHLT of these funding sources at the December meeting, and discuss support of local agencies to apply for funding.

Backbone support discussed the possibility of this group exploring ways that local government can incentivize affordable housing and supporting municipalities in implementing various strategies.

Short-term action items

Backbone support collect data of anticipated workforce housing need in Denton County in coming years

Accomplishments

Consulted with successful affordable housing development stakeholder

Concerns

Ability to mobilize resources and influence new affordable housing developments

Next Meeting Dates

TBD

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT SHELTER PLANNING WORKGROUP | CHAIR: ROY METZLER

October-December 2018

The DCHLT Shelter Planning Workgroup was tasked with the following purpose:

Assess current environment and determine direction for the future of Emergency Shelter services for people experiencing homelessness in Denton County. Consider local needs and capacity to implement sustainable and safe housing solutions for sheltered and unsheltered populations in Denton County.

The group has had four meetings between September and December. They collected current shelter inventory data, developed and administered a feedback survey from Denton County's sheltered and unsheltered population, and heard from organizations about future shelter and plans to expand temporary/permanent housing.

Backbone support worked with the city to develop a summary report. During their December meeting, the group reviewed the report and agreed on conclusions and recommendations to bring to the DCHLT and Denton City Council.

The report is attached and will be presented at the December DCHLT meeting, and to Denton City Council December 18th.

Short-term action items

Present workgroup findings and recommendations to DCHLT & Denton City Council

Determine action items from respective governing bodies

Accomplishments

Developed Denton County shelter inventory

Drafted and administered shelter feedback survey

Developed summary report of findings

Concerns

Availability of local resources to implement recommendations

Next Meeting Dates

TBD