

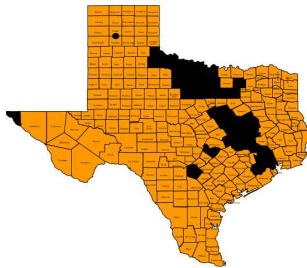
SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care News

October 2020



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

COUNT US IN

The 2021 Point-in-Time
Count is

January 28th, 2021

Texas Balance of State
Continuum of Care

The 2021 PIT count is officially occurring on **Thursday, January 28th, 2021!** Visit the PIT and HIC page on the [THN website](#) for more information.



New TX BoS CoC HMIS VISTA

Please join us in welcoming Ann Nguyen to our team!

Ann is the HMIS Vista at THN, working alongside the data team to help build tools and strategies for HMIS users so they can interact with data, allowing them to make decisions for the people they are serving.

With a passion for data and public health, she strives for increasing data equity and access to comprehensive technological resources in the health sector.



New TX BoS Barriers Fund Coordinator

Please join us in welcoming Anja Taylor to our team!

Anja serves as the Barriers Fund Coordinator at THN. In this role, she is responsible for establishing and managing the Barriers Fund across the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care. The Barriers Fund helps ensure Texas residents have a safe and stable place to call home.

Anja is a passionate change-maker with expertise in grants management, technical communication, restorative justice, and conflict resolution. She holds a Bachelor of General Studies degree from Texas Tech University, and a Master's degree in Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management from Southern Methodist University.

Anja has a deep desire to help others and utilizes her skills to support nonprofits that serve to elevate the human experience.

2021 Fair Market Rents (FMRs)

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released 2021 Fair Market Rents (FMRs), which will be effective starting Thursday, October 1, 2020. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) annual fund sub-recipients must ensure they use the most updated FMRs released by HUD. The FMR waiver for ESG annual funds on new leases granted by HUD expires **September 30, 2020**.

FMRs are available at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr.html>. For those ESG annual fund sub-recipients in places with Small Area FMRs, please use the FMR information for other programs; Small Area FMRs cannot be used for ESG.

For ESG Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) sub-recipients, the FMR requirement has been waived. However, the rent reasonableness requirement still applies to program participants receiving rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention.

Questions about this notice should be directed to esg@tdhca.state.tx.us.

Important Dates

OCTOBER

PSH Research Opportunity- Interest Session

Tuesday 13 October 2020, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Evaluating the efficacy of homeless services in a rural setting is challenging. Join us for an interest session, to learn more about an exciting opportunity to evaluate PSH in a rural setting!

Who Should Attend:

- CoC Program Permanent Supportive Housing Programs

Register [Here](#)

Coordinated Entry Racial Equity Analysis: Findings from a Multi-Community Study

Tuesday 13 October 2020, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Topic: Although designed to prioritize those with the greatest need, Coordinated Entry Systems may be perpetuating systemic racial inequities through the use of untested tools like the VI-SPADT.

Who Should Attend:

- General THN Members,
- TX BoS Membership,
- Local Homeless Coalitions
- General Community Members

Register [Here](#)

October 2020 General Meeting

Wednesday 14 October 2020, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Topic: CoC Governance Charter and other governance documents

Register [Here](#)

October 2020 CESC Meeting

Tuesday 20 October 2020, 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

The TX BoS CoC will be hosting a virtual meeting for the Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC). The CESC provides direct support and guidance to the CoC's systems change efforts

*Closed Meeting

October Texas Balance of State Data Committee Meeting

Tuesday 27 October 2020, 01:00 PM - 02:30 PM

This will be the first Texas Balance of State Data Committee Meeting where we will cover introductions, the purpose of the committee, and review documents like the HMIS Policies and Procedures.

*Closed Meeting

Homelessness in Texas: Our Struggles, Our Successes, Our Future

Tuesday 27 October 2020, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Over the last year, our country and state experienced unprecedented challenges, resilient successes, and shifts toward a better future. Join Texas Homeless Network as we invite speakers from around the state and the country to examine the state of homelessness in Texas and the future ahead.

Register [Here](#)

October 2020 TX BoS Board Meeting

Wednesday 28 October 2020, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

NOVEMBER

**No CoC General Meeting in November*

November 2020 CESC Meeting

Tuesday 17 November 2020, 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

The TX BoS CoC will be hosting a virtual meeting for the Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC). The CESC provides direct support and guidance to the CoC's systems change efforts

*Closed Meeting

November 2020 TX BoS Board Meeting

Wednesday 18 November 2020, 02:00 PM - 04:00 PM

*Closed Meeting

DECEMBER**December 2020 General Meeting**

Wednesday 9 December 2020, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Topic: Ending Veteran Homelessness: Identification, Outreach, and Engagement

Register [Here](#)

December 2020 CESC Meeting

Tuesday 15 December 2020, 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

The TX BoS CoC will be hosting a virtual meeting for the Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC). The CESC provides direct support and guidance to the CoC's systems change efforts

*Closed Meeting

December 2020 TX BoS Board Meeting

Wednesday 16 December 2020, 02:00 PM - 03:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

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

Opportunities



Open Funding Opportunities

We are currently in the process of adding a new section to our website to help collect all funding opportunities made available to Texas including city, state, and federal programs.

In the meantime check out this PDF of all current available funding options [here](#)



Coming Soon!

Texas Homeless Network Brings Barrier Fund to TX BoS CoC

The Texas Homeless Network is thrilled to announce that staff are working to establish a Barriers Fund that will provide financial resources to the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care. Funded by the [Community Services Block Grant CARES Act State Discretionary Funds](#) (CSBG-CV-D), the Barriers Fund will provide direct services to low-income households that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.

Additional education and training around the Barriers Fund will be provided in the upcoming months, so be sure to join our [outreach list](#) if you are interested in receiving future program announcements.

Anja Taylor, Barriers Fund Coordinator, is here to support communities who have questions about the Barriers Fund. If you have questions, please email: anja@thn.org.

Fund for Veterans' Assistance



The Texas Veterans Commission has posted the [2021-2022 Fund for Veterans' Assistance Request for Applications](#) in General Assistance, Housing 4 Texas Heroes, Veterans Mental Health, Veterans Treatment Court, and Veterans County Service Officer funding.

Application webinars, guides, and resources are available on the "Apply Home" website below. Questions on this funding opportunity must be emailed to RFAquestions@tvc.texas.gov by October 28, 2020. Answers will be posted in the FAQ tab of the [TVC Grants Portal](#) twice weekly, on Wednesdays and Fridays, during the open application window.

The deadline to submit all applications is **November 5, 2020**, at 5:00 p.m. (CDST). Award decisions will be made by the Commission in May 2021.

Join the TX BoS Data Committee

Texas Balance of State (TX BoS) is looking for individuals interested in data! TX BoS wants to work hand in hand with community members to establish expectations around data collection, use, and upkeep. In order to do this, TX BoS has established a Data Committee to focus specifically on Texas Balance of State HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) data.

The purpose of the TX BoS Data Committee is to provide data-driven insight and education to multiple groups/stakeholders about homelessness in the Texas Balance of State. The TX BoS Data Committee would also be a way of providing feedback from HMIS end users on specific data matters such as HMIS Policies and Procedures, the HMIS Data Quality and Management Plan, data security, Point In Time Count information, and the TX BoS HMIS implementation.

The Data Committee had previously been put on hold due to COVID-19. We understand that this turbulent time means many people are stretched thin, and they may not have the capacity to participate like they might in normal times. **We want to be transparent that committee members should be able to commit to 1-3 hours a month to the committee.** This time would include webinars, calls, and reviews of data and policy documents.

If you are interested in participating in the Data Committee, [please fill out this interest form.](#)

If you have any questions about the committee, feel free to reach out to data@thn.org.

what's happening

Across the TX BoS CoC...

North

[City officials address concerns about San Angelo homeless under Chadbourne Street bridge](#) (San Angelo)

South

[Local volunteers provide meals for homeless](#) (Corpus Christi)

East

[Celebrating Hispanic Heritage: Tyler barber gives back to community with haircuts](#) (Tyler)

West

[What's being done about San Angelo's homeless population, and how you can help](#) (San Angelo)

Central

[Authorities clear out homeless residents from beneath local interstate bridge](#) (Killeen)

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 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 have found that we believe would be beneficial to your local efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time:



This month's recommendation come from Kraig, our CoC Programs Assistant:

National Dislocated Worker Grants

"U.S. Department of Labor National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) are discretionary grants awarded to provide employment-related services for dislocated workers. The Department funds two types of DWGs: Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery. DWGs are time-limited funding assistance in response to major economic dislocations or other events that cause significant impact on states and local areas that exceed the capacity of existing formula funds and other relevant resources to address. Projects funded with DWG resources must be aligned with existing state and local strategic priorities, resources, and programs and not operated as stand-alone projects. Applicants should design and carry out DWG projects to operate in alignment with other state and local programs, including Rapid Response, layoff aversion, and the formula Dislocated Worker program and focused on addressing employment and training needs in states and local areas."

Read the full description [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 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

