TX BoS CoC General Meeting

October 14, 2020, 2:00-3:30 P.M., by Webinar

NOTES

<u>Attendees:</u> *see attached list*

Link to meeting recording: https://thn.adobeconnect.com/pilw3v4yavph/

I. Staff welcomed attendees, showed a photo collage of THN staff, and asked attendees to indicate their locations on a map.

II. **Data Snapshot – 2020 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data --** s*ee presentation slides (attached).* The HIC is conducted every year on the same night as the Point-in-Time (PIT Count). The HIC counts the number of beds available on that night to serve people experiencing homelessness. Find HIC data at https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/data/pit-count-and-hic/.

III. **How we are Ending Homelessness – with CoC Governance –** *see presentation slides and Guide to Governance Documents (attached).*
Staff facilitated the annual review of the CoC Governance Charter. The charter attempts to put into writing what the general members want the CoC to be. Proposed changes will be available for public comment from October 15-December 9 at https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/join-us/texas-balance-of-state-public-comment-portal/. The CoC Board is scheduled to consider approving the changes in January.

IV. **Community Conversation – Year-in-Review Celebration of Accomplishments**
    a. Attendees observed a moment of silence for all people we have lost over the past year to COVID-19.
    b. Staff showed a video *(see attached slides)* of accomplishments.
    c. Attendees discussed other accomplishments and successes and things they're looking forward to in the upcoming year.

V. **Committee Updates –**
    a. Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC)
    b. Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) – The release date has been extended so that the committee can obtain more input from CoC members and include data from the CoC's gaps analysis that is being conducted by Homebase. The plan is

now scheduled to be available for public comment in April and to go to the CoC Board for considering approval in September.

c. Data Committee – recruiting members; If interested in joining, email data@thn.org. The committee will provide data-driven insight and education to multiple groups/stakeholders about homelessness in the CoC and an opportunity to obtain feedback from HMIS end-users on specific data matters.

d. Victim Services Provider Committee (VSPC) – recruiting members; If interested complete the form: https://forms.gle/EQqWuZA877v12qgU7--The committee will represent the voice and needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in the CoC's work.

e. Performance Evaluation Committee (PEC) – recruiting members; if interested, complete the form: https://forms.gle/sfKrZdQdQDmnLRydA--The committee will set performance targets for project types and will monitor the performance of projects operating in the CoC.

f. Community Investment Committee – will meet on 10/16 to review the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program—CARES Act, Round II funds, and the CoC's Barriers Fund.

VI. **Announcements**

a. New CoC Board members -- Staff announced the names of the board members elected for 2020-22. mary@thn.org

b. ESG-CARES Act (ESG-CV), Round 2 funding – The Texas Department of Housing has received ESG-CV funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. TDHCA will make $27 million available for entities in the TX BoS CoC to apply for, to operate Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing projects. Watch CoC emails for more information. mollie@thn.org

c. 2021 PIT Count date – January 28, 2021. Please participate. The more data we have, the more we can use for informed decision-making. For more information, see https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/data/pit-count-and-hic/ or email kyra@thn.org.

d. CoC Barriers Fund – The Texas Homeless Network's Barriers Fund Program will provide financial resources to low-income households across the TX BoS CoC. Funded by the Community Services Block Grant CARES Act State Discretionary Funds (CSBG-CV-D), the Barriers Fund will directly support efforts that prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).The program will begin in early 2021. The application will be available in January. Agencies interested in applying to administer the funds should sign up for the outreach list at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/143SjNiww5AAdSwPGuc-iNND0T7dff9JMaMd5x0VzA1M/viewform?edit_requested=true. anja@thn.org

e. The next Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) conference call will be held on Thursday, November 5th, at 10:00 A.M. The topic will be the ESG-CARES Act II funds. To be added to the guest list, contact jen@thn.org.

TX BoS CoC General Meeting

VII.   Next Meeting –
   a.   No November meeting
   b.   Next meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, at 2:00. Main topic: Ending Veteran Homelessness: Identification, Outreach, and Engagement

Open Discussion:
Staff was available on the webinar for 15 minutes after the meeting ended, for an open discussion on any topics that attendees wanted to discuss. No attendees

Give your feedback!
Members were invited to complete the anonymous survey they received after the meeting ended, to let THN know what was helpful and what would could be better for the next meeting. 13 attendees completed the survey.

Become a CoC Member!
Anyone who works or lives in the CoC's geographic area, and all housing and homeless services projects in the CoC's geographic area, are considered to be members of the CoC. The CoC has an open invitation process, so people may join at any time.

THN invites members to participate in the CoC's activities. Learn more on the email list, the website, and social media.

CoC General Meetings include presentations by and conversations between CoC members and staff on topics that are important to preventing and ending homelessness. See the schedule for dates, topics, and registration links. Meeting notes and recordings are posted on THN's website at https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/get-involved/.

TX BoS CoC General Meeting

Agenda
October 14, 2020, 2:00-3:30 P.M.

Registration link: https://thn.adobeconnect.com/oct2020/event/event_info.html

Meeting materials available at: https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/join-us/#bos-gen-meetings

I. **Welcome, Introductions, Staff Photos & Map of Attendees**

II. **Data Snapshot –** 2020 Housing Inventory Data

III. **How we are Ending Homelessness –** with CoC Governance – Annual Review of CoC Governance Charter and Other Governance Documents

IV. **Community Conversation –** Year-in-Review Celebration of Accomplishments

V. **Committee Updates –**
   a. Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC)
   b. Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)
   c. Data Committee – recruiting members; if interested, email data@thn.org
   d. Victim Services Provider Committee (VSPC) – recruiting members; if interested, complete this form: https://forms.gle/QcTEZxsUxhfHMBBYA
   e. Performance Evaluation Committee (PEC) – recruiting members; if interested, complete this form: https://forms.gle/ntoPDtYNjAZcVFCM8

VI. **Announcements**
   a. New CoC Board Members
   b. ESG-CARES Act (ESG-CV), Round 2 funding is coming
   c. 2021 PIT Count date is January 28, 2021
   d. Introducing the Barriers Fund
   e. LHC Conference Call is on Thursday, November 5th, at 10:00 A.M.

VII. **Next Meeting**
   a. Next meeting on December 9, 2020
   Main topic: Ending Veteran Homelessness: Identification, Outreach, and Engagement
   Watch the website and *BoS News* for more information

TX BoS CoC General Meeting

Staff will be available on the webinar for 15 minutes after the meeting ends, for an open discussion on topics that attendees want to discuss.

Give your feedback!
Please complete the anonymous survey you will receive after the meeting ends, to let us know what was helpful and what would could be better for the next meeting.

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Anyone who works or lives in the CoC's geographic area, and all housing and homeless services projects in the CoC's geographic area, are considered to be members of the CoC. The CoC has an open invitation process, so people may join at any time.

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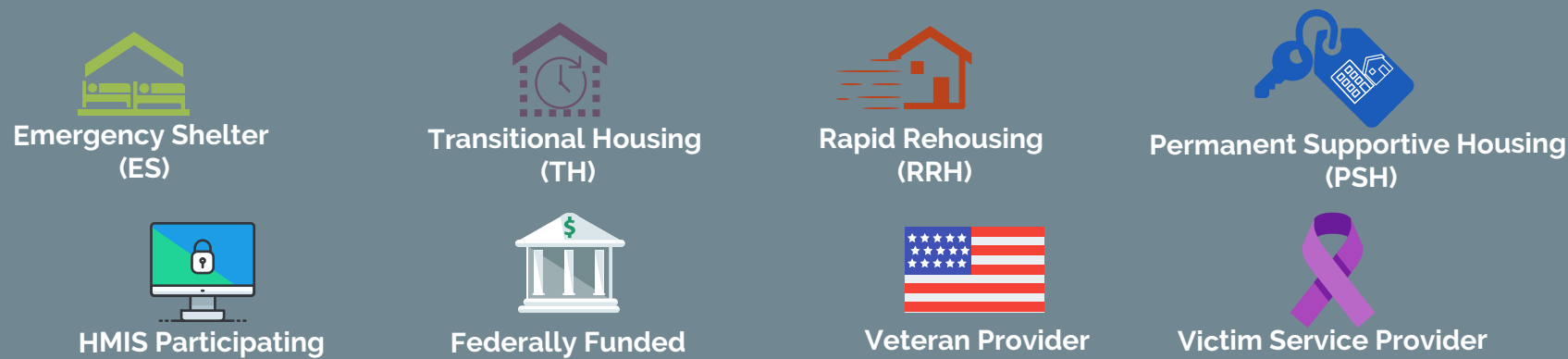
Texas Balance of State Housing Inventory Count

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is a tally of the number of beds and units available on a given night, broken down by project type. It includes beds dedicated to serve persons who are experiencing homelessness as well as those in Permanent Housing. It additionally includes funding information as well as beds dedicated to specific sub-populations.
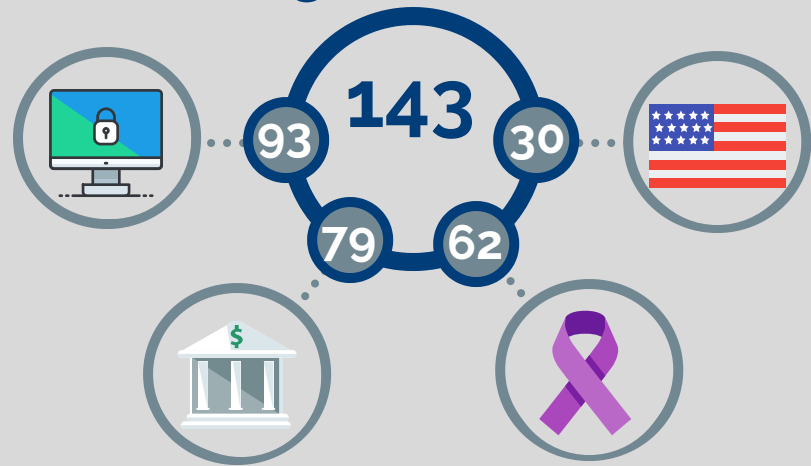
Project Types: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing
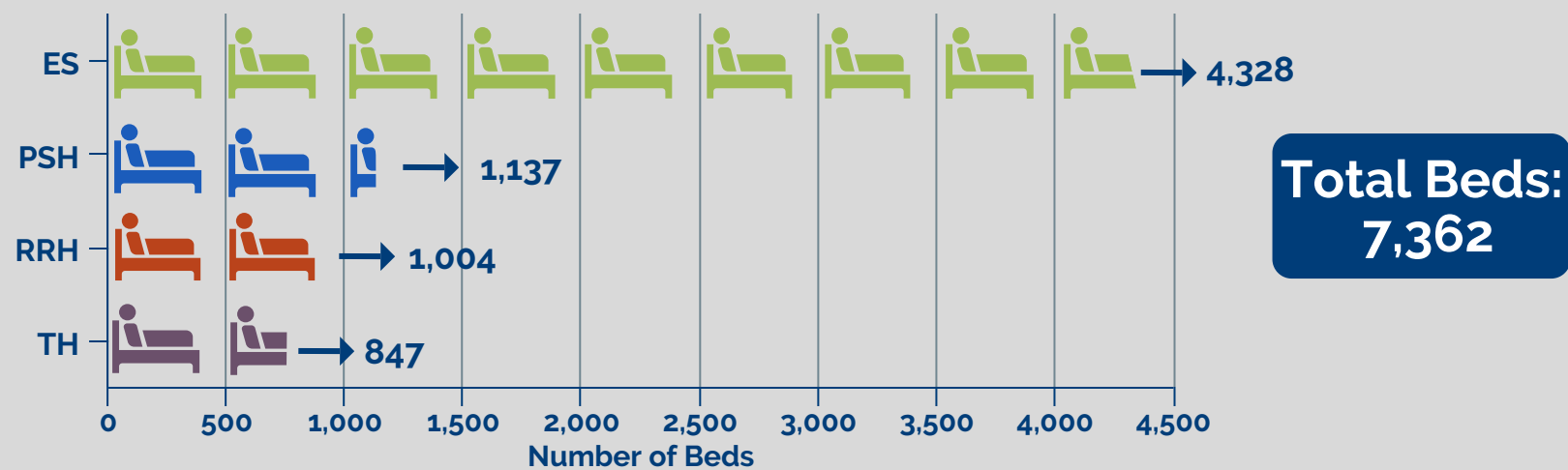
Legend

- Emergency Shelter (ES)
- Transitional Housing (TH)
- Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- HMIS Participating
- Federally Funded
- Veteran Provider
- Victim Service Provider

2020 Housing Inventory Count

Organizations

143
93 — 30 — 79 — 62

Projects

202
48 — 34 — 94 — 26

Bed Count

Project Type	Beds
ES	4,328
PSH	1,137
RRH	1,004
TH	847

Number of Beds

Total Beds: 7,362

2020 Household Breakdown

Households without children

- PSH 811 beds — 21%
- RRH 370 beds — 9%
- TH 242 beds — 6%
- ES 2,495 beds — 64%

Total 3,918 beds

Households with children

- PSH 193 beds — 6%
- RRH 767 beds — 23%
- TH 605 beds — 18%
- ES 1,784 beds — 53%

Total 3,349 beds

Households of children only

- 100%
- ES 49 beds

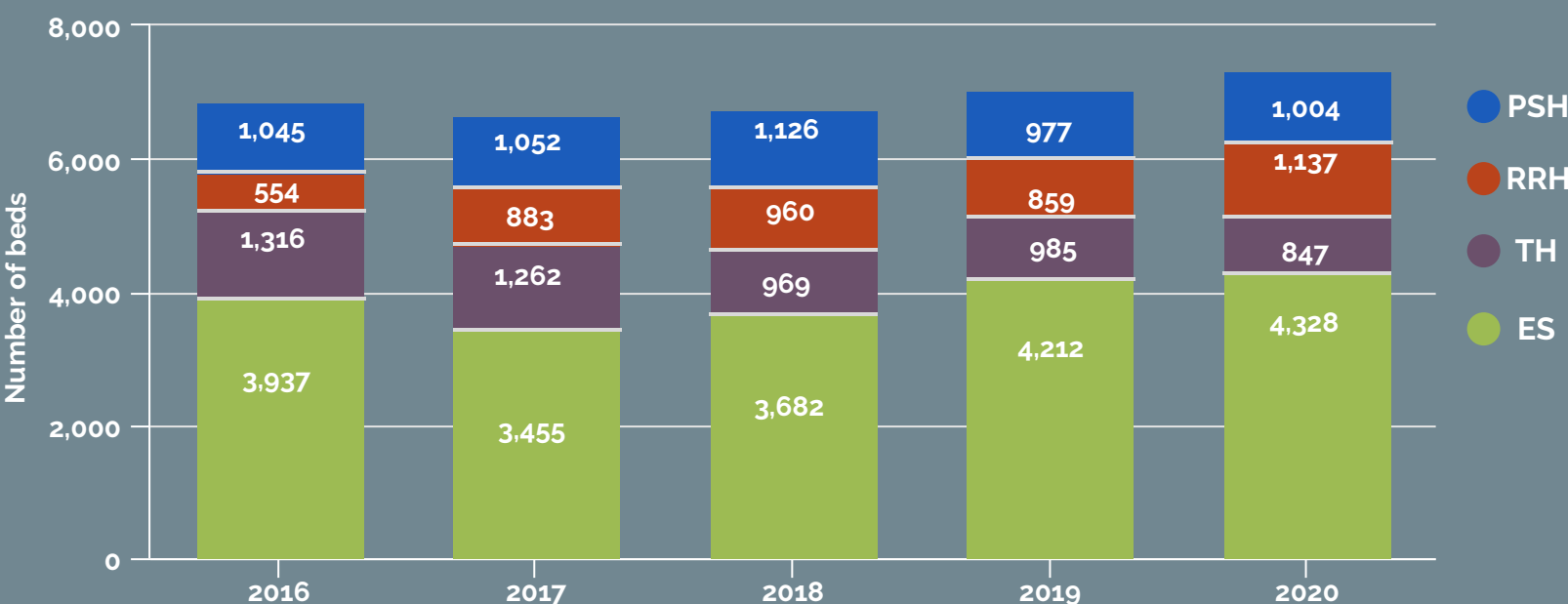**Total 49 beds**
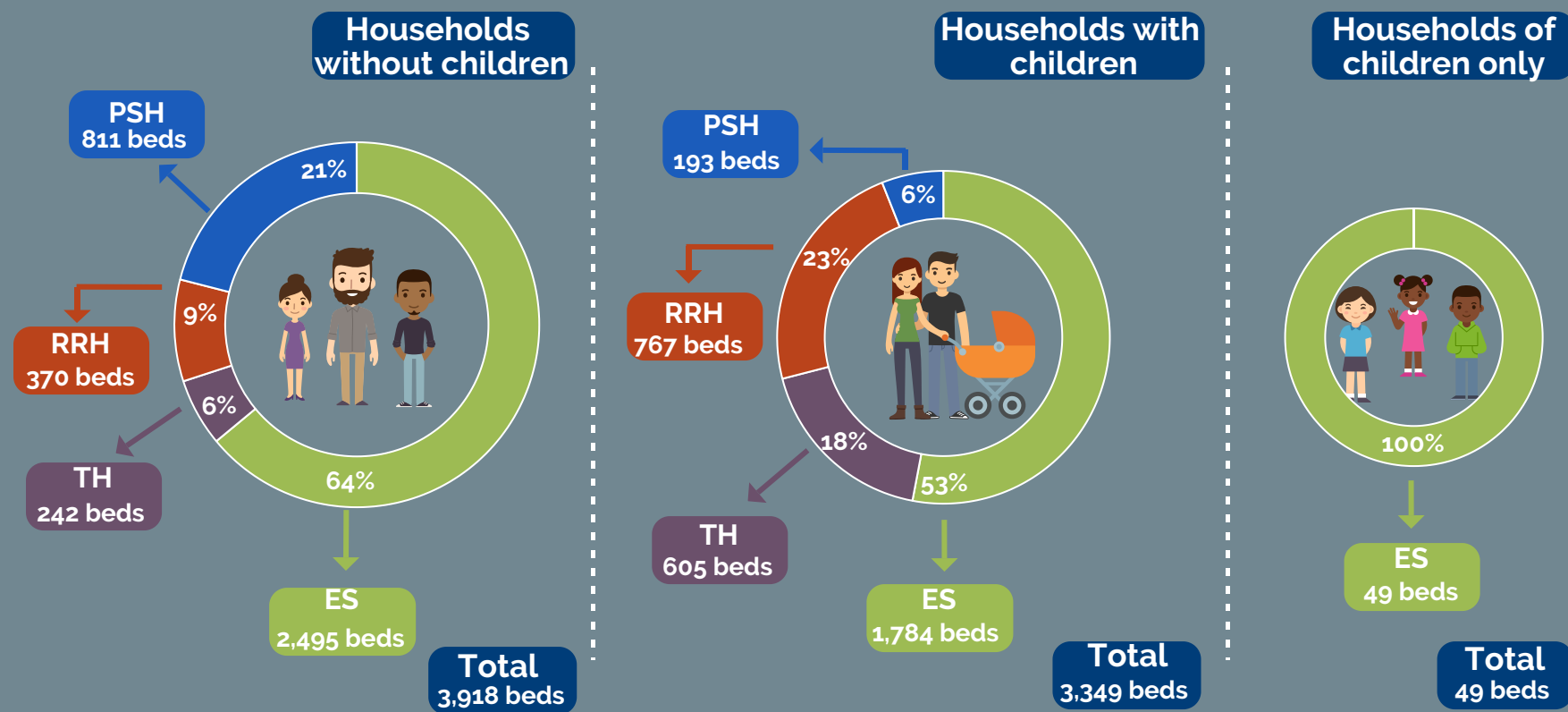
Key Takeaways

- **76%** Overall Utilization Rate
- **53%** Average HMIS Coverage
- **1,041** Veteran Beds
- **325** Chronically Homeless Beds
- **33** Youth Beds

Bed Count Analysis

Year	ES	TH	RRH	PSH
2016	3,937	1,316	554	1,045
2017	3,455	1,262	883	1,052
2018	3,682	969	960	1,126
2019	4,212	985	859	977
2020	4,328	847	1,137	1,004

Number of beds

For the full data set, please contact: data@thn.org

THN
TEXAS HOMELESS NETWORK

THN
TEXAS HOMELESS NETWORK
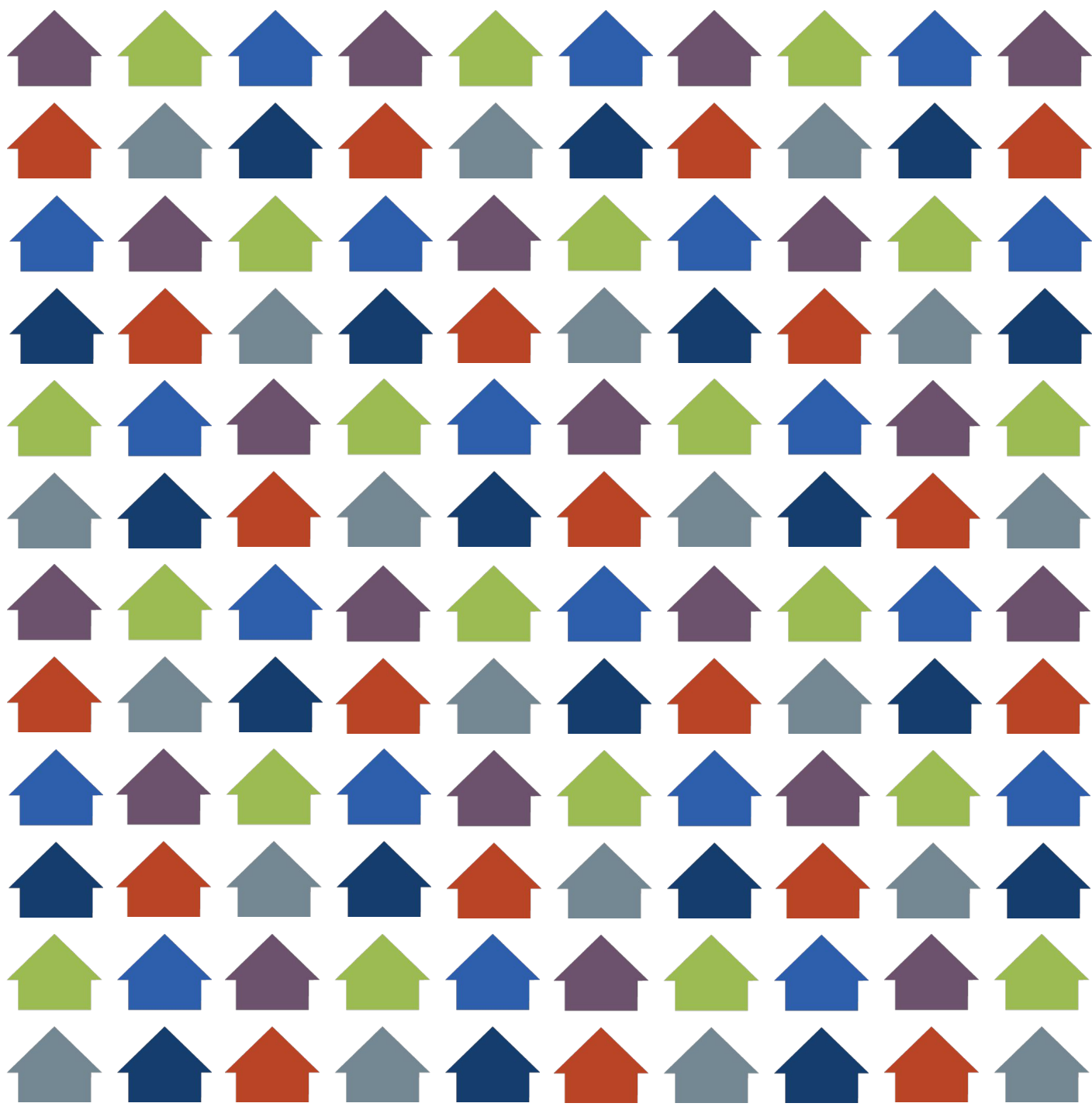
TX BoS CoC Governance Charter Annual Review

Strategies For Change

thn.org

HUD Requirements

Subpart B, § 578.7 (5) of the CoC Interim Rule:

"In consultation with the collaborative applicant and the HMIS Lead, develop, follow, and update annually a governance charter, which will include all procedures and policies needed to comply with subpart B of this part and with HMIS requirements as prescribed by HUD…"

Governance Documents

Many of our governance documents describe policies and procedures related to Subpart B:

- Governance Charter
- CoC Policies and Procedures
    - CoC Board Requirements
    - CoC Committees Policy
    - Conditional Inclusion Policy
    - Ranking Policy
    - Reallocation Policy
    - Review and Scoring Policy
    - VAWA Emergency Transfer Policy
- CoC Written Standards for Service Delivery
- CE Written Standards
- HMIS Policies and Procedures
    - HMIS Data Quality Plan
    - HMIS Privacy Policy
- Memorandum of Understanding

Current Governance Charter

- **Governance Chart and Policies and Procedures are separate documents**
- **The Governance Charter describes:**
  - the organizational structure of the CoC
  - the roles of the parts of that structure
- **The Governance Charter contains policies on:**
  - compliance with HUD requirements
  - code of conduct and recusal for board
  - annual review and updates of the charter

Major Changes

- Governance Charter and Policies and Procedures combined into one document

- Updated to reflect current HUD requirements

- Removed information that is now contained in other documents

- Links to other relevant policy documents that meet HUD requirements

Importance of Governance

- Compliance with HUD requirements
- Transparency about CoC Policies and Procedures
- Transparency about how THN is operating, as the collaborative applicant, lead agency, and HMIS lead agency
- Make sense of the system as whole so that it can be improved
- Reflect the needs and desires of the CoC as a whole

Public Comment for CoC Governance Charter Revisions

Schedule:

Round 1 - 10/15 to 10/28

Round 2 - 11/5 to 11/18

Round 3 - 11/26 to 12/9

Review by CoC Board - 1/27

Public Comment page:
https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/join-us/texas-balance-of-state-public-comment-portal/

Questions and Answers

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to email margaret@thn.org.

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Governance Charter

Document History

Date	Action
March 25, 2015	Charter approved by CoC Board
September 9, 2016	Initial draft of CoC Policies and Procedures, approved by CoC Board
September 21, 2016	Revised Charter approved by CoC Board
October 4, 2017	Charter reviewed by CoC Membership
September 26, 2018	Charter reviewed by CoC Membership
November 28, 2018	Revised Charter approved by CoC Board. Changes to member input, CoC Board elections, and CoC Board Member Conflict of Interest form
	Governance Charter and CoC Policies and Procedures revised and combined into one document.

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care
Governance Charter

Table of Contents

Contact Information:
Texas Homeless Network (THN) is the Continuum of Care Lead Agency.
Sophia Checa, MPAff
Director of Continuum of Care Programs
sophia@thn.org

Mary Stahlke, LMSW
Assistant Director of Engagement
mary@thn.org

Policy and Procedure Maintenance: This document will be considered a living document that is subject to change. Changes to this document will be made in response to changing conditions and regulations and the will of the membership. Changes will be presented at a TX BoS CoC General Meeting. The TX BoS CoC Board approves changes to the Policies and Procedures.

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care
Governance Charter

Introduction and Purpose

This document serves as the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC) Governance Charter. This document outlines key operational components of the Continuum of Care (CoC), including universal policies and procedures or references to other policy and procedure or guidance documents for the CoC. This document was created in collaboration with the TX BoS CoC Board.

Background

A Continuum of Care is a collaborative funding and planning process that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) also refers to the group of stakeholders involved in the decision-making processes as the "continuum of care."

The CoC is responsible for meeting CoC requirements, as mandated by HUD. Due to the TX BoS CoC's large geography, the CoC relies on individual programs receiving funding, Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs), and Coordinated Entry Planning Entities (CEPEs) to conduct planning, delivery of housing and services, and evaluation, in order to meet CoC requirements.

Continuum of Care planning and funding is intended to reduce incidents of homelessness in CoC communities by assisting homeless households (individuals and families) to quickly transition to self-sufficiency and permanent housing and to meet other goals, as outlined in the HEARTH Act.

TX BoS CoC Governance Structure

This Charter identifies the CoC's governance structure, including Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead Agency designations and purposes. It also describes the purposes of the CoC Board, Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs), other committees, and the CoC Lead Agency and staff support.
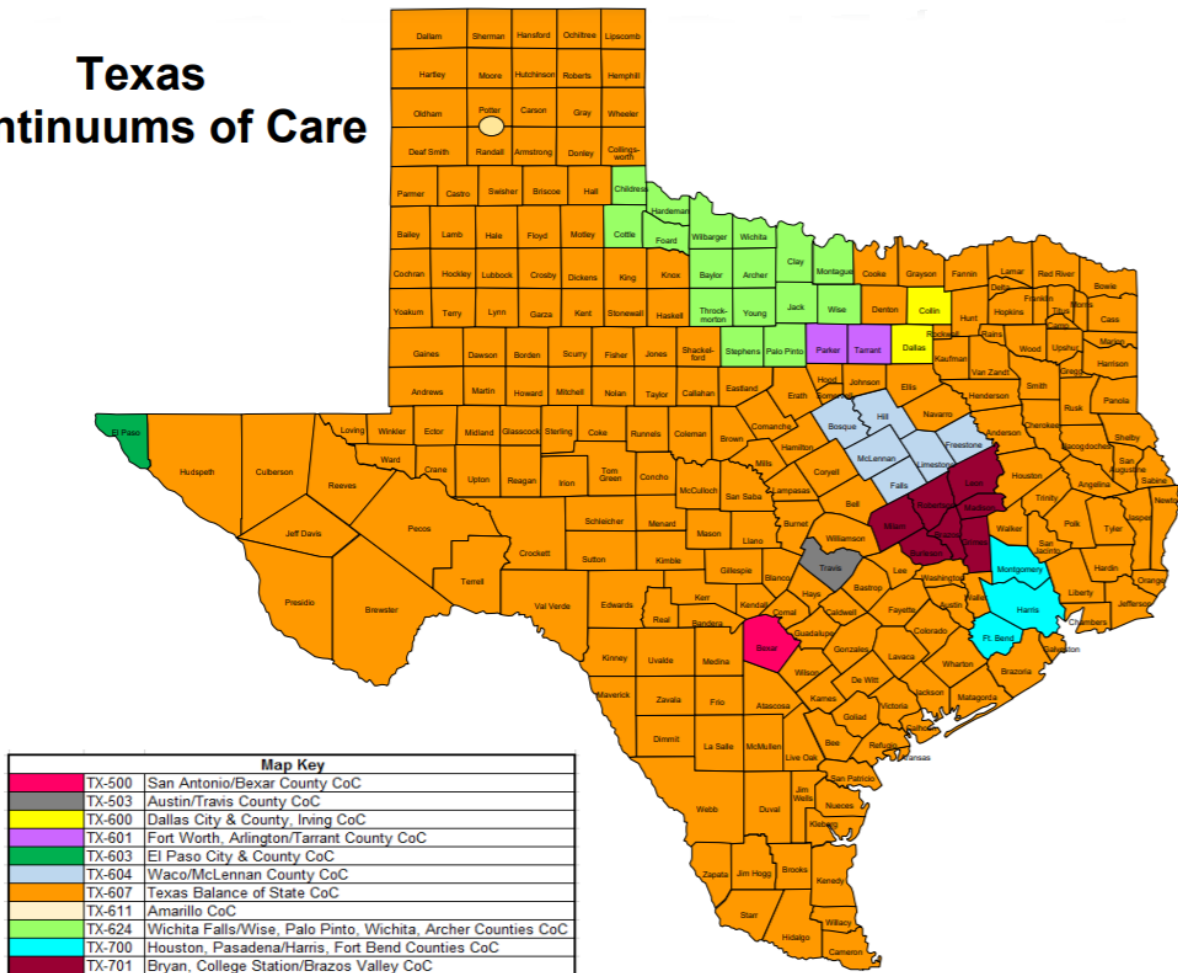
The name of the affiliation is the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC).

The geographic area of the TX BoS CoC includes 215 counties throughout the state of Texas. Within those counties, Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) and Coordinated Entry Planning Entities (CEPEs) conduct local CoC planning, housing and service development and delivery, and evaluation. CoC-wide activities are also conducted through the LHC leaders, the CoC Board, CoC committees.

The TX BoS CoC consists of:

- CoC General Members
- CoC Board
- CoC Committees
- Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs)
- Coordinated Entry Planning Entities (CEPEs)
- CoC Collaborative Applicant
- CoC HMIS Lead Agency
- CoC Lead Agency and staff support

Texas Continuums of Care

		Map Key
	TX-500	San Antonio/Bexar County CoC
	TX-503	Austin/Travis County CoC
	TX-600	Dallas City & County, Irving CoC
	TX-601	Fort Worth, Arlington/Tarrant County CoC
	TX-603	El Paso City & County CoC
	TX-604	Waco/McLennan County CoC
	TX-607	Texas Balance of State CoC
	TX-611	Amarillo CoC
	TX-624	Wichita Falls/Wise, Palo Pinto, Wichita, Archer Counties CoC
	TX-700	Houston, Pasadena/Harris, Fort Bend Counties CoC
	TX-701	Bryan, College Station/Brazos Valley CoC

The TX BoS CoC has established a board to act on its behalf. The CoC Board is responsible to the membership. The CoC will provide opportunities for CoC members to comment on policies and procedures, and the CoC Board will approve policies and procedures.

CoC committees are designed to carry out the high-level work of the CoC, ensuring that the CoC fulfills all of the requirements established by HUD. Committees are an opportunity for CoC general members to be directly involved in CoC-wide decision making.

The Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) inform the TX BoS CoC staff on a regular basis about community events related to homelessness, housing advocacy, and performance of homeless

services in their respective communities. The CoC uses this information to inform decision-making and policy.

[Coordinated Entry Planning Entities](#) (CEPEs) are responsible for implementing the day-to-day process of Coordinated Entry (CE) in their designated region within the CoC. They establish the day-to-day management structures, create a communication plan in their region, and promote standardized screening, assessment and referral processes. They ensure the enrollment of staff at agencies that are required to use CE, into training. They also conduct evaluation and monitoring of their local CE process. Each CEPE has a representative on the Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC), which provides direct support and guidance to the CoC Board on systems change efforts, and influences the direction of the CE process in the TX BoS CoC.

Texas Homeless Network's Role

The TX BoS CoC has designated, and the CoC Board has approved, the Texas Homeless Network (THN) as the Collaborative Applicant for the TX BoS CoC. As such, THN is also the applicant/grantee for HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program funds for CoC Planning. The TX BoS CoC Board has not established the Collaborative Applicant as a Unified Funding Agency (UFA).

The TX BoS CoC has selected, and the CoC Board has approved, Texas Homeless Network to serve as the CoC Lead Agency and to provide support to the CoC. THN staff members provide staff support to all other CoC committees and workgroups. THN serves as the CoC Lead Agency under a memorandum of understanding between the TX BoS CoC Board and the THN Board of Directors.

The TX BoS CoC has designated, and the CoC Board has approved, THN as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Agency for the TX BoS CoC.

The business address for the TX BoS CoC is: Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care, Texas Homeless Network,3000 S IH-35, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78704.

Definitions

Group	Details
CoC General Membership	The General Membership represents persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, providers of homeless services, and other relevant organizations and community stakeholders to establish a Continuum of Care and a CoC Board, and to fulfill the CoC's responsibilities, as required by HUD. The responsibilities of the CoC may be completed by the membership at large, or through delegation to the CoC Board, CoC committees and workgroups, the CoC Lead Agency, or other groups. Anyone who works or lives in the CoC's geographic area, and all housing and homeless services projects in the CoC's geographic area, are considered to be members of the CoC. The CoC has an open invitation process, so people may join at any time. THN invites members to participate in the CoC's activities. These activities include CoC general meetings, CoC Board elections, committee membership, public comment, funding opportunities, PIT Counts, and other activities as announced by the

	CoC lead agency and CoC Board.
CoC Board	The CoC Board is the primary decision-making body for the TX BoS CoC. Board members determine the policy direction of the CoC and ensure that the CoC fulfills its responsibilities as assigned by HUD. Additionally, the Board oversees and approves the work of CoC committees and workgroups. The Board consists of fifteen members. The CoC will ensure that the CoC Board, its chair, and any persons acting on behalf of the Board, comply with a code of conduct and with conflict-of-interest requirements and recusal processes. The CoC Board and CoC Lead Agency Staff will strive to ensure broad representation among the 15 positions, including community stakeholders from around the CoC's geographic area and agency staff representing the major homeless subpopulations. Individual board members may represent multiple sectors or stakeholders. Board members are elected by the full CoC membership in the Fall of each year. Board members will serve staggered terms of two years so that every year, half the positions will stand for election. Terms begin in October and end in September two years later.
Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs)	The Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) are the lead groups responsible for managing community planning, coordination, and evaluation to ensure that the system of homeless services and housing ends people's homelessness rapidly and permanently. This includes planning for the use of HUD CoC Program resources and coordinating these funds with other resources in their communities. Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) include representatives of relevant organizations, e.g., homeless services providers, victim services providers, medical services, law enforcement, school districts, and agencies serving other homeless subpopulations.
Coordinated Entry Planning Entities (CEPEs)	The Coordinated Entry Planning Entities (CEPEs) are the management bodies responsible for implementing the day-to-day process of CE in their respective regions. This includes establishing the day-today management structures, establishing a clear and accessible communication plan in their region, promoting standardized screening, assessment and referral processes, ensuring enrollment of staff into training, and conducting evaluation and monitoring of their local CE process.
CoC Committees and Subcommittees	While decisions for the Continuum will be made by the Board, the work of the Continuum will generally be carried out by CoC committees and, as appointed by CoC committees, CoC subcommittees. CoC Committees are created with the approval of the CoC Board in order to assist the CoC in carrying out mandated activities. CoC Committees are also the primary mechanism for CoC members to affect decisions made by the CoC Board. Committees shall not make any policy or funding-related decisions. Committees may make recommendations for voting approval by the CoC Board. The Board will establish committees, as necessary to ensure all CoC

	responsibilities are fulfilled according to HUD regulations. Each committee will be led by a chair and a co-chair. Committee members may be members of the Board, LHC members and/or other stakeholders. Each standing committee will also have a staff liaison support person from the CoC Lead Agency, THN.
Workgroups	Workgroups are informal bodies that do not create policies or make recommendations on behalf of the CoC. Workgroups function as a way for CoC members to share information and ideas about a specific topic. They may report back to the CoC Board, a committee or subcommittee, as needed.
CoC Collaborative Applicant	Texas Homeless Network is designated by the TX BoS CoC to apply for grants from HUD and other governmental and philanthropic organizations on behalf of the TX BoS CoC. For the Texas BoS CoC, the Collaborative Applicant is also the CoC Lead Agency and the HMIS Lead Agency.
CoC HMIS Lead	Texas Homeless Network is designated by the TX BoS CoC to operate an HMIS system on its behalf. THN serves as the HMIS project grantee under the CoC Program and is responsible for managing all aspects of the TX BoS CoC HMIS and ensuring it meets all federal requirements.
CoC HMIS System	The Texas Balance of State CoC has designated Client Track as the single HMIS system for meeting HUD client-level data collection and reporting.
CoC Lead Agency and Staff Support	Texas Homeless Network has been selected by the TX BoS CoC to serve as the CoC Lead Agency to provide staff support to the Board and CoC committees and subcommittees. The lead agency performs a variety of necessary functions such as performance monitoring, engagement and education of stakeholders, and submission of the annual collaborative CoC Program grant application ("consolidated application"). THN manages all aspects of the CoC, including ensuring all federal CoC Program requirements are met.

Code of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, and Recusal Process

In order to maintain high ethical standards, HUD requires the CoC Board, the Board Chair(s), and any person acting on behalf of the Board, to comply with a code of conduct and conflict of interest and recusal requirements. All CoC Board and committee members will annually complete and sign a Code of Conduct and a Conflict of Interest Form that identifies any conflicts of interest that a member has, including association with organizations that may have a financial interest in business items coming before the CoC Board or committees.

CoC Board and committee members with actual or perceived conflicts of interest must also identify them as they arise. CoC Board and committee members shall report such conflicts of interest to the CoC Board or committee, and recuse themselves from discussions or resulting decisions on issues where a conflict of interest exists. No member of the CoC Board or committee

shall participate in or influence decisions concerning the award of a grant or other financial benefits to the member or the organization that the member represents. This includes all discussion and decisions with respect to funding, awarding contracts, and implementing corrective actions.

Approval, Annual Review, and Updates

In consultation with the Collaborative Applicant/CoC Lead Agency and the HMIS Lead Agency, this Charter was adopted at a regular TX BoS CoC General Meeting by a simple majority (at least 51%) affirmative vote of the members present and determined eligible to vote.

The Governance Charter may be amended at a regular TX BoS CoC General Meeting by a simple majority (at least 51%) affirmative vote of the members present and determined eligible to vote. The Governance Charter may be fully revised to include agreed-upon changes, or an Amended Article may be added for insertion into the existing document.

TX BoS CoC Board and membership will annually review and update, as necessary, the TX BoS CoC Governance Charter, in consultation with the Collaborative Applicant/CoC Lead Agency and the HMIS Lead Agency.

TX BoS CoC Policies and Procedures

General Policies

CoC Program Goals

The TX BoS CoC has adopted the following goals in accordance with the HUD's stated purpose for the CoC Program:

- Promote community commitment to the goal of ending homelessness
- Provide and/or facilitate funding to re-house people experiencing homelessness
- Assist individuals experiencing homelessness to access and maintain mainstream benefits
- Optimize self-sufficiency to prevent recurrence of homelessness

To better understand system performance and measure progress toward meeting these goals, the TX BoS CoC has adopted performance measures, in accordance with the HEARTH Act, at the project and systems levels that support these goals. See System Performance Measures for more information.

Each LHC is encouraged to design its own localized, strategic plan to meet these goals. The TX BoS CoC will support LHCs in the development of these plans.

Criminalization of Homelessness

Agencies and programs within the TX BoS CoC will not participate in or support any activity that

may directly or indirectly support the criminalization of homelessness. Agencies within the TX BoS CoC will work to reduce barriers to housing and services. (See [CoC Policy Against the Criminalization of Homelessness](#))

Prohibition Against Involuntary Family Separation

The TX BoS CoC is committed to keeping children under the age of 18 years with their families. Specifically, emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs will not deny admission to or separate any family member from other family members based on age, sex, or gender when entering shelter or housing. (See [CoC Policy Against Involuntary Separation of Families](#))

Educational Assurances

It is the intent of the TX BoS CoC to meet the educational needs of the homeless children, youth and families that they serve. The TX BoS CoC is committed to ensuring that the educational needs of homeless children, youth and their families are met. (See [Educational Assurances](#))

Ending Veteran Homelessness

The TX BoS CoC is committed to ending veteran homelessness. A CoC-wide definition incorporating benchmarks and criteria will allow the CoC to measure progress toward ending veteran homelessness. (See [Adoption of CoC-Wide Definition for Ending Veteran Homelessness](#))

Anti-Discrimination and Equal Access

The intent of this policy is to standardize the quality of assistance persons experiencing homelessness can expect from homeless services projects across the CoC's geographic area, and ensure that projects receiving CoC and ESG Program funding are meeting HUD requirements. This policy provides guidelines for service providers in the TX BoS CoC to ensure that they are not further contributing to discrimination and marginalization of LGBT community members.([See Anti-Discrimination and Equal Access Policy)](#)

Governance

CoC Board

The [CoC Interim Rule](#) requires that the CoC establish a board to act on behalf of the CoC, and develop a written process to select the board. This process must be reviewed, updated, and approved by the CoC at least every 5 years. The TX BoS CoC has established the [CoC Board Requirements](#) for this purpose. This policy also describes in detail the requirements for the makeup of the board, in compliance with the CoC Interim Rule.

CoC Committees

According to the Interim Rule, the CoC is also required to establish committees, subcommittees, and workgroups. These committees are governed by the [Continuum of Care Committees Policy](#), which describes the responsibilities, requirements, and processes of TX BoS CoC committees.

CoC general members are encouraged to participate in governance of the CoC by serving on committees and the CoC Board.

CoC General Member Participation

Public Comment

The TX BoS CoC will invite public comments when the CoC is considering a change to a CoC policy. A public comment period allows stakeholders within the TX BoS CoC to review proposed changes to items such as policies or standards, and provide input on those changes and potential impacts of the changes. Public comment will be conducted through the THN website. (See Public Comment Policy)

CoC General Meetings

- CoC General Meetings are scheduled to be held bi-monthly. A minimum of four meetings will be held each year.
- All CoC General Meetings shall be open to the public.
- All CoC General Meetings and Board meetings will have written agendas. Agendas for and minutes from the CoC General Meetings will be posted on THN's website or sent electronically.
- The TX BoS CoC Board may call special member meetings by providing an agenda to all the members.
- TX BoS CoC Lead Agency Staff shall take reasonable steps to ensure that all members are notified of the time and place of all member meetings.
- A reasonable period of time shall be set aside for members to address the CoC at the member meetings.
- All CoC members shall be permitted to propose "new business" for the next member meeting of the CoC.
- The TX BoS CoC will maintain dated meeting minutes for all meetings, including those that pertain to the CoC's local competition process for HUD CoC Program funding.

Local Homeless Coalitions

Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) are the lead local working groups responsible for managing community planning, coordination, and evaluation to ensure that the system of homeless services and housing ends people's homelessness rapidly and permanently. In order to be considered LHCs of the TX BoS CoC, homeless coalitions must meet the minimum requirements identified by the CoC Board. These requirements are described in the Local Homeless Coalition Requirements document.

Coordinated Entry

Each Continuum is responsible for establishing and operating a centralized or coordinated assessment system that will provide a comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services. This system is called Coordinated Entry (CE) in the TX BoS CoC.

A Coordinated Entry System is defined to mean a centralized or coordinated process designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referrals. A centralized or

coordinated assessment system covers the geographic area, is easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.

As required by HUD Notice CPD-17-01, in the TX BoS CoC all Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program recipients must participate in a CE system. CoC Program-funded and ESG Program-funded projects must work with the LHCs (Local Homeless Coalitions) to establish Coordinated Entry Planning Entities (CEPEs) and implement CE in their communities.

The TX BoS CoC provides toolkits, trainings, support, standards, guidance, evaluation, and data analysis. Each local CE plan may be tailored to unique community needs and available resources but must be approved by the TX BoS CoC.

All policies and procedure related to Coordinated Entry can be found in the CE Written Standards.

Data

Point-In-Time (PIT) Count

The TX BoS CoC conducts at least one unsheltered and one sheltered point-in-time (PIT) count of persons in homeless situations per year. The PIT Count is a physical count or census of all homeless persons living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and on the streets on a single night. It does not capture those who experience only brief episodes of homelessness or account for changes throughout the year. This count collects data on where homeless households are sleeping, household size, disability, and chronicity of homelessness. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all CoCs with federally-funded homeless services participate in PIT Counts during the last ten days in January each year. THN, as the CoC Lead Agency, follows HUD guidance on planning and conducting the PIT Count.

The PIT Lead Manual provides guidance on how to plan and implement the count and detailed information about how to train volunteers and service providers to use the various point-in-time Count forms that have been developed for TX BoS CoC providers. The PIT Lead for each LHC or community is responsible for following the information in this manual and all other materials related to PIT procedure and training

Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

Every year the TX BoS CoC will collect data to complete a housing inventory count (HIC). This inventory will occur at a single point-in-time in the last ten days in January each year. The date of the housing inventory will be the same date as the point-in-time (PIT) sheltered and unsheltered count.

For each program that houses persons experiencing homelessness, the CoC will collect data on:

- The number of beds and units currently serving individuals and families
- The number of beds and units created in the past year ("new inventory")
- The number of beds and units that are fully funded but not yet serving homeless people ("under development")

Housing inventory data must be obtained from all emergency shelters, transitional housing, rapid re-housing (RRH) and permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs in the CoC, including those programs that do not receive HUD funding. Data collected from permanent supportive housing programs will be focused only on the beds and units that are dedicated to housing persons who are formerly homeless.

To collect Housing Inventory data, the CoC will annually:

- Conduct a housing inventory survey (via mail, fax, e-mail, web-based, phone or on-site communication) of homeless housing providers, which will include the previous year's Housing Inventory Count and instruct providers to review and update housing inventory information on the specified night of the housing inventory.
- The primary collection method is via a housing inventory survey, and the CoC provides the following information to services providers:

  o Provide instructions to all homeless housing providers on how to report an accurate bed inventory;
  o Include definitions of key terms used in the inventory chart;
  o Follow-up with providers (e.g., via telephone, email, or in-person) to ensure the maximum possible response rate and accuracy of the housing inventory information; and
  o After receiving the inventory information, confirm the information with each provider to verify the accuracy of the data.

HMIS

The TX BoS CoC HMIS is a collaborative project of THN, as the HMIS Lead Agency, and Participating Agencies. HMIS is a computerized data collection application designed to capture information about people experiencing homelessness and homeless programs over time. HMIS is mandated by HUD under the HEARTH Act for all communities and agencies receiving HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program homeless assistance funds as well as other Federal agencies..

HMIS is essential to efforts to streamline client services and inform public policy. Through HMIS, people experiencing homelessness benefit from improved coordination in and between agencies, informed advocacy efforts, and policies that result in targeted services. HMIS enables homeless service providers to collect uniform client information over time. Analysis of information gathered through HMIS is critical to accurately calculate the size, characteristics, and needs of the homeless population.

Detailed information on how the TX BoS CoC operates HMIS can be found in the HMIS Policies and Procedures. This document also meets HUD's requirement that THN, as the lead agency of the TX BoS CoC must review, revise, and approve a security plan for the CoC.

Additionally, THN is required to review, revise, and approve a data quality plan and privacy policy. The HMIS Data Quality Plan establishes standards for data collection in HMIS that meet HUD's requirements for data quality. The HMIS Data Quality Plan establishes the required Data Elements that HMIS users must enter into the system when assessing a client. It also establishes metrics for considering that information timely, complete, accurate, and consistent. The HMIS Privacy Policy

document describes HUD's requirements for how THN as the lead agency may use protected personal information (PPI) collected in HMIS.

System-Wide Reporting

Longitudinal Systems Analysis

The Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) report is produced from the TX BoS CoC's HMIS, and submitted annually to HUD. The LSA report provides HUD and the CoC with critical information about how people experiencing homelessness use their system of care.

The report includes significant additional detail about households' system use, and allows the CoC to understand lengths of homelessness, exits to permanent housing, and returns for each household type (Adults Only, Children Only, and Adults with Children). It also contains the data used to write the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) which is the report sent to Congress about the state of homelessness across the nation.

Data included in the LSA:

- Demographic characteristics like age, race, gender and veteran status;
- Length of time homeless and patterns of system use;
- Information specific to populations whose needs and/or eligibility for services may differ from the broader homeless population, such as veterans, people and households experiencing chronic homelessness, and other; and
- Housing outcomes for those who exit the homeless service system.

System Performance Measures

The HEARTH Act established a set of selection criteria for CoC funding that requires CoCs to report their system-level performance to HUD. The CoC is required to report this performance is the form of specific data points called System Performance Measures (SPMs):

- Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless
- Measure 2a: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness within 6 to 12 months
- Measure 2b: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness within 2 Years
- Measure 3: Number of Homeless Persons
- Measure 4: Employment and Income Growth for Homeless Persons in CoC Program-funded Projects
- Measure 5: Number of Persons who Become Homeless for the First Time
- Measure 6: Not currently collected by CoCs
- Measure 7a: Successful Placement from Street Outreach
- Measure 7b: Successful Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing

For system-level performance measures, the TX BoS CoC must look at data from the entire system, or across all continuum projects of a specific project type, as opposed to individual projects, to determine the unduplicated number of participants accessing the homeless crisis response system.

Data for the SPMS is generated from:

- Sheltered and unsheltered PIT count data
- Unduplicated Client-level outcome information collected across all projects that contribute data to HMIS within the CoC

A report of the TX BoS CoC's System Performance Measures (SPMs) is generated on an annual basis, and submitted to HUD. HUD uses this system-level performance information as a competitive element in its annual CoC Program Competition, and to gauge the state of the homeless response system nationally. THN is responsible for combining all applications for funding within the geographic area of the CoC for submission to HUD. THN is also responsible for applying for CoC Planning funds. The TX BoS CoC Board has approved several policies and procedures related specifically to the CoC Program Competition application process within the TX BoS CoC. These will be posted on THN's website annually along with the NOFA. Previous years' competition materials can be found in the Resources & Archive section of the THN website. This includes the CoC's policies on Conditional Inclusion, Ranking, Reallocation, Review & Scoring.

Annual Performance Report

Annual Performance Reports (APRs) are required by HUD on an annual basis to track the progress and accomplishments of HUD's Continuum of Care Program. The APR gathers information on how programs assist homeless persons to obtain and remain in permanent housing, increase skills and income, and attain greater self-determination. This information is used by HUD and Congress to assess outcomes from federal funding. The APR is also useful to the CoC, grantees, and sponsors as a planning and management tool to analyze client demographics and service needs; to evaluate project outcomes; to make improvements; and to set future goals for their projects.

The TX BoS CoC conducts ongoing monitoring of APRs submitted to HUD for review. Staff may conduct on-site monitoring when capacity allows or when there are specific concerns about a projects' performance or ability to effectively manage a CoC Program-funds. Staff may conduct desk reviews of agency audits, APRs and other documentation at any time or as necessary to meet the legislatively mandated responsibilities of the Continuum of Care Program.

Administering Rapid Re-housing and Permanent Supportive Housing Assistance

As described in the CoC Interim Rule, HUD requires that the TX BoS CoC have Written Standards, created in consultation with ESG recipients, that govern the following for projects funded through the CoC Program:

- Policies and procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive transitional housing assistance
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive rapid re-housing assistance
- Standards for determining what percentage or amount of rent each project participant must pay while receiving rapid re-housing assistance
- Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible individuals and families will receive permanent supportive housing assistance
- Where the Continuum is designated a high-performing community

These requirements are addressed via the [TX BoS CoC Written Standards for Service Delivery.](#) The TX BoS CoC recommends all projects in the TX BoS CoC align with the Written Standards for Service Delivery to further the CoC's goals of transparency, equal access to quality projects, and service standardization.

The TX BoS CoC Board has additionally adopted the following policies regarding CoC Program-funded projects:

- Permanent housing or transitional housing projects must allow participants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to request an emergency transfer from the participant's current unit to another unit, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. ([See VAWA Emergency Transfer Policy](#))
- CoC-funded projects must notify THN within 48 hours if they receive a monitoring notice from HUD (See [Policy on HUD Monitoring of CoC Funded Projects](#))

Annual Gaps Analysis

Due to the CoC's large geography, a CoC-wide gaps analysis is not conducted on an annual basis, but may be conducted periodically, as resources allow. The CoC recognizes that gaps analyses are often more useful on a community level rather than on the CoC level.

The CoC recommends that the data collected through the PIT count, HIC count, HMIS, and Coordinated Entry be reviewed by communities to determine community need for housing, fill gaps in services, and create an effective Housing Crisis Response System (HCRS). The CoC can assist with providing data that is contained in the HMIS system, collected for the HIC, and gathered from participating PIT communities; however, communities will have to consider any inventory not in the HMIS system or reported for the HIC.

In order to have a more accurate account of the needs of individual communities, the CoC recommends that all communities within the CoC, in coordination with their LHC, participate in the PIT and HIC count, and utilize a community-wide Coordinated Entry system ([Coordinated Entry Planning Entity](#)) to more accurately determine the levels of housing interventions necessary to meet the housing needs of persons experiencing homelessness.

ESG Recipient Monitoring

The TX BoS CoC will work with the State ESG recipient, the [Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs](#) (TDHCA), and city and county ESG recipients to allocate funding, and coordinate the monitoring of outcomes of the funding. Grantee activities will be monitored by CoC staff to ensure compliance with applicable Federal requirements and to determine whether or not performance goals are being achieved.

While ESG Program-funded projects are mandated to have their own Written Standards, each project should ensure that their Written Standards align with the Standards put forth in the [TX BoS CoC Written Standards for Service Delivery](#).

Acronyms

AHAR	Annual Homeless Assessment Report
APR	Annual Performance Report
BoS	Balance of State
CE	Coordinated Entry
CEPE	Coordinated Entry Planning Entity
CoC	Continuum of Care
ConPlan	Consolidated Plan
CPD	Community Planning and Development
CSV	Comma-Separated Value (file type)
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grant
HCRS	Housing Crisis Response System
HEARTH Act	Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
LOCCS	Line of Credit Control System
LSA	Longitudinal System Analysis
NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability
PH	Permanent Housing
PPI	Protected Personal Information
PIT	Point-In-Time Count
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
RRH	Rapid Re-Housing
SPMs	Strategic Performance Measures
TDHCA	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
THN	Texas Homeless Network
TX BoS CoC	Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care
UFA	United Funding Agency
VAWA	Violence Against Women Act

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Guide to CoC Governance Documents

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the duties of a Continuum of Care (CoC), in short, are to plan for the CoC, operate the CoC, and administer a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for the CoC. The following documents guide how the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC) performs those functions. Click on each title header to read the document.

In compliance with the CoC Interim Rule, 24 CFR 578, the TX BoS CoC is responsible for following and annually updating the TX BoS CoC Governance Charter and policies needed to comply with the CoC Interim Rule.

HUD Guidance

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, As Amended by S. 896 Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is the foundational document on federal assistance for homelessness services in the United States. In 2009, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act. The HEARTH Act consolidated several programs, including the CoC program, and codified the planning process for creating a CoC. It also increased the focus on homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities. Several updates related to the HEARTH Act have been made since the Act was passed in 2009,

CoC Program Interim Rule

The CoC Program Interim Rule, written in 2012, is the current guiding regulation for HUD's CoC Program. It outlines CoC responsibilities, including planning. THN works according to the CoC Program Rule even in communities that do not have projects funded by the CoC Program.

TX BoS CoC Governance Documents

Governance Charter

The TX BoS CoC Governance Charter outlines the structure of the CoC and the roles of all parties involved in its governance—the Board, committees, workgroups, and local homeless coalitions (LHCs). The charter is a HUD requirement, and must be updated annually. It was last revised in September of 2018, and approved by the CoC Board in November of 2018.

Memorandum of Agreement

This is a subsection of the Governance Charter that outlines the role of Texas Homeless Network (THN) as the CoC Lead Agency and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead. It is on page 15 of the charter. It was last update in August of 2017, and renews automatically yearly.

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

CoC Policies and Procedures

The CoC Policies and Procedures is a broad document that outlines the reasons for the CoC's existence, goals for the CoC, and requirements for running a CoC, as mandated by HUD. According to the MOA between THN and the BoS CoC Board, it should be updated by THN staff and approved by the board annually. The CoC Policies and Procedures document is currently being updated by CoC staff. This version with incorporate the Governance Charter in the text of the document.

The following policies have been approved by the CoC Board and will be incorporated into the Policies and Procedures document. They can also be found on the THN website:

Anti-Discrimination and Equal Access Policy

VAWA Emergency Transfer Policy

Continuum of Care Committees Policy

Public Comment Policy

Continuum of Care Board Officers Policy

Board Requirements Policy

CoC Written Standards for Service Delivery

This document outlines standards for how the HUD CoC Program-funded projects' housing and services that form the Housing Crisis Response System (HCRS) will be delivered within the CoC. These projects include Homelessness Prevention, Diversion, Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Inclement Weather Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing. HUD requires, under the CoC Interim Rule, a written standard for how services are delivered under the CoC's HCRS. Essential elements, participant eligibility requirements, prioritization, and performance metrics are defined for each project. This document also mandates the implementation of a Coordinated Entry (CE) system for all HCRS projects, and guidelines for termination of a project. The current CoC Written Standards were updated in September of 2018, and approved by the CoC Board in February of 2019.

The following policies related to service delivery and the CoC Application are currently available for public comment:

Conditional Inclusion Policy

Ranking Policy

Reallocation Policy

Review and Scoring Policy

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Coordinated Entry Written Standards

Coordinated Entry (CE) is a system for ensuring that agencies within a service area are working together to provide access, assessment, and appropriate referral to people experiencing homelessness. The purpose of CE is to make these systems more efficient, in order to further the goal of homelessness being rare, brief, and non-recurring. The Coordinated Entry Written Standards document was created to meet new requirements for CE that were mandated by HUD in 2017. It outlines what CE is, the goals for CE implementation in the TX BoS CoC, how communities can implement CE, eligibility requirements for a client to be entered into the system, HMIS management guidelines, and how to regularly evaluate the CE system. There are also special guidelines on how to use CE in collaboration with Victim Service providers. The CE Written Standards were last updated in June of 2017. THN staff drafted revisions in the summer of 2019 that were reviewed for public comment and finalized in July of 2020.

HMIS Policies and Procedures

A Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a database that enables agencies across the CoC to share data about people experiencing homelessness who are served by several sources of federal funding, and is essential for running a Coordinated Entry system. It also helps give THN and HUD a better understand of the state of homelessness within the CoC. The TX BoS CoC uses an HMIS system called ClientTrack. The HMIS Policies and Procedures document outlines the roles and responsibilities of THN as the HMIS Lead Agency, and of the agencies using the HMIS system. Implementation of the HMIS system, security, client privacy, and data management are also covered in this document. It was last revised in August of 2016. All HMIS policies and procedures were reviewed in the summer of 2019 in consultation with CSH and are currently being updated by staff.

HMIS Data Quality Plan

THN has established standards for data collection in HMIS that meet HUD's requirements for data quality. This ensures that the data collected can be used to accurately assess the state of homelessness in a community, CoC, state, and nationwide. The HMIS Data Quality Plan establishes the required Data Elements that HMIS users must enter into the system when assessing a client, and metrics for considering that information timely, complete, accurate, and consistent. The HMIS Data Quality Plan is currently being updated by staff.

HMIS Privacy Policy

This document describes HUD's requirements for how THN as the lead agency may use protected personal information (PPI) collected in HMIS. The HMIS Privacy Policy was last revised in March 2020.

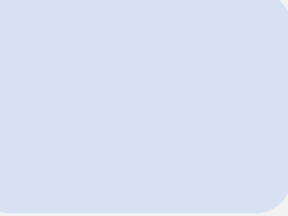### Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) Requirements

Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) are the lead local working groups responsible for managing community planning, coordination, and evaluation to ensure that the system of
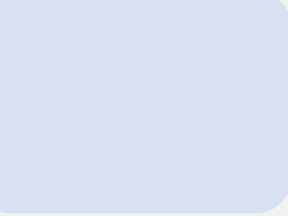
homeless services and housing ends people's homelessness rapidly and permanently. In order to be considered LHCs of the TX BoS CoC, homeless coalitions must meet the minimum requirements identified by the CoC Board.

Year in Review 2019-2020

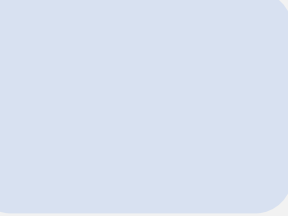Texas Balance of State
Continuum of Care

We at Texas Homeless Network recognize and appreciate all of the hard work and successes experienced across the Texas Balance of State by banding together through these difficult times.

Still, we recognize the continued impacts of COVID-19 and racial injustices in our communities and across the Texas Balance of State.

We invite you to join us in a moment of silence and reflection for those lost and affected by COVID-19 and racial injustices and those lost on the streets while experiencing homelessness.

Moment of Silence and Reflection

Thank you!

Year in Review!

01 Board and Committees

02 Local Homeless Coalitions

03 Programs

04 TX BoS CoC Team

TX BoS CoC Board and Committees

TX BoS
CoC Board

Accomplishments Overview

★ Established the **Community Investment Committee (CIC)**; the CIC recommended funding awards for the National Low Income Housing Coalition grant to respond to COVID-19 and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program--CARES Act, Round 1 funds, and the board approved them.

★ Approved the revised **Coordinated Entry Written Standards**, including the revised CE prioritization to address the urgent needs related to COVID-19.

★ Signed the **Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network's Data Sharing Agreement** that will allow TX BoS CoC data from HMIS to be shared for research purposes and to inform decision-making.

Thank you to our Board Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!

Thank you!

- **Daphne' Adams** - Denton County
- **Marqus Butler** - Texas
- **Luís Cerda** - Duval, Jim Hogg, Webb, and Zapata Counties
- **Marcy Cervantes** - Webb County
- **Melissa Escamilla** - Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Cameron, Dimmit, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kleberg, La Salle, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Starr, Victoria, Webb, and Willacy Counties
- **Daisy Lopez** - Cameron County
- **John Meier** - Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Knox, McCulloch, Mills, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, San Saba, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor, Throckmorton, Tom Green Counties

Thank you to our Board Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!

Thank you!

- **Norma Mercado** - Bastrop County
- **Kyle Moore** - Bell County
- **Andrea Omojola** - Lubbock County
- **Dani Shaw** - Denton County
- **Barry Wheeler** - Bastrop, Caldwell, Comal, Guadalupe and Hays Counties
- **Linda White** - Morris County
- **Antonio Williams** - Bowie County

Strategic Planning Committee

"It's been an honor to work with members across the Texas Balance of State to develop a strategic plan that can help inspire our CoC as we work together to prevent and end homelessness."

CHAD WHEELER

Strategic Planning Committee Chair
Open Door Lubbock

Accomplishments Overview

★ Drafted the **strategic plan**, based on input from CoC members and on CoC data

★ Began refining the **strategies** and **activities**

Thank you to our Strategic Planning Committee Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!

Thank you!

- **Katherine Bisson** - Taylor County
- **Sophia Checa** - TX BoS CoC
- **Daisy Lopez** - Cameron County
- **Juan Mendive** - Webb County
- **Kyle Moore** - Bell County
- **Dani Shaw** - Denton County
- **Todd Shell** - Texas

Thank you to our Strategic Planning Committee Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!

Thank you!

- **Mary Stahlke** - TX BoS CoC
- **Melanie Thornton-Lewis** - Galveston County
- **Jim Ward** - TX BoS CoC
- **Chad Wheeler** - Lubbock County
- **Shane Williamson** - Kerr County
- **Marsha Wilson-Rappaport** - Galveston County
- **Michelle Yates** - Cameron County
- **Kristin Zakoor** - TX BoS CoC

CE Steering Committee

JOHN MEIER

CE Steering Committee Chair
West Central Texas Regional Foundation

"I am very proud of all the communities that have participated over the past year with the CE Steering Committee. Each community has come together, with the tremendous guidance of the Texas Homeless Network, to strengthen the homeless crises intervention system for our most vulnerable neighbors.

The CE Steering Committee has not only strengthened this system but addressed the current pandemic to ensure needs are met now and during any future pandemic. I am honored to have participated, as future communities within the Texas Balance of State start developing local Coordinated Entry the guidance and standards found will increase success and support a foundation for ending homelessness."

Accomplishments Overview

★ Recommended changes to the **Coordinated Entry Written Standards** for Board approval

★ Recommended time-limited **CE COVID-19 Prioritization Standards** for rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing projects regardless of funding source for Board approval

Thank you to our CE Steering Committee Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!
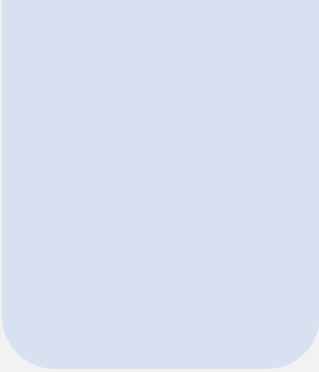
Thank you!

- **Vineta Byrd** - Mount Pleasant
- **Paul Castaneda** - Cameron County
- **Napoleon Daniel Coca** - Hidalgo
- **Vashil Fernandez** - Texarkana
- **Katherine Hennecke** - Lubbock
- **Debra Huffman** - Beaumont & Orange
- **Deanna Lowrey-Green** - Bastrop
- **Gloria Luna** - Brazoria
- **Elena Lusk** - Denton
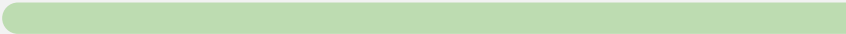
Thank you to our CE Steering Committee Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!

Thank you!

John Meier - Abilene
Judith Mena - Laredo
Jay Morgan - Longview
Christy Plemons - Killeen
Tiffany Ross - Victoria
Erika Thomas - Odessa
Melanie Thornton-Lewis - Galveston
Mona Vasquez - Corpus Christi

Community Investment Committee

Accomplishments Overview

★ Awarded **$80,000 in funding from the National Low Income Housing Coalition** to help communities that do not receive CoC, ESG, or SSVF Program funding to respond to COVID-19 for people experiencing homelessness.

★ **Recommended ESG-CARES Act, Round 1**, awardees to the CoC Board and ultimately to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA).

Thank you to our Community Investment Committee Members for serving in the 2019-2020 year!

Thank you!

The Reverend Dr. Timothy R. Davenport-Herbst - West region
Melissa Escamilla - South region
Vashil Fernandez - Northeast region
William Hall - Central region
Dr. Cliff Robertson - Southeast region
Mary Twitty - North region
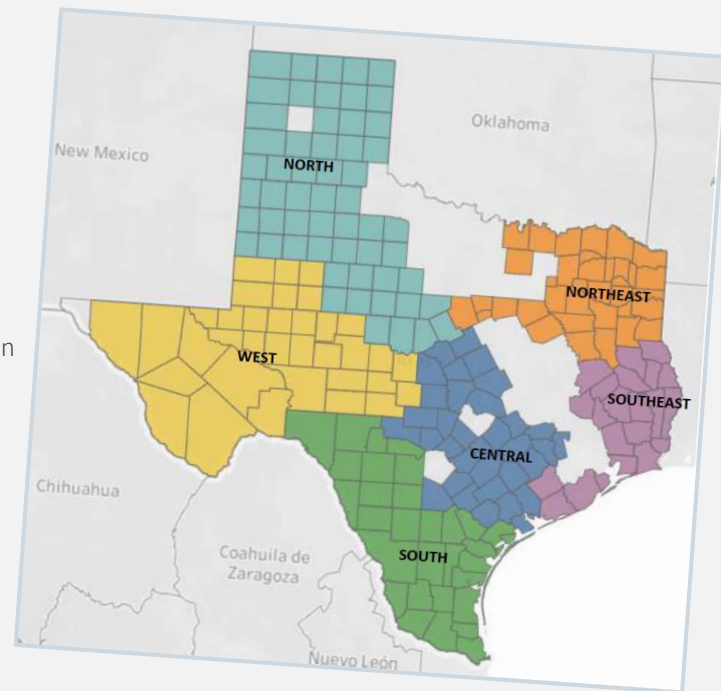
Local Homeless Coalitions

TX BoS CoC Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) October 2020
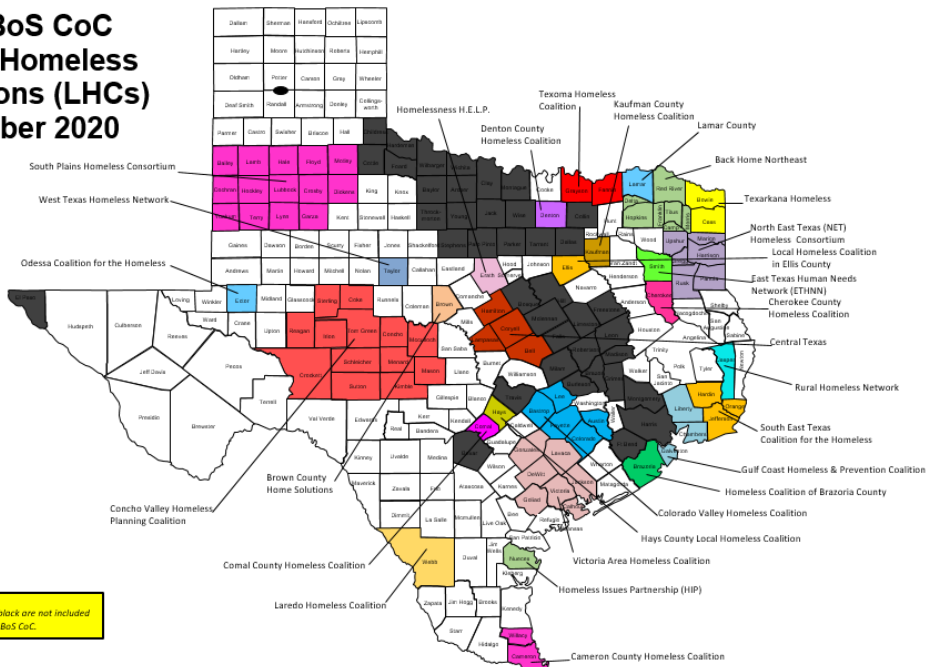
27 Local Homeless Coalitions
7 in development

LHCs cover

39%

of the TX BoS CoC.

Central Texas Homeless Coalition

CENTRAL
TEXAS
HOMELESS
COALITION

Helping people find their way home

SERVING BELL, CORYELL, HAMILTON, & LAMPASAS COUNTIES

Celebrated 20 years of being a coalition!

Kaufman County Homeless Coalition

Hosted a Homeless & Housing Insecurity Fair in Terrell and Kaufman!

Hays County Local Homeless Coalition

Recruited City of San Marcos leadership, including the City Manager, City Council Members, and Code Compliance into the coalition!

Erath County
Raised $60,000 for a land/property purchase!

South Plains Homeless Consortium

Hosted the Lubbock mayoral candidates, including the current mayor, at a meeting!
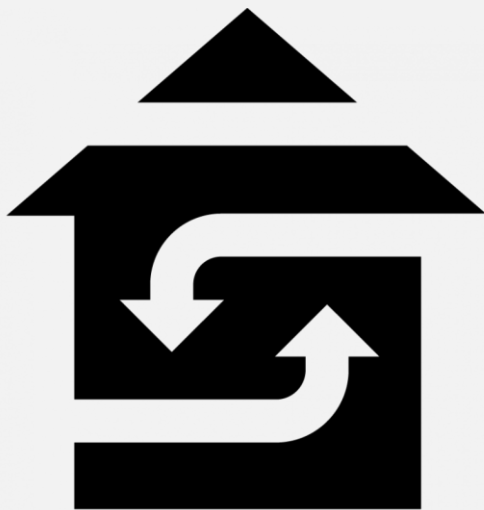
Ellis County Homeless Coalition

Hosted a Lunch 'n' Learn on homelessness to raise awareness in Waxahachie!
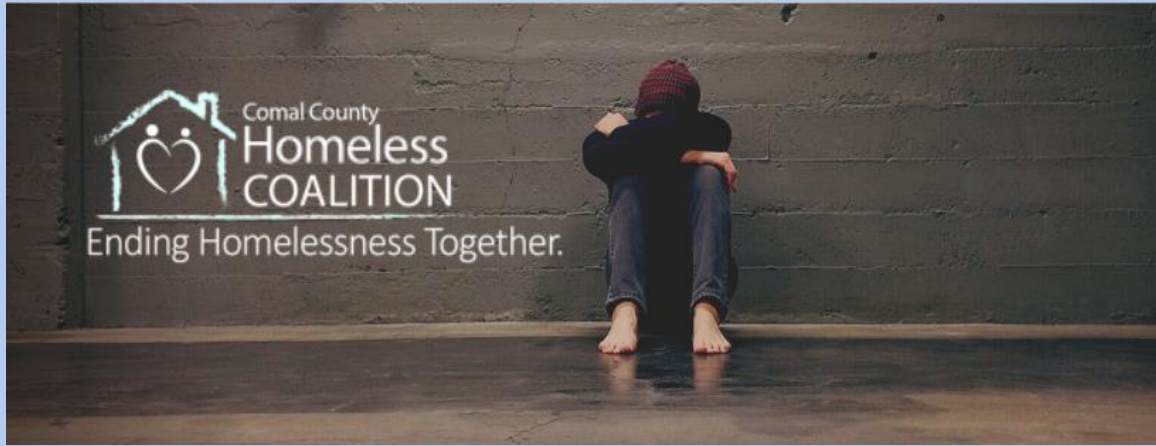
Developing new partnerships to ensure their Cold Weather Shelter program can continue during COVID-19.

Cameron County Homeless Coalition

Cameron County, TX

Toured LHC member Tropical Texas Behavioral Health's facility to learn more about client-centered programs!

Expanded to include Willacy County!

Gulf Coast Homeless & Prevention Coalition

Teamed up with the American Red Cross to respond to hurricane season and formed an inter-CoC partnership with Goodwill Houston!

Programs

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Funding

FY2019 Total Award: $10,126,500

Increase of $2,725, 460 from FY2018!

Largest award to the TX BoS CoC ever!

32 Projects
- **20** Renewal
- **12** New
  - **5** Brand New
  - **7** Expansions

Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (Round I Allocation)

Texas Homeless Network served as the ESG-CV Coordinator for the TX BoS CoC. THN made recommendations of funding to TDHCA for ESG-CV grant for Round 1 Allocation.

Total Round 1 Recommendation Amount: $7,272,289

13 Emergency Shelters were recommended.

6 Street Outreach providers were recommended.

13 Rapid Re-Housing providers were recommended.

12 Homelessness Prevention providers were recommended.

27 new counties were recommended.

84 Counties in the TX BoS CoC have ESG Cares or ESG annual allocation funding.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program Funding

SSVF funding provides thousands of low-income Veteran families around the nation with access to case management and other assistance to rapidly re-house Veterans who become homeless or prevent Veterans from becoming homeless.

➔ **150 counties in the TX BoS CoC receive SSVF Funding.**

➔ May 2020 - $202 million allocated from CARES Act across the U.S.

➔ July 2020 - Additional $400 million allocated from CARES Act across the U.S.

➔ August 2020 - $400 million from FY2021 NOFA to begin October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 across the U.S.

Coming Soon!

The Barriers Fund Program will provide direct services to low-income households that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.

Funded by the Community Services Block Grant CARES Act Discretionary Funds (CSBG-CV-D)

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care Staff

Jen Beardsley
Local Homeless Coalition
Specialist

Kraig Blaize-Fiero
Continuum of Care
Programs Assistant
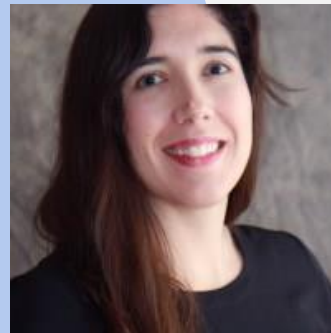
Sophia Checa
Director of Continuum of Care
Programs

NEW POSITION

NEW
Paula Dewey
Emergency Solutions Grant
Data Specialist

NEW
Quiana Fisher
Continuum of Care
Performance Coordinator

Kyra Henderson
Data Coordinator

Margaret Hill *NEW*
Governance Specialist

FORMER THN VISTA

Antonio Kufoy
Database Coordinator

Lindsay LaGrange
Training Coordinator

Victoria Lopez
Data and Policy Analyst

Jaynna Sims
Emergency Solutions Grant Specialist

Mary Rychlik Stahlke, LMSW
Assistant Director of Engagement

Anja Taylor
Barriers Fund Coordinator

Jim Ward
Assistant Director of Planning

Linda Xiong
Systems Change Coordinator

Kristin Zakoor
Assistant Director of Data

Technical Assistance & Training

36,060
of minutes spent providing Technical Assistance to providers

1,772
Instances of Technical Assistance provided

Technical Assistance & Training

245

# of trainings

1,263

# of persons trained

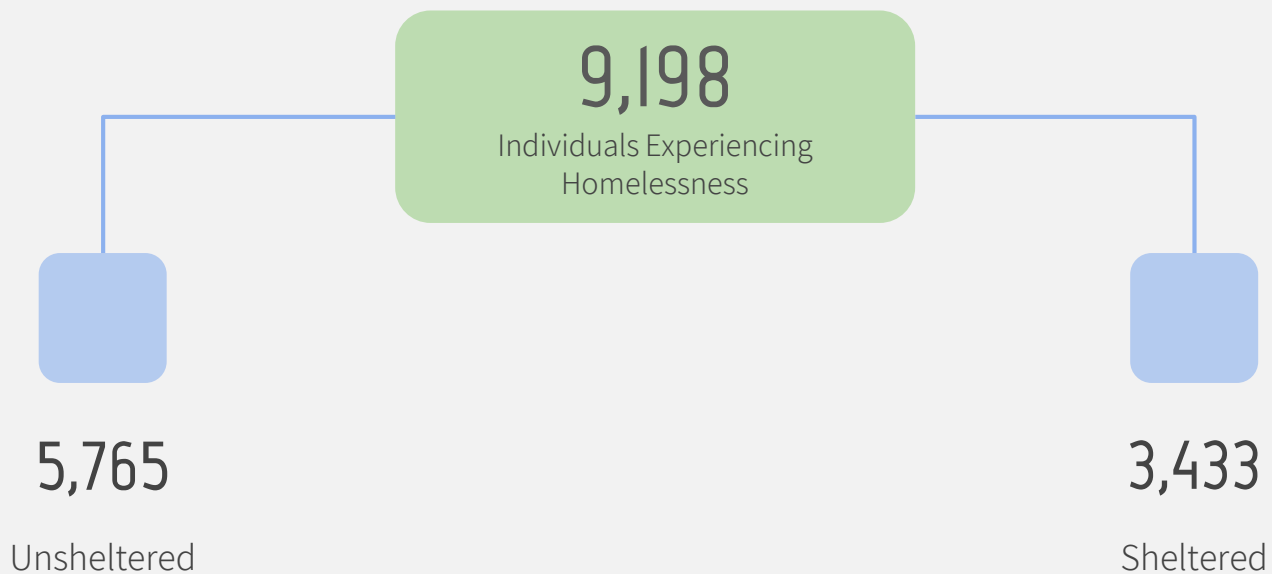# Point in Time/Housing Inventory Count Comparison
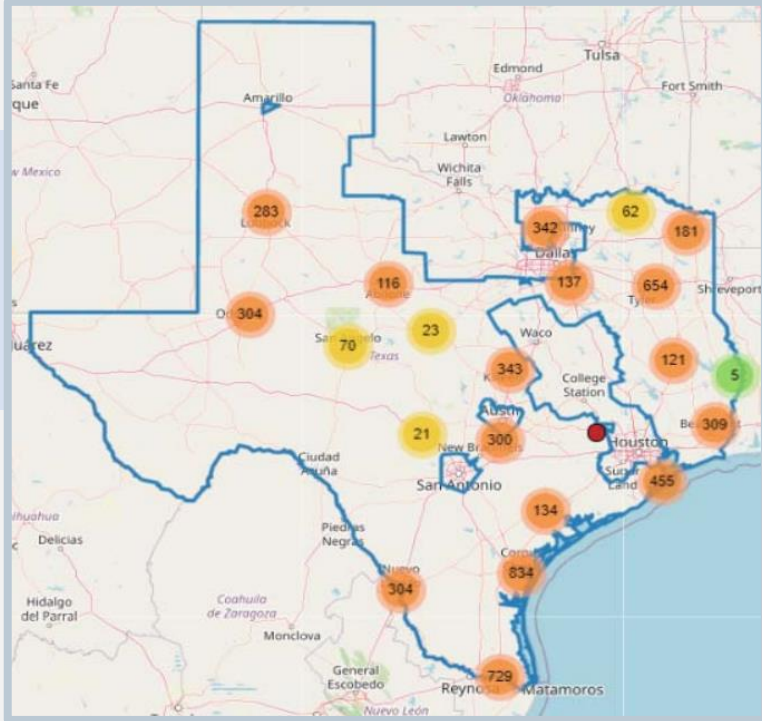
PIT/HIC Data 2019

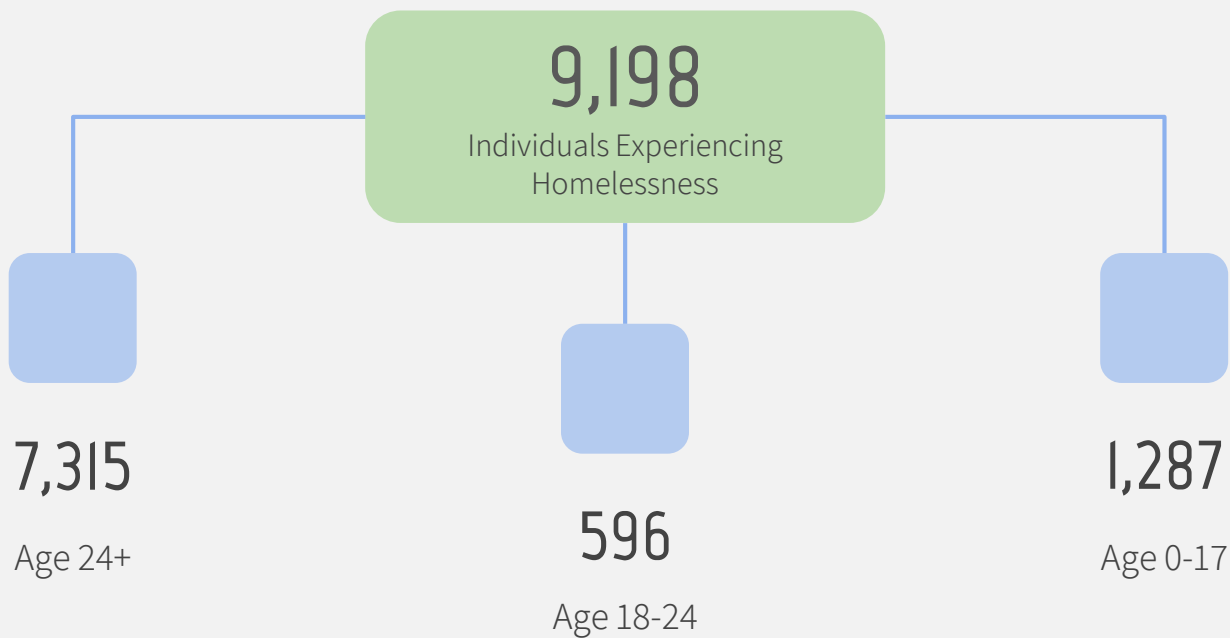👥 **8,072**

🛏 **7,033**

PIT/HIC Data 2020

👥 **9,198**

🛏 **7,362**

Point in Time Count

9,198
Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

5,765
Unsheltered

3,433
Sheltered

Point in Time Count

9,198
Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

7,315
Age 24+

596
Age 18-24

1,287
Age 0-17

Point in Time Count

Gender

Male: 5,712
Female: 3,460
Transgender: 19
Gender Non-Conforming: 7

Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino: 5,905
Hispanic/Latino: 3,293

Race

White: 6,411
Black or African American: 2,294
Multiple Races: 231
American Indian or Alaska Native: 152
Asian: 77
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 33

Housing Inventory Count

Bed Count

	Number of Beds
ES	4,328
PSH	1,137
RRH	1,004
TH	847

Total Beds: 7,362
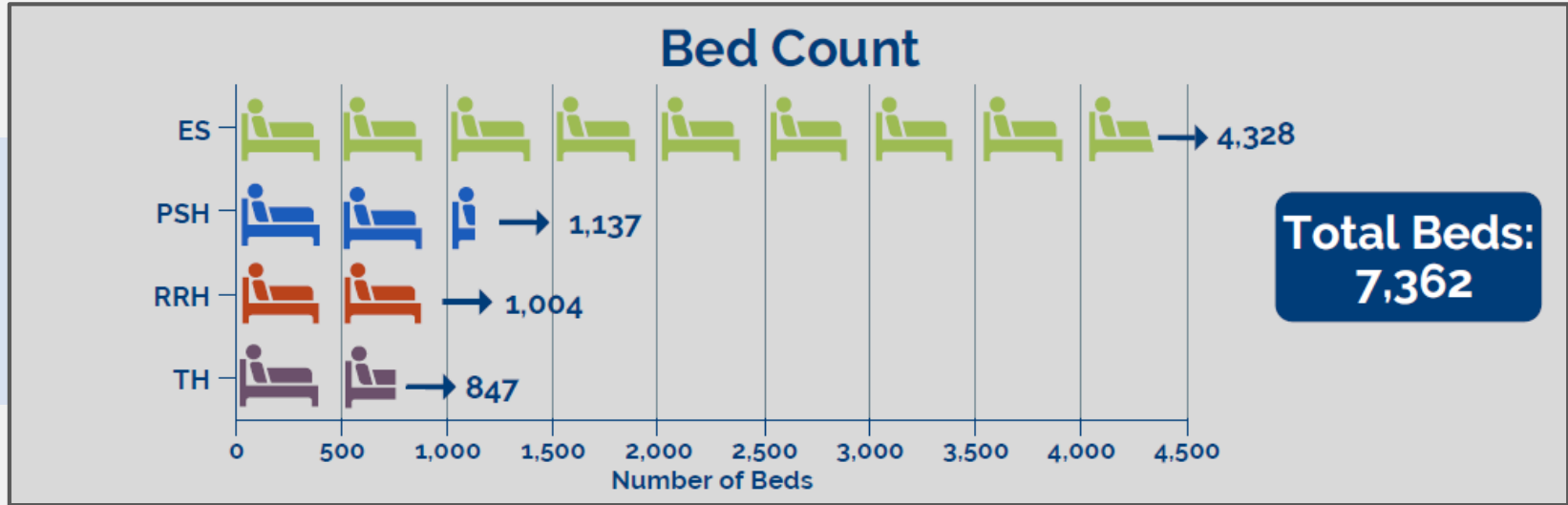
Housing Inventory Count

Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA)

System Performance Measures

	Texas Homeless Network			
	System Performance Measures Summary - Year to Year Comparison			
	FY 2018 : October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018 vs.			
	FY 2019: October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019			
#	Measure Description	Desired Change	Year to Year % Change	System Trend
1	Average Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless	↓	↓ 30%	Average number of days in shelters and transitional housing decreased from 53 days in FY18 to 37 days in FY19
2	Return to Homelessness (total returns in 2 years)	↓	↑3%	The percent of persons who returned to homelessness increased from 14% in FY18 to 17% in FY19
3	Number of Homeless Persons (change in PIT counts)	↓	↑6%	The number of persons counted during the PIT increased from 7,638 in FY18 to 8,072 in FY19
4.3	Change in total income for adult system stayers during reporting period	↑	↓ 4%	The percent of adult stayers who increased their total income increased from 47% in FY18 to 44% in FY19
4.6	Change in total income for adult system leavers during reporting period	↑	↑18%	The percent of adult leavers who increased their total income increased from 35% in FY18 to 58% in FY19
5	First Time Homeless (ES, TH, & PH with no prior HMIS enrollments)	↓	↑61%	The number of persons who became homeless for the first time increased from 10,248 in FY18 to 16,492 in FY19
7b.1	Successful Permanent Housing Placement (From ES, TH, and RRH)	↑	↓ 4%	The housing placement rate decreased from 37% in FY18 to 33% in FY19

Thank you!