

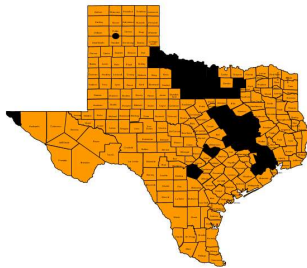
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## Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care News

December 2021



Texas Homeless Network is the lead agency for the [Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care \(TX BoS CoC\)](#). The TX BoS CoC is a group of stakeholders that collaboratively plan and operate the CoC and a range of housing and services to prevent and end homelessness. The TX BoS CoC covers 215 counties and includes Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) that plan, deliver, and evaluate local systems.

## Announcements



With the end of the year so near, we want to wish you and yours best wishes for this holiday season. We also want to remind you that our offices will be closed starting December 20th and will return to normal operating hours on January 5th, 2022.

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# You're Invited

The CoC General Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, **December 8th, 2:00-3:30**, by webinar.

- Main Topic – HOME-ARP and the House America Initiative
- Data Snapshot – Housing Gap in the TX BoS CoC
- Community Conversation – How BoS Communities are Using HOME-ARP Funds

[Register](#) to attend the meeting. You can also download the [Draft Agenda](#), and a printable [Event Flyer](#) to invite others to the meeting.

Everyone is invited! Please share this information with people in your community, including people experiencing homelessness and staff from jurisdictions that received HOME-ARP funds from HUD.

THN is hiring! Learn more about the opportunities to join our team as we work to end homelessness.



## Systems Change Manager

The Systems Change Manager works with the Systems Change Team which is a part of the TX BoS CoC's Planning team. This position oversees projects and supervises the day-to-day operations of the Systems Change Specialist, Systems Change Coordinator, and VISTA positions (related to Coordinated Entry). The Systems Change Manager will support systems change efforts by leading and facilitating the management, oversight, and evaluation of Coordinated Entry in the TX BoS CoC. This posting will remain open until filled. [Click here to learn more and apply now.](#)

## Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Manager

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Manager is a part of the TX BoS CoC's Planning team and is part of a smaller EHV sub-team consisting of the EHV Manager, EHV Referral Coordinator, and EHV Service Coordinator. The EHV Manager will oversee the implementation of the EHV Program in the TX BoS CoC. This position will provide guidance and oversight to THN staff contributing to this project, support to TDHCA staff, and develop and maintain relationships with partner agencies across the TX BoS CoC. This posting will remain open until filled. [Click here to learn more and apply now.](#)

## Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Service Coordinator

The Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) Service Coordinator is a part of the TX BoS CoC's Planning team and is part of a smaller EHV sub-team consisting of the EHV Manager, EHV Referral Coordinator, and EHV Service Coordinator. The EHV Service Coordinator will provide technical assistance, education, and training to staff, agencies, and communities. This position is responsible for the maintenance of service contracts with referral partners across the service area, and the timely processing of reimbursement requests made by those partners to THN. This posting will remain open until filled. [Click here to learn more and apply now.](#)

## Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Accounts Payable Specialist

The EHV Accounts Payable (A/P) Specialist will work closely with the EHV Manager and CFO to request funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) based on estimated funds needed on a monthly basis for our subcontractors to cover the needs of their communities in an 185-county area in Texas. This position will

perform various general accounting tasks related to reviewing, processing, and maintaining accounts payable records under the EHV program. This posting will remain open until filled. [Click here to learn more and apply now.](#)

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### **TX BoS CoC Committees Policy and TX BoS CoC Board Requirements Policy. Open for Public Comment**

The TX BoS CoC Board has requested that the CoC Committees Policy and CoC Board Requirements Policy be revised to provide guidance on the election of new board and committee members.

To review and comment on the proposed revisions, visit the [Public Comment Portal](#) beginning December 3rd. Click on "Items Open for Public Comment" and follow the instructions in the document to submit comments. The first round of public comments will close on January 10, 2022.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Governance Coordinator Margaret Hill at [margaret@thn.org](mailto:margaret@thn.org).

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### **HUD's Equal Access Tool**

The Equal Access Rule Assessment Tool has been updated and re-released. This tool provides specific action steps for HUD recipients and sub-recipients to meet the requirements of the [Equal Access Rule](#) in shelters and other facility settings. The tool covers:

- Requirements regarding the creation of policies and procedures
- The responsibility to train staff and contractors
- Communication to residents about their rights and protections

Three action steps are provided based on the assessment responses and the most critical steps necessary for creating inclusive and safe access. The provider can retake the assessment for new priority steps at any time. This is a companion tool to the [Equal Access Guide for Transgender People: Supporting Inclusive Housing and Shelters](#) and [Equal Access Training Scenarios](#).

Access the tool [here](#).

For additional resources for homeless LGBTQ individuals and families and service providers, [visit the LGBTQ Homelessness page](#)

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### **ESG Client File Checklist**

We are happy to now be able to provide ESG sub-recipients with Client File Checklist templates. The top-level matrix is being provided for program administrators to define a checklist of documents that should be in a client file to meet HUD ESG documentation requirements for client files. You can find this file linked at the end of the "Useful Overview Information" section of the [ESG page of our website](#). If you have any questions about this matrix, the checklists and supporting provided forms, please contact [esg@thn.org](mailto:esg@thn.org).

## Important Dates

### December

#### **December 2021 CoC General Meeting**

*Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM*

[Register Here](#)

#### **Austin Homelessness Advisory Council (AHAC) - Informing Policies, Practices, and Homelessness Services through Lived Experience Expertise**

*Tuesday December 7, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM*

AHAC facilitators and members will provide insights on forming and conducting impactful lived experience advisory groups.

[Register Here](#)

#### **December 2021 Ending Veteran Homelessness (EVH) Committee Meeting**

*Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM*

\*Closed Meeting

#### **December 2021 TX BoS Board Meeting**

*Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM*

\*Closed Meeting

#### **THN Winter Break**

THN will be closed for Winter Break starting December 20, 2021, and will re-open on January 5, 2022.

### January

\*No General Meeting in January

#### **January 2022 Ending Veteran Homelessness (EVH) Committee Meeting**

*Tuesday January 11, 2022, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM*

\*Closed Meeting

#### **Innovating Outreach: A New Relational Model for Case Management**

*Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM*

Gaining the trust of people experiencing homelessness can be a challenge. Yet, research tells us it's the relationship that creates change for our clients. Using the psychology of trust, learn how to leverage client-case manager relationships to connect people with resources they need. Resources discussed will focus on system diversion.

This webinar will address several critical components: 1) redefinition of diversion; 2) education on the use of creative problem-solving in diversion practices; 3) the unique psychology of trust within the homeless population and how it impacts the client-case manager alliance.

[Register here](#)

#### **January 2022 TX BoS Board Meeting**

*Wednesday January 19, 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM*

\*Closed Meeting

#### **Racism in the Helping Professions**

*Wednesday January 26, 2022, 1:00-4:00 PM*

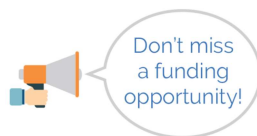
In this training, attendees will learn how to identify racism and oppression in a setting, the difference between your individual and systemic behaviors, and receive tools to implement anti-racist and anti-oppressive praxis in your interactions. (\$60)

[Register Here](#)

See more events on [THN's Training and Events calendar](#).

Our webinar platform is Adobe Connect, please make sure you are using the most up to date software from Adobe's [Downloads and Updates page](#)

## Opportunities & Funding



### Funding Opportunities

Check out the page on THN's website for the full descriptions of currently available funding options [here](#).

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### Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (ERA 2)

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) is pleased to announce a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) of \$84,000,000 in Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (ERA 2) Housing Stability Services (HSS) funds. Cities, counties, councils of governments, public housing authorities, private nonprofit organizations, and other eligible organizations, per U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) regulations, may apply for funds to provide housing stability services to income-eligible households that are experiencing housing instability.

The NOFA is available at <https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/HSS.htm>.

**Applications are due by 5 p.m., Austin local time, on Friday, January 7, 2022.**

Please contact HSS staff at [hss@tdhca.state.tx.us](mailto:hss@tdhca.state.tx.us) with additional questions.

## What's Happening across the TX BoS CoC?

### North

[Homeless camping ban brings up new concerns as winter approaches](#) (Denton County)

[Domestic violence victims in fear of being homeless as rural Ennis shelter may shut down](#) (Ellis County)

### South

[Walk with the Homeless event spreading awareness of the homeless experience in Victoria](#) (Victoria County)

[Homelessness increases during the holidays](#) (Victoria County)

### East

[Texarkana nonprofit provides free flu shots to homeless population](#) (Bowie County)

['Home Sweet Home' homeless shelter opening soon in Beaumont ahead of the holidays](#) (Jefferson County)



[East Texas Christian radio station, Hiway 80 Rescue Mission collecting hygiene products for those in need](#) (Smith County)

[Grant awarded to local organization to help people experiencing homelessness](#) (Smith County)

[Beaumont homeless community is gifted meals and more](#) (Jefferson County)

### **West**

[Lubbock's Open Door gets \\$1M Bezos fund grant](#) (Lubbock)

[When sleeping is illegal: homeless in the Concho Valley](#) (Tom Green County)

### **Central**

[Temple nonprofit helps man experiencing homelessness reunite with family](#) (Bell County)

[Kyle approves resolution to install anti-solicitation signs at busy intersection](#) (Hays County)

[Temple nonprofit that helps homeless in need of volunteers to help expand services](#) (Bell County)

These articles were gathered from Google Alerts and emails sent directly to us. If you have articles about your community's efforts to prevent and end homelessness that you want to be highlighted in our next newsletter, please email the articles to [txboscoc@thn.org](mailto:txboscoc@thn.org).

## **Member Feedback**

In our efforts to stay transparent and up to date with our members, we are creating this anonymous feedback form for members of the TX BoS CoC to provide any input they want the TX BoS CoC staff and Board to know about.

**Provide Your Feedback Here!**

## **Get Involved**

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 members 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 Meeting minutes and recordings are posted on THN's website, in the ["Get Involved" page](#). Presentations by and conversations between CoC members and staff on relevant topics keep members informed and updated.

Share this email with anyone you think may be interested!

**CoC General Meeting Schedule**

Stay informed about CoC happenings by participating in the bi-monthly webinars. Each meeting will feature a topic that is important to preventing and ending homelessness. See the [Get Involved page](#) for dates, topics, and registration links.

**CoC Program Funding**

If you are a representative of an agency that is interested in applying for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program funding, please contact [txboscoc@thn.org](mailto:txboscoc@thn.org).

The TX BoS CoC is a focus area of the Texas Homeless Network.

See what's happening on our social sites

