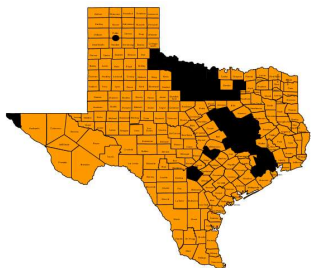


SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care News

February 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 28 Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) that plan, deliver, and evaluate local systems.

Announcements

You're Invited

The next **CoC General Meeting** will be held on **February 10th, from 2:00-3:30.**

Main topic — CoC Gaps Analysis by [Homebase](#)

Community Conversation — Responding to COVID-19

Data Snapshot – TX BoS CoC's Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) Report

Committee Updates

[Register for the meeting here](#)

For accessibility needs, contact Mary Stahlke at mary@thn.org or 512-861-2180.



Coordinated Entry Assessment Specialist - 2 Openings

THN is seeking two Coordinated Entry Assessment Specialists to perform assessments of vulnerability on households seeking assistance in the TX BoS CoC. The Assessment Specialists will interact directly with people seeking assistance, to evaluate needs

and to make referrals for housing and services as an integral part of THN's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants must be bilingual in English and Spanish.

The position can be located anywhere in Texas, with preference given to people who live and work in the TX BoS CoC. The position provides flexibility to work from a remote location without the standard support available at an office. [Read More and Apply Now](#)

Recruiting for the Independent Review Team (IRT)

THN is recruiting for the Independent Review Team (IRT) for the 2021 CoC Program competition. We are seeking direct service providers (case managers, intake workers, shelter staff, etc.) and community stakeholders to score applications for CoC Program funding. Serving on the IRT is an opportunity to influence CoC programming within the BoS CoC. IRT members will be paid a stipend.



If you are interested in serving on the IRT, please [complete this Google Form](#).

Feel free to share this information with people with lived experience of homelessness and other community stakeholders.

Join the Community Investment Committee

The TX BoS CoC's Community Investment Committee (CIC) is seeking additional regional representation! The goal of the CIC is to make decisions that ensure equitable access across the CoC to funding and professional development opportunities.

The TX BoS CoC Board recently voted to increase regional representation from one (1) committee representative per region to two (2) per region. Six (6) seats are open, one from each region. Nominations are open to anyone who lives or works in the TX BoS CoC until **11:59:59 PM on Sunday, February 28, 2021**.

To nominate yourself or someone else, [please fill out this form](#).

Questions about this process can be directed to jim@thn.org.



2021 Housing Inventory Count

The annual [Housing Inventory Count \(HIC\)](#) is underway!

If you represent an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, or Permanent Supportive Housing project, ensure that your **HIC is submitted by 2/11/21**.

Enter data into the Submission Portal: <https://hicsurvey.thn.org/> or [Ask a HIC Question](#)

Survey: **2021 Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness**

It is our priority to respect what keeps our communities and agencies safe while also providing crucial, ongoing education that continues to elevate the quality of homeless services across the



state. Therefore, we are asking a few questions to gauge whether or not you, or your agency, will be able to attend THN's 2021 Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness.

[Answer our 2-minute survey today.](#)

Beyond this survey, we also invite you to email samantha@thn.org with any more information or feedback you have about this year's conference.

FY 2020 CoC Program: Non-Competitive Funding Renewals

The Fiscal Year 2020 CoC Program funding process has been abridged because of COVID-19. On January 29th, 2021, HUD announced a non-competitive process to distribute funds to current CoC Program-funded projects whose current grants expire in calendar year 2021. For more information, [please visit the HUD Exchange](#)



Texas Eviction Diversion Program (TEDP)

The Supreme Court of Texas has established the Texas Eviction Diversion Program (TEDP). With [funding allocated by Governor Greg Abbott](#) through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the program seeks to reduce the number of evictions by enabling landlords and tenants to agree upon a resolution to non-payment of rent issues.

Feb 1st - NEW COUNTIES ADDED

Bell | Brazoria | Cameron | Collin | Dallas | Denton | Fort Bend | Galveston | Hidalgo | Lubbock | Nueces | Tarrant | Taylor | Tom Green | Travis | Victoria | Webb |

[Read more here](#)



TDHCA Allocates ESG CARES Act 2nd Round Funds

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs has announced more than \$61 million has been awarded to approximately 50 organizations to assist people experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. Funds were made possible through the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed in March 2020. [Read more here](#)

Find Shelter Tool from HUD

find shelter

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Find Shelter tool provides information about housing, shelter, health care, and clothing resources in communities across the country. [Check out the tool here](#)

Important Dates

FEBRUARY

February 2021 General Meeting

Wednesday 10 February 2021, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Topic: CoC Gaps Analysis

Register [here](#)

February 2021 Executive Committee of the CoC Board

Thursday 4 February 2021, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

Homelessness and Domestic Violence: Laws, Regulations, and Resources to Support Survivors

Tuesday 9 February 2021, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

With over 80% of families experiencing homelessness also being survivors of domestic violence, it is imperative that housing and homeless advocates have tools to support these vulnerable families. This workshop will equip participants to understand state and federal laws and regulations that protect survivors in housing, including the role of Coordinated Entry in supporting housing access.

Register [here](#)

February 2021 CESC Meeting

Tuesday 16 February 2021, 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

*Closed Meeting

February 2021 SPC Meeting

Thursday 18 February 2021, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

February 2021 Data Committee Meeting

Tuesday 23 February 2021, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

February 2021 TX BoS Board Meeting

Wednesday 24 February 2021, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

MARCH

*No CoC General Meeting in March

March 2021 Executive Committee of the CoC Board

Thursday 4 March 2021, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

March 2021 CESC Meeting

Tuesday 16 March 2021, 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

*Closed Meeting

March 2021 TX BoS Board Meeting

Wednesday 24 March 2021, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

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](#).

New Grant Announcements

[Healthy Community Collaborative Grant Program](#)

[Texas Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program \(TEMAP\)](#)

Homelessness Awareness Day (HAD)

Join us on April 7, 2021, for THN's first-ever virtual Homelessness Awareness Day (HAD). Participants will have the opportunity to meet with the offices of their own state legislators to talk about the issues facing people experiencing homelessness and low-income renters. We are also looking for HAD Captains who can help organize members of their own community to participate in these meetings.

[Sign up to be a HAD participant and/or Captain here](#).

LBJ School of Public Affairs: CONNECT Program

The RGK Center at the LBJ School of Public Affairs has opened their application portal for the Summer 2021 cohort of its CONNECT Program. Through this program, the RGK Center pairs agencies that are looking for data assistance with an LBJ student. Organizations are expected to make a financial contribution toward program fellowships, but inability to make a financial contribution does not prohibit participation. You do not have to have your projects fully conceptualized to apply. The **deadline is March 19th**.

Click [here](#) for more information and to fill out the application.

What's Happening across the TX BoS CoC?

North

[Kaufman County to Participate in the 2021 Point-in-Time Homeless Count](#) (Kaufman County)

South

['The numbers have grown': Victoria's annual homeless count takes place amid pandemic](#) (Victoria County)

Central

[Network attempts to quantify local homeless](#) (Williamson County)

East

[Salvation Army of Lufkin reopens facility for homeless population](#) (Angelina County)

West

[Abilene stays at 'functional zero' for homelessness](#) (Taylor 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.

Staff Recommendations

The following are resources TX BoS CoC Lead Agency staff at THN believe would be beneficial to your efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time:



CoC Programs Coordinator, Kraig Blaize-Fiero recommends:

["Best Practices for State and Local Emergency Rentals Assistance Programs"](#)
from the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)

"This document outlines key considerations and answers frequently asked questions for states and local jurisdictions as they plan to distribute the \$25 billion in emergency rental assistance. While this new infusion of emergency rental assistance is inadequate to keep all impacted renters stably housed for an extended time, it is a significant down payment on meeting tenants' longer-term needs. Here, we provide recommendations for program administrators and advocates to ensure marginalized populations can access emergency rental assistance, those with the greatest needs are prioritized for assistance, and assistance is distributed in an equitable manner"

Systems Change Manager, Linda Xiong, recommends:

["Orchestrating Systems-Level Change in the Battle Against COVID-19"](#)
By Jeff Walker & English Sall in the Stanford Social Innovation Review

The pandemic has illuminated the inadequacies of traditional systems, which are difficult to fix by themselves. The authors present a systems-level approach which includes "engaging 'top-around' coordinators or 'orchestrators' - individuals or organizations that foster timely, effective cross-sector partnerships and activate new allies to produce outcomes existing institutions can't achieve." Importantly, systems-level change is not about standing up temporary networks or systems. Instead, it is about forming networks and systems that outlast short-term issues and this requires governments at all levels, foundations, universities, and others to invest in and embed orchestrators in communities.

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 TX BoS CoC "Get Involved" page at <https://www.thn.org/texas->

[balance-state-continuum-care/get-involved/](#). Presentations by and conversations between CoC members and staff on relevant topics keep members informed and up-to-date.

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 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program funding, please contact txboscoc@thn.org.

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

See what's happening on our social sites

