Homelessness Awareness Day Prep Session

Strategies For Change

thn.org
What is HAD?

• What are we planning to accomplish
• Why is this day important?

Reminder: If you would like to see the Advocacy 101 webinar that happened last week, Here is the link to the recording.
Logistics for Day

Overall agenda:
8:30 am: Try to get there early to find parking and make your way to the Capitol Extension Auditorium (E1.004)

9:00 am: Check-in begins:
1. Sign in
2. Get your packet(s) for legislator visits,
3. Get your HAD shirt & change (sizes may be limited depending on arrival time); and,
4. Settle into the Capitol auditorium (sorry, no food/drinks allowed)

9:30 AM: Lobby day begins
• Welcome, intro, speakers and overview of the day
Logistics for Day

Overall agenda:

10:00 am: Lobby day picture (Open Air Rotunda)
  • THN staff will lead group;
  • Directions (in case you get separated): Go down stairs outside of auditorium, head right in the direction of E2.400s or E2.700s (entrances on either side);
  • Gather in center and look for photographer above rotunda; and,
  • Find captain before leaving for scheduled meetings.

11:00 am: Meetings begin
Logistics for Day

Overall agenda:

1:00 pm: Lunch on your own
  • If you have a scheduled visit during this time you may have to eat later
  • Depending on time you can eat at the Capitol Grille at E1.002 (it will likely be crowded) or at a location outside the Capitol (don't miss a meeting though)

2:00 pm: Second round of meetings begin

3:45 pm: Wrap-up with THN staff, return visit report forms
HAD Logistics - East Entrance to Capitol
Homelessness Awareness Day Parking

- Tip: if at all possible please carpool or take an uber/taxi from hotel if you’re staying in Austin the night before

- 1st choice: TX Capitol Visitors Garage (1201 San Jacinto)
HAD Logistics - Visitors Garage to Capitol East Entrance
Homelessness Awareness Day Parking

- 2nd choice: Bullock Texas State History Museum (1800 Congress Ave) - More expensive
HAD Logistics - Visitors Garage to Capitol East Entrance
East Entrance to Elevator for E1 access

• Follow the guide on the right to get to E1.004.
• The stairs (circled) will also bring you down to level E1.

See page 3 - Capitol Extension Guide for map to auditorium
Elevator to Capitol Auditorium

- Follow the guide on the right to get to E1.004.
- The rotunda (circled) is where we will take group picture.
- A map will be provided to HAD participants to help them navigate the building.
What you need to bring

• Attire: nice pants/slacks, nice (but comfortable) shoes

• Water, snacks, and lunch
  • We will have a BYOL networking hour on the lawn

• Any needed personal items

• If you need to check in at work the Capitol has public wifi

• Make sure you don't bring anything that is prohibited
What you will be given

- Folders for visits that contain:
  - Maps of Capitol
  - You and your team’s schedule of visits
  - Legislative visit script
  - Leave behinds
    - Homelessness in TX, HCC, HHSP, Data Sharing Network, etc.
    - Report out forms
- T-shirts
- Be ready to change, but still come dressed well just in case
Legislative Priorities – Strengthen Homeless Crisis Response Systems

• Increase TDHCA General Revenue funding for the Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) by 15%. HHSP helps over 12,000 individuals each biennium. A 15% increase would provide assistance to nearly 14,000 people over the next two years. Bill#: SB1 (State Agencies’ budget recommendations)

• Support the development of a homeless data-sharing network. A data-sharing network will allow Texas’ 11 homeless crisis systems to communicate more effectively and assist households at-risk or experiencing homelessness quickly. Bill#: HB 3180 (relating to the establishment of a centralized homelessness crisis response system) Author: Representative Bowers (Dallas)

• Bill#: SB 289 (relating to natural disaster housing recovery) Author: Senator Lucio (Brownsville)

Texas Data Sharing Network - HB 3180

The establishment of a centralized homelessness crisis response system
Author: Representative Bowers (Dallas)

- Unify Homeless Crisis Response systems across the Texas
- Plan and prepare for disaster response
  In the aftermath of a disaster understand who has evacuated and to where
- Understand long-term trends and outcomes
- Understand frequent users on a statewide basis
- Connect people to appropriate resources

Sharing data houses people
Legislative Priorities – Expand Affordable, Accessible Housing Opportunities

- Bill#: SB 1116 (relating to insurance premium tax credits for the construction or rehabilitation of a supportive housing property) Author: Senator Lucio (Brownsville)
- Bill#: HB 1257 (relating to the repeal of the prohibition against certain municipal or county regulation of the rental or leasing of housing accommodations.) Author: Representative Rosenthal (Houston)
- Bill#: SB 234 (relating to the right to vacate and avoid residential lease liability following the occurrence of family violence) Author: Senator Nelson (District 12, Denton, Tarrant Counties)
- Allocate general revenue funding for a pilot program designed to provide renovation funds for affordable units that do not meet habitability standards as determined by HUD. Bill#: SB 1019 (relating to the establishment funding source to rehab units for federal housing subsidy use) Author: Senator Alvarado (District 6, Harris County)

39%  
Adults had some barrier to housing. Barriers include physical disability, serious mental illness, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse disorder, and domestic violence

1,342  
Unaccompanied Youth  
Youth with no parent or guardian present were experiencing homelessness

1,917  
Households with children  
Decrease of 12% from 2017

24 Hours in Texas  
Point-In-Time Count, January 2018  
25,152 People Counted

1,974  
Veterans  
Veterans experiencing homelessness 10% reduction since 2017

19%  
DECREASE in people who are Chronically Homeless since 2015

(3,478 total CH in 2018)

589  
Hurricane Harvey  
For the latest annual Point-In-Time (PIT) count of people experiencing homelessness, Texas’s CoCs asked unsheltered respondents if they became homeless because of Harvey. Based on data collected on one day in January analysis indicated an estimate of nearly 500 people were experiencing homelessness as a result of the disaster.
Legislative Priorities – Target Assistance to the most vulnerable Texans

• Allow Healthy Community Collaborative (HCC) grantees to leverage funding from public sources (presently only private sources are accepted) to expand access to needed supports. Bill#: SB1 (State Agencies’ budget recommendations)

Other important bills to support:
• Bill#: HB 2405 (Relating to education and training for peace officers regarding trauma-informed techniques to facilitate interactions with homeless individuals) Author: Representative Bowers (Dallas)
• Bill#: SB 538 (Relating to the issuance of a driver’s license or personal identification certificate to a youth experiencing homelessness) Author: Senator Johnson (District 6, Dallas County)
• Bill#: HB 465 (Relating to the administrative, civil, and criminal consequences, including fines, fees, and costs, imposed on persons arrested for, charged with, or convicted of certain criminal offenses) Author: Representative White (Woodville)

Healthy Community Collaborative Program (HCCP)

- Case Management
- Housing Services
- Substance Abuse Services
- Mental Health

28,514 people received Mental Health Services*

21,572 people received Housing Services*

Due to strict matching guidelines, much of the HCCP funds go unused. Easing the rules around match would increase the scale and reach of the program improving outcomes for the target populations and communities.

*data from 2014-2016
Any Questions?
Are y’all ready for an awesome day?