

Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team Meeting

Thursday, November 20th , 2025, 8 am – 10 am

UWDC 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton & Zoom



Our Vision:

Comprehensive behavioral health for every person in Denton County

Our Mission:

The Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team will advocate and facilitate a collaborative person-centered behavioral health system to repair and restore lives:

- Ensure behavioral health services are available to meet the needs of all

Agenda

1. Call to order Hope Galloway
2. Vote to Approve Minutes Hope Galloway
3. Vote to Approve Appointment Hope Galloway
4. Report from Local Mental Health Authority MHMR Staff
- a. Crisis Residential Unit Presentation Morgan Quinnelly
5. Report from Denton County Public Health Alex Reed
6. 2025-2027 BHLT Strategic Plan Status Check BHLT Officers
7. Workgroup Committee Reports
 - a. CrossCare Collaborative Alessia Dal Monte
 - b. Substance Use Lauren Titsworth
 - c. Suicide Prevention Emily Daniel
 - d. Child and Family Systems Laura Prillwitz & Lisa Elliott
 - e. Data Workgroup Juan Rodriguez & Julie Wright
8. New Business Hope Galloway
9. Backbone Support Updates
 - a. Denton County Housing & Homelessness Leadership Team Olivia Mata-Williams
 - b. Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team Shelby Redondo-Macon
10. Public Comment Hope Galloway
11. Adjourn Hope Galloway

BHLT Meeting and Minutes
Thursday September 18, 2025
8 am – 10 am

Call to Order: Hope Galloway called the meeting to order at 8:05. Guest were welcomed: Veronica Armendariz, a new member from MHMR to the Data Workgroup, and Christine Shipley, a UNT student.

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting by Diane Hickey, seconded by Scott Dominique. Approved

Local Mental Health Authority report: Pam Gutierrez presented the report of intakes, services and programs for MHMR since July. She included, as requested, the Time to Service statistic – approximately 3 days for 2025. She highlighted the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) program. This is a \$15 million, 5-year grant from HHS. The goal is to show decreased jail and hospital Emergency Department visits. She introduced Emily Daniels as the new LOSS program coordinator. She outlined several fundraising events for the various programs. She was asked to report in the future about what services are on going in the jail for MHMR.

Denton County Public Health report: Alex reported that the MHN program has been operating for 2 years now. She compared the MHN program to the need for help navigating around Denton. They have been mapping the mobilization of navigating. There are over 600 resources available and they studied the sliding scale fee requirements for services along with mapping reduced fee providers. They are looking into the Emergency response flow for Credible Mind resources.

She then announced that Commissioner’s Court had decided to fund Credible minds for the 2026 year – applause.

She was asked for data on follow up statistics from MHN program. Dr Richardson added that capacity is preserved with use. There was discussion in the room about how to market these online services, what are the social media choices?

Workgroup committee reports:

Cross Care Collaborative – reported that they are working through Chair turnover. Elisia Delmonte has accepted chair. Their work centers on data collection. Currently they are collecting data from City of Denton and City of Lewisville.

Substance Use – reported they are in conversation with City of Lewisville about their plan for their Opioid Settlement dollars and would like to suggest collaborating with City of Denton on that use.

Suicide Prevention - Dallas Hamilton reported that they had a very successful event on the Square. They are pushing education and follow up with survivors.

Child and Family Systems - Laura and Lisa reported that they are working their way through the juvenile SIMS. They are pivoting off the social media campaign and discussing how to get the word to parents in the ISD's. They hope to collaborate with Community in Schools and PTAs.

Data – Juan reported that they are collaborating to get internet the data available through the partnerships on BHLT. Their effort is to present a snapshot of the Denton County mental health landscape.

New Business:

The 4th Annual Mental Health & Judicial/Law Enforcement Summit is tomorrow. A warning that the Bonnie Brae exit off I35 is closed.

Backbone Support:

Staff updates: Evelyn Sutton has been promoted to CE & Diversion Manager and Kelly Parton has been hired to be the Data Integration Manager.

HHLT – the Health Care Workgroup is working on a resource navigation tool and mapping in support of the need for an Extended Observation Unit.

Workforce Success – is reshaping the website to better navigate folks to employment pathways. They are working with economic development to survey employees and talking workforce mobility.

Public Comment:

Lauren Titsworth announced Cumberland has initiated \$5 counseling sessions at their Lewisville site. They have 100 clients enrolled in the Denton program.

Shana Hazzard with Lena Pope counseling in Roanoke announced they would go live October 13th. They will have bilingual and play therapy available.

Communities in Schools has expanded to 3 new sites.

City of Denton announced that their Mental Health responders would be moving from the Police Department to the Community Services Department.

Oak Point United Against Suicide exists to recognize signs and reduce stigma. They are looking to collaborate. A flyer will follow.

UBH has incorporated geriatric beds since Mayhill closed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Next meeting : November 20, 2025 at 8:00 am – 9:30 am

BHLT Meeting and Minutes
Thursday November 20, 2025
8 am – 10 am

Call to Order Hope called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.

Local Mental Health Authority report Dallas Hamilton presented the report of intake, services and programs since July. There were questions about the current status of services and programs for the Crisis Residential Unit (CRU). It was suggested that Alicia give BHLT a special presentation. Dallas discussed the SUD program expansion. She provided a slide of the Jail Liaison services and the Magistrate ordered assessments and recommendations. There was continued discussion of capacity numbers and implementation of a waitlist for services. (There is no waitlist for crisis services or Medicaid individuals because of the Medicaid contract.) There were also slides for Senate bill 26 and upcoming events promoting Agency programs. They are doing a Needs Assessment and asked for participation by the provided QR code.

Denton County Public Health Alex Reed and team gave an Airline Themed presentation, “Impact Air,” for her Behavioral Health report on 2 years of Mental Health Navigating based on data collected as they provided MHN services. She had a visual handout representing some of the data. Some highlights: Barriers are cost, access insurance status (uninsured status is an important barrier on many different levels); 60% have finances as a barrier to care; Social Isolation is a variable factor in behavioral health distress; Median age was less than 30 years of age; Increased occurrence in high concentrations of population. They had no proposal for intervention at this time. A new realization was the concentration of need in the areas of the universities and multifamily housing complexes/rental based housing. Geographic mobility is high in these areas. Dr Evans, from UNT had had some input from the college environment. NCTC reported their experience. And finally, they outlined their outreach history and what they have planned for connecting with this community. She discussed the opportunity for Crisis Stabilization services and Artificial Intelligence (AI) therapy.

Workgroup reports:

Cross Care Collaborative Alessia Dal Monte reported that they have been collecting data from the Denton County Courts. They are working toward a multi-agency MOU. They are targeting high utilizers for medical and physical care. The EOU is being incorporated into the SIM map.

Substance Use Disorder Lauren reported that the City of Lewisville has presented a plan for the opioid settlement dollars they are receiving. They have put together a toolkit for guidance for other municipalities to use their settlement dollars.

Suicide Prevention It was reported that they held their candlelight vigil last week. They have joined the Zero Suicide Task Force with MHMR. They are looking at collaboration with other workgroups in regard to youth and suicide prevention.

Child and Family Systems Have completed the inclusion of juvenile and adolescents in the Denton County SIM map. They also hosted a listening session with ISD counselors on the impact of SB 11 and SB 12 and plan to draft advocacy plan for both.

Data reported that they are facilitating data analysis for high utilizers and fitting EOU into the SIM map. They are also creating a one-page snapshot of behavioral health data in Denton County.

Backbone support Updates:

HHLT Olivia talked about the HUD funding and community funding for housing going forward. HUD dollars are being reallocated away from PSH which affects some of our local agencies. Extra meetings by the Strategic Planning Committee are being held to keep everyone apprised of the moving targets so that agencies can realign their programs to continue to serve.

Workforce Success Leadership Team Shelby reported that the VITA grant was approved and there will be 8 VITA sites. Volunteer training is in progress. Two grants were awarded from Papa John's and Cit of Lewisville and they are working to get those programs up and running. The webpage is being reworked for better use. They are also working to get new contractors implemented.

Public Comment:

Matt Wiebe was introduced as the Mental Health Prosecutor for the DA's office. District Attorney, Paul Johnson, has recommended Matt to join BHLT to strengthen the solutions we are working on.

Julie Wright announced that THR is going to release an Innovation Workshop March 24th.

Lauren Titsworth announced that there are slots open for their Lewisville Counselling Center.

Adjournment

Next meeting January 22, 2026 at 8:00 am, UWDC and virtual.



DCBHLT Workgroup Reports

November - December 2025

WORKGROUP NAME: CROSS CARE COLLABORATIVE

Meeting Summary:

- Initial data from the Denton County Courts for 16.22s presented.
- Have shifted to exploring a diversion center instead of an extended observation unit from the recommendation of MHMR and the courts.
- Working towards multi-agency MOU
- Moving forward with building out legislative ask for behavioral health crisis center funding.

Next Meeting Date: 2/5/2026

WORKGROUP NAME: DATA WORKGROUP

Meeting Summary:

- Updating the 2015 Behavioral Health Needs Assessment for Denton County.
- Creating a one-page snapshot of behavioral health data in Denton County.

Next Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

WORKGROUP NAME: SUBSTANCE USE

Meeting Summary:

- Drafting a toolkit to guide municipalities for their opioid settlement dollars.

Next Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

WORKGROUP NAME: SUICIDE PREVENTION

Meeting Summary:

- Discussed new goals for 2026 in events, prevention, and community awareness.

Next Meeting Date: 2/11/2026

WORKGROUP NAME: CHILD & FAMILY SYSTEMS

Meeting Summary:

- Surveyed all ISD's on the impact of SB12.

- Utilizing survey results to craft a legislative ask.
- Will re-visit parent education and social media trainings later.

Next Meeting Date: 1/30/2026

SWOT Analysis- Workgroups



Workgroup	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	Intercept
<p>Child & Family Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large scope of participation • Reached several goals • Has strategic partnerships • Connected & willing to collaborate • Good reputation in community. • Action orientated. • Buy-in and longevity of members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent participation • Lack of faith-based organization representation • Cross sector participation • Funding opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Cook Children’s, DCPH, ISD’s, PD’s, SRO’s, and faith-based organizations role in workgroup • Continue relationship with MHMR • Advocate for Denton County representation in multi county initiatives • Stay informed on new programs in Denton County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denton County being grouped alongside other counties for funding vs. by itself • State funding distribution for MH • Stigma around mental health • Mental Health workforce shortage • Insurance and Medicaid reimbursement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention, Reentry, and Community Supports
<p>Suicide Prevention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-disciplinary team • Access to data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workgroup members bandwidth • Consistent participation & attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease stigma • Increase collaboration • Identify pre-crisis access points to resources • Strengthen collaboration with coalition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stigma around suicide loss • Availability of treatment options • External factors leading to a crisis episode (housing, workforce, financial) • HIPPA & pre crisis intervention. ROI’s not signed and MOU’s do not satisfy HIPPA compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention

SWOT Analysis- Workgroup



Workgroup	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	Intercept
<p>Substance Use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of workgroup members • Strong stakeholders • Clearly identified gaps • Participation of workgroup members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for substance use treatment across the county • Funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek funding opportunities for identified gaps • Increase data sources • Increase community engagement • Increase collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stigma around substance use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Crisis and Reentry post crisis
<p>Ad hoc: Cross Care Collaborative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong membership of collaborating entities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *still in planning stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop goals and outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *still in planning stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis and Reentry

SWOT Analysis-BHLT



Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<p>1. Diverse Representation: Wide range of community members and experts.</p> <p>2. Action Oriented: Focuses on practical solutions and implementation.</p> <p>3. High Participation: Strong engagement from appointees and community.</p> <p>4. Collaborative Approach: Collaborative work between agencies.</p> <p>5. Knowledge Sharing: High access to information and expertise on mental health resources.</p>	<p>1. Funding: Narrowing down to a specific ask and collaboration across organizations in BHLT.</p> <p>2. Visibility: Leverage BHLT’s existing presence to increase visibility and engagement within the community.</p> <p>3. Engagement: Maintain consistent participation from workgroup members and appointees.</p> <p>4. Onboarding & expectations of BHLT appointees.</p>	<p>1. Funding: Explore more funding opportunities.</p> <p>2. Data: Relaunch data workgroup with long term goals & workgroup asks. Utilize data resources such as DCPH, Find Help, CredibleMind.</p> <p>3. Prevention & Intervention: Identify priority zip codes for focused outreach efforts.</p> <p>4. Expansion of Mental Health Services in Denton County: Create/identify step down options for post mental health crisis. Explore diversion to jail when dealing with mental health crisis.</p>	<p>1. Funding (lack of and possible losses)</p> <p>2. Over utilization of crisis care</p> <p>3. State level support</p> <p>4. Rapid growth of Denton County</p> <p>5. Mental Health workforce shortages</p> <p>6. Lack of affordable mental health resources</p> <p>7. Mental health stigma</p>

