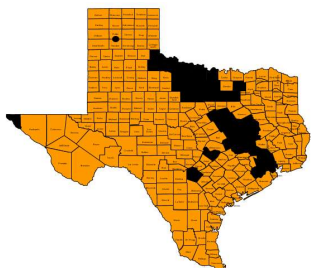SHARE:

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Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care News
May 2022

Texas Homeless Network (THN) is the lead agency for the [Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care](#). The TX BoS CoC is a group of stakeholders in 215 counties that collaboratively plan and operate the CoC and a range of housing and services to prevent and end homelessness.

Announcements

Persons with Lived Experience of Homelessness

Texas Homeless Network (THN), as the lead agency of the TX BoS CoC, is recruiting individuals with current or recent experience of homelessness to serve on an advisory workgroup. This Persons with Lived Experience (PLE) Workgroup, will provide Texas Homeless Network staff and the TX BoS CoC Board with valuable input on homeless services within the TX BoS CoC.

Individuals with recent (within the last 7 years) or current experience of homelessness that live within the [geographic boundaries of the TX BoS CoC](#) can serve on the PLE Workgroup. There are six (6) open seats on the committee, one from each region of the TX BoS CoC. This form is for nominees from all regions. Please see the map of the regions and the list of the counties below to determine which region your county is in. Please be aware that not all applicants will be selected for the workgroup.

For more information about committee activities, time commitment, and compensation, please review the [Persons with Lived Experience Workgroup Recruitment Information](#) document.

If you would like to be part of this workgroup, please fill out the [Interest Form](#) before **Wednesday, June 22, 2022**.
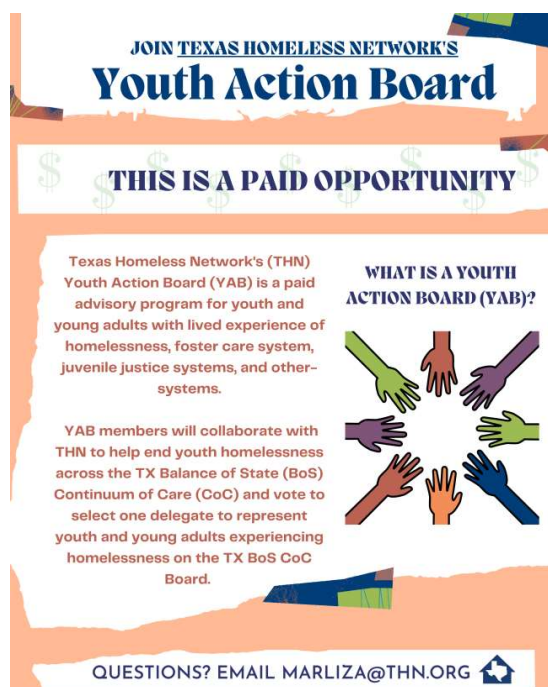
Youth Action Board (YAB)

Texas Homeless Network (THN), as the lead agency of the TX BoS CoC, is recruiting for a Youth Action Board (YAB). The YAB is a paid advisory program for youth and young adults with lived experience of homelessness, foster care system, juvenile justice systems, and other-systems.

YAB members will collaborate with THN to help end youth homelessness across the TX BoS CoC and vote to select one delegate to represent youth and young adults experiencing homelessness on the TX BoS CoC Board.

Applicants must be 16-24 years old, have lived experience of homelessness, foster care or juvenile justice systems and live within a county in the TX BoS CoC.

To apply for the Youth Action Board simply fill out this survey by visiting the link or using the QR code. If you have trouble accessing the document contact marliza@thn.org.

HOME-ARP Program

The HOME Investment Partnerships-American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP) provides funding to HOME participating jurisdictions (states and certain counties and cities) to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability. Eighteen jurisdictions in the TX BoS CoC (TX-607) plus the State received HOME-ARP funds to provide housing and services to people experiencing homelessness, people at risk of experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable populations.

Jurisdictions must complete a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan that says how HOME-ARP funds will be used in their communities. Jurisdictions are required to consult with certain groups, including CoCs and homeless services providers.
- Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) members and homeless services providers have important local information and data for jurisdictions, so look for opportunities to give input, or contact your community development department.
- THN also encourages communities to talk with individuals with lived experience of homelessness, people with disabilities, as well as Black, Indigenous, and Latine

people and other people of color, who are disproportionately represented in the homeless population.

HUD has created a [Discussion Guide for HOME-ARP Consultation Meetings](#).

Several groups have advocated for using HOME-ARP funds in specific ways. See ideas on [strategies for using HOME-ARP](#); [prioritizing permanent supportive housing and affordable housing](#); [addressing racial disparities](#); and [assisting families involved in the child welfare system](#).

For more information, contact Mary Stahlke, Director of Engagement, at mary@thn.org.

2022 THN Award Nomination Form

We know countless unsung heroes are among us, and we want to uplift them with you. Nominate an individual or agency in your community that you want to receive a 2022 THN Annual Award.

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, MAY 21ST.

The award winners and the person submitting the nomination will be notified by Wednesday, June 15th.

Award Categories:

-- Outstanding Community Service --
Recognizes an individual or group that has worked to advance policies that positively affect individuals, families, and/or youth experiencing homelessness or created innovative solutions to end homelessness in their community. This category includes, but is not limited to, elected officials and members of the media.

-- Outstanding Community Organization --
Recognizes programs of a community organization that has strengthened and helped build its community.

-- Outstanding Case Manager --
Recognizes an individual who works to improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and/or youth by going above and beyond their job description.

Submit your nomination today!

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Research and Development VISTA at THN

Join Texas Homeless Network's (THN's) Data team to help improve database maintenance, create materials for funding sources, and provide support to the TX BoS CoC Data Committee.

As the HMIS VISTA, you will serve with the Data and Policy Analyst in determining needs and developing a plan of improvement for the TX BoS CoC Data Committee. You will also work with the Director of Data and data team at large to determine needs and develop a plan of improvement for database maintenance and funding specific training guidance including Runaway Homeless Youth (RHY) and Projects for Assistance in Transition from

Homelessness (PATH). You will evaluate programs and resources established throughout the project and develop a plan for sustainability.

Benefits:
- $1,226 monthly living allowance
- $6,000 Segal Education Award or $1,800 cash stipend upon completion of service

Click here to learn more and apply now.

Important Dates

MAY

No CoC General Membership Meeting this month

May 2022 CoC Board's Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 5, 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM
*Closed Meeting

May 2022 Ending Veteran Homelessness (EVH) Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
*Closed Meeting

Creativity, Complexity, & Common Understanding: How Do We Address Affordable Housing?
Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 2:00-3:30:00 PM CDT
What forms of community dialogue increase our common understanding of an issue carrying so many meanings, from shelter to wealth? This webinar identifies approaches to a critical issue. Presenters and participants will share methods for empowering diverse stakeholders, exploring prevailing assumptions, fact-finding for local conditions, sharing lived experiences, and finding momentum for long-haul changes in the housing system. We will demonstrate conversation methods grounded in arts and design, and exercise techniques for sustaining attention on an issue that won't go away.
Click here to register

Building an Effective Homeless Response System: Getting Ready for the 2022 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Thursday, May 12, 12:30 PM – 1:30pm CST
What does an effective homeless response system do? What elements and partnerships enable a homeless system to make real impacts for people experiencing homelessness? And how can you start thinking about the 2022 CoC NOFO as a vehicle to build such a system?
Join the National Alliance to End Homelessness as it relaunches its SYSTEM Series to kick off a new series of webinars, blog posts, and resources designed to strengthen your system and prepare for the 2022 CoC NOFO.
Click here to register.

May 2022 TX BoS CoC Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM
*Closed Meeting

JUNE

June 2022 CoC General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM

Click here to register.

June 2022 CoC Board's Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 2, 2022, 2:00-3:30 PM
*Closed Meeting

June 2022 Ending Veteran Homelessness (EVH) Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
*Closed Meeting

TX BoS CoC Orientation
Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 2:00-3:00 PM
Learn more about the CoC at this webinar hosted by THN staff. More info to come!

June 2022 TX BoS CoC Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 2:00-3:30 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

Don't miss a funding opportunity!

Check out the page on THN's website for the full descriptions of currently available funding opportunities here.

Street Outreach Program: HHS-2022-ACF-ACYF-YO-0062

The Street Outreach Program (SOP) provides street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of being subjected to sexual abuse, prostitution, sexual exploitation, and severe forms of human trafficking in persons. These services, targeted in areas where street youth congregate, are designed to assist such youth in making healthy choices and providing them access to shelter as well as basic needs, including food, hygiene packages, and information on a range of available services.

Closing Date for Applications: June 6, 2022, 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time

Click here to find out more and apply

New Onboarding Toolkits for ESG-Funded Program Staff

HUD.GOV

Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) recipients and sub-recipients have quickly scaled up rapid re-housing (RRH) and targeted prevention efforts, including repositioning existing staff, adding new staff, and/or rapidly refilling vacated positions due to COVID-19. New

staff may not have received in-depth training on the best practices that promote successful outcomes for people experiencing homelessness.

Each of the new Onboarding Toolkits provides a series of informational training videos and resources to orient and train new or transitioning staff who serve as Grant Administrators, Program Directors, RRH Supervisors, and RRH Case Managers.

Click here to view the toolkits.

What's Happening across the TX BoS CoC?

North
Lamar, 9 counties join forces to fight homelessness (Lamar, et al counties)

South
New Braunfels homeless program sees the need for services rise (Comal County)

City of Corpus Christi and Nueces County working to update program to help those unable to pay rent (Nueces County)

East
City of Port Arthur to remove homeless camp from private property off 9th Ave. (Jefferson County)

West
Sharp decline in homelessness in Lubbock over 5 years (Lubbock County)

Central
A One-Woman Rescue Squad for Homeless Students (Bastrop 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.

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!

Staff Recommendations

The following are resources TX BoS CoC Lead Agency staff have found that we believe would be beneficial to your local efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time:. This month's recommendations come from Jen Beardsley, Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) Coordinator.

- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Applicant Self-Help Toolkit to help guide applicants through the application process when they do not have access to an SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR)-trained provider. The guide is available in 16 languages. SAMHSA's SOAR program trains service providers and volunteers how to assist eligible adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or co-occurring substance use disorder apply for SSI and SSDI benefits. To learn more, visit https://soarworks.samhsa.gov/.

- Guide to Methamphetamine Use, Treatment, and Housing Considerations for People Experiencing Homelessness gives supportive housing providers guidance on harm-reduction approaches to support people experiencing homelessness and methamphetamine use disorder transitioning into supportive housing. The Homeless Housing and Resource Center, a collaboration between the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and Policy Research Inc. (PRI), offers the guide in English and Spanish.

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.

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

See what's happening on our social sites