### Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

#### CoC Board Meeting

April 22, 2020, by Webinar

**NOTES approved 5/27/2020**

**Board Members Present:** Daphne Adams, Marqus Butler, Marcela Cervantes, Luís Cerda, Melissa Escamilla, Quiana Fisher, Daisy Lopez, John Meier, Norma Mercado, Kyle Moore, Andrea Omojola, Dani Shaw, Barry Wheeler, Antonio Williams

**Absent:** Linda White

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Discussion Summary</th>
<th>Action/Next Steps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Dani Shaw, Board Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consent Agenda</td>
<td>Dani presented the Consent Agenda. Members made no comments about it, and members voted to approve it.</td>
<td>Staff will follow the Board elections timeline.</td>
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| COVID-19    | - THN has received $80,000 from the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) to help address coronavirus in the 59 BoS counties that don’t have CoC, ESG, or SSVF Program funding.  
  - TDHCA wants to allocate 2% of CSBG-CV funds from the CARES Act to THN to focus on the BoS CoC, providing direct support to providers and people experiencing homelessness; THN’s request for funding included an ESG Specialist position to work with communities on best practices; a barriers fund to promote housing stability; and a position to administer the barriers fund  
  - State ESG – CoC Lead Agencies may serve as ESG Coordinators to run a competition to allocate ESG-CV funds from the CARES ACT to entities within their respective CoCs; several members expressed their support for THN to run the competition for the TX BoS CoC  
  - Community Investment Committee – the Board voted to approve the establishment of this committee  
  - THN is working with HUD Disaster Technical Assistance staff on coronavirus response; working with 26 cities that have the highest PIT Count numbers, and they do have a system-wide response; reaching out to other communities that may not have a system-wide approach yet  
  - Fortunately, staff has heard about very few people experiencing homelessness in the CoC who have tested positive for COVID-19; may be because of low number of people being tested  
  - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investments Partnership Program (HOME) funds (regular allocation and CARES Act allocation) may be used for rental assistance                                                                                                                                 | Staff will move forward with administering any funding received  
  Staff will apply to serve as the ESG Coordinator  
  Staff will hold nominations and elections for the Community Investment Committee                                                                 |
Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care
CoC Board Meeting

- HMIS now has a COVID-19 screening tool for street outreach and emergency shelter staff to use
- Victoria Lopez, Data and Policy Analyst, presented SPM data that THN submitted to HUD. She reviewed each measure and explained the changes in data between the prior report and the recently submitted report.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

Chat log from the meeting:

Quiana Fisher: Good Afternoon.
Sophia Checa: Is Dani still speaking?
Melissa Escamilla: Your audio is low
Daphne’ Adams: She is breaking up.
Antonio Williams: better
kyle moore: i will be able to talk now . i used my office phone to call in
Andrea Omojola: Move to approve the consent agenda
Melissa Escamilla: i second
Luis Cerda: yes
Daisy Lopez: yes
Melissa Escamilla: yes
Barry Wheeler 2: yes
Andrea Omojola: Yes
Daphne’ Adams: yes
kyle moore: yes
Quiana Fisher: Yes
Antonio Williams: yes
John Meier: yes
Norma Mercado: yes
Dani Shaw: yes
Quiana Fisher: yes
kyle moore: yes
Barry Wheeler 2: yes i can hear you
Norma Mercado: sounds far away
Marcela Cervantes: yes
KRAIG BLAIZE-FIERO: Meeting One audio is overused right now, our quality might drop at times
Melissa Escamilla: yes
Andrea Omojola: I feel comfortable.
Antonio Williams: I so move
Quiana Fisher: yes I feel comfortable
Barry Wheeler 2: i am confortable to move forward with chat vote
Daisy Lopez: good to move forward
Kyle Moore: agree
Marcela Cervantes: move forward
Norma Mercado: agree
John Meier: I feel fine moving forward
Antonio Williams: so move
Andrea Omojola: I move
Andrea Omojola: second
Melissa Escamilla: yes
Daphne Adams 2: yes
Daisy Lopez: yes
Andrea Omojola: yes
Quiana Fisher: Yes
Antonio Williams: yes
Luis Cerda: yes
Kyle Moore: yes
John Meier: yes
Dani Shaw: yes
Barry Wheeler 2: I vote yes for approval
Marcela Cervantes: yes
Mary Stahlke: Yes, we have at least 13
Daphne Adams 2: I agree with all Dani said.
Quiana Fisher: I agree
John Meier: I agree
Melissa Escamilla: me too i agree you should run the competiton
Quiana Fisher: Sharing the work
Quiana Fisher: lol
Kraig Blaize-Fiero: lol
Andrea Omojola: good to hear
Norma Mercado: Great!
Quiana Fisher: Thats awesome!!!!
Andrea Omojola: Great news.
Sophia Checa: We always get scored low points for bed coverage on the CoC Application.
Norma Mercado: Part of the problem is that not all agencies that work with homeless youth and families have access to the HMIS program due to the cost, including Local Education Agencies
Sophia Checa: Yup. Or the presence of systems providers already use to enter their data.
Sophia Checa: Norma, this is why Kristin and I are looking at ways to defray the cost of HMIS licenses.
Norma Mercado: That would be great!
Sophia Checa: Mid-coast is a victim service provider, and they are statutorily prohibited from using HMIS and must use a comparable system
Sophia Checa: They had been told my their Field Office several years ago they could use HMIS since they are also an umbrella organization for Victoria.
Melissa Escamilla: they have other programs that may be HMIS acceptable
Antonio Williams: thx
Daisy Lopez: Thank you Victoria!
Melissa Escamilla: very informative
Antonio Williams: I love metrics
Andrea Omojola: Thank you Victoria
Sophia Checa: If you have questions, please contact Victoria at victoria@thn.org.
Norma Mercado: Thank you
Marcela Cervantes: Thank You
Antonio Williams: thx
Sophia Checa: COVID 19 sophia@thn.org and mollie@thn.org
Andrea Omojola: Dani you are low
Melissa Escamilla: yes we can hear you
Mary Stahlke: Is anything happening widely with Public Housing Authorities, juvenile justice, DV, youth, law enforcement, etc.?
Norma Mercado: there is an echo
Dani Shaw: We have 3 presumptive positive but no testing
Norma Mercado: The issue that has arised for me is homeless youth who need to be quarentine and they do not have a permanent place to stay. I am providing them with face masks but still a concern
KRAIG BLAIZE-FIERO: I saw lubbuck is still reporting no known cases. But they aren’t sure if they homeless population have been tested at all
KRAIG BLAIZE-FIERO: :(
Andrea Omojola: Lubbock has no reported cases BUT we have not had folks being tested.
Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

CoC Board Meeting

Andrea Omojola: So we know that it's more a matter of underreporting than no incidence
Daphne’ Adams 2: It is more access to healthcare in general
Melissa Escamilla: we are not made aware if the individual who tested positive is homeless
Melissa Escamilla: we can shelter in hotels for homeless veterans as long as they want to be permanently housed
Quiana Fisher: Thank you so much
Andrea Omojola: Stay safe!
KRAIG BLAIZE-FIERO: Thank you all!
Norma Mercado: Thank you
Barry Wheeler 2: thanks ya'll
Sophia Checa: Thank you!
Daisy Lopez: thanks, bye
Daphne’ Adams 2: bye and stay safe
Mary Stahlke: Bye, everyone
Antonio Williams: bye

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Next Board Meeting: The next Board meeting is scheduled to be held on May 27, 2020, at 2:00, by webinar