

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

CoC Board Meeting

March 25, 2020, by Webinar

NOTES Approved by CoC Board 4/22/2020

Board Members Present: Daphne Adams, Marqus Butler, Luís Cerda, Marcy Cervantes, Melissa Escamilla, Quiana Fisher, Daisy Lopez, John Meier, Kyle Moore, Andrea Omojola, Dani Shaw, Barry Wheeler, and Linda White

Absent: Norma Mercado, Antonio Williams

Staff present: Kraig Blaize-Fiero, Sophia Checa, and Mary Stahlke

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action/Next Steps
Welcome	Dani Shaw, Board Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. A quorum was not present at 2:03, so members discussed non-voting agenda items first. The agenda item on Coordinated Entry was tabled for discussion at a later meeting.	None
CoC Program	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sophia Checa, Director of Continuum of Care Programs, reviewed the CoC Performance reports released by HUD for all CoCs across the country, for all Texas CoCs, and for the TX BoS CoC. They have been posted on THN's website at https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/data/performance-data/.2. Sophia reviewed the FY 2019 CoC Program awards. All projects that applied for funds were awarded funds except for the two lowest-ranked projects, which included the application for the Coordinated Entry phone assessment project. That indicates that our CoC Application scored well. See awards list at https://www.hudexchange.info/news/hud-awards-118-million-to-local-homeless-programs/.3. The status of the FY 2020 application process is unknown. Because of COVID-19 response, HUD may not hold a competition but instead re-fund all renewal projects.	
Consent Agenda	Dani Shaw, CoC Board Chair, presented the Consent Agenda. Members voted to approve the Consent Agenda.	
Executive Session discussion	Members discussed details about using executive session during their meetings. Dani asked staff to draft some guidelines for Board members to consider.	Staff will draft guidelines on using executive session, for the Board to consider.

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COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• THN has a website section on COVID-19: https://www.thn.org/category/blogposts/• THN is posting blogs advocating for COVID-19 response resources to assist people experiencing homelessness: https://www.thn.org/category/blogposts/• Luís, CoC Board Member and Chief of Health Preventive Services for the Laredo Health Department, provided information:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Links to resources<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.htmlii. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html#preventionb. Homeless shelters and other providers must have a COVID-19 screening in place to administer to all people who want to enter the building.c. This is just the beginning. We are far from ending.d. The governor of Texas is trying to provide tests to those who are more vulnerable (older, with diabetes...)e. If you have someone who is sick, contact your local public health departmentf. No more than 10 persons may gather. Therefore, we can no longer provide food inside our buildings. We're providing meals outside the buildingg. We don't have enough kits to test, despite what some people may sayh. People living outdoors and on the streets who are not living in large groups are not more at-risk because they're isolated from others and they're not in an enclosed space. Sophia said people experiencing unsheltered homelessness who are living outside but living in large groups are at risk.i. He will provide more information in THN's webinar on 2/26 at 1:00 CDT. Register here: https://thn.adobeconnect.com/covid/event/event_info.html• The National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) released a study: <i>Estimated Emergency and Observational/Quarantine Bed Need for the US Homeless Population Related to COVID-19 Exposure by County; Projected Hospitalizations, Intensive Care Units and Mortality</i> https://endhomelessness.org/resource/estimated-emergency-and-observational-quarantine-bed-need-for-the-us-homeless-population-related-to-covid-19-exposure-by-county-projected-hospitalizations-intensive-care-units-and-mortality/• Much money will be coming down to respond to COVID-19.	<p>Staff will continue to add resources to the website and respond to questions.</p> <p>Luís and staff will present a webinar on 2/26.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At tomorrow's Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs' (TDHCA's) Board meeting, the Board will discuss COVID-19 responses. See item 6 of the agenda at https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/board/meetings.htm	
	The meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.	

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Next Board Meeting: The next Board meeting is scheduled to be held on April 22, 2020, at 2:00, by webinar.

Registration link: https://thn.adobeconnect.com/e1iej0uh8wlt/event/event_info.html