

# Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

## Seat 9 – Local Government

### Courtney Cross

**Current Position:** Assistant Community Services Manager at the City of Denton

**TX BoS CoC county served:** Denton

**Do you have lived experience of homelessness? In other words, have you ever lived in a homeless situation?** No

**Are you affiliated with a HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program-funded project and/or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program-funded project operating in the TX BoS CoC?**

Yes, as an employee

**Are you the Chair of a Local Homeless Coalition (LHC)?** No

**Please describe your personal and/or work experience with the population you would be representing in the designated seat, if elected.**

I have been involved with developing Denton County's Housing Crisis Response System since 2016. My previous experience working in nonprofit afforded me the opportunity to partner with many sectors and collaborators in the community. As a current local government employee, I have knowledge of local regulations and initiatives and can bring a perspective of how CoC decisions might impact the City's ability to support and enhance homeless response efforts, and vice versa.

**Please describe how you have participated in the TX BoS CoC in the past.**

I have been an active participant in Denton County's local homeless coalition and the TX BoS CoC since 2016. I have attended and presented at conferences, co-chaired the Point-In-Time (PIT) Count annual homeless census and collaborated regularly with Texas Homeless Network (THN) staff to implement and enhance programs in our county.

**Please describe your experience, if any, working with the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program or similar programs focused on ending homelessness (ESG, SSVF, PATH, and RHY).**

My organization is currently an ESG-CV subrecipient, and in my previous role I administered a CoC program for Coordinated Entry and Supportive Services.

**Please describe your experience, if any, serving on a board of directors, including any leadership roles.**

League of Women Voters of Denton - Board Member (2015-2020), Board President (2017-2020)

Community Housing Resource Partners - Board member (2020-Present)

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## **Please describe your experience, if any, with managing grants.**

I have managed grants varying in size from \$40,000 to \$1.425M all related to homelessness and housing insecurity.

## **Please describe your specific skills that can benefit the CoC.**

My strengths include strategic and system/process-oriented thinking and planning, which I have found are a good compliment to committees and boards with members who bring a more micro-level perspective and approach. I also translating the often complex world of federal grants and requirements to local community members who want to know more about efforts to address homelessness and how they can be involved.

## **Why do you want to serve on the CoC Board?**

I have participated in the CoC for five years now and I would be glad to serve on the Board. I am passionate about advocating for my community and I enjoy collaborating with others to solve really tough problems. THN's staff have no easy task when it comes to supporting and communicating with 215+ counties in the TX BoS CoC, and I would very much enjoy the opportunity to serve on the Board to support these efforts.

## **If you are elected to the board, what do you plan to work on and accomplish?**

If elected to the board I would like to support efforts to increase the capabilities of HMIS to serve communities' unique program needs and identify opportunities to increase and diversify funding for LHCs and organizations in the TX BoS CoC.

## **What else would you like the CoC members to know about you?**

I am glad to be a part of the TX BoS CoC with you! If elected I will be fully committed to my role and actively work to support the continuous improvement of the CoC. Thanks for your consideration!