

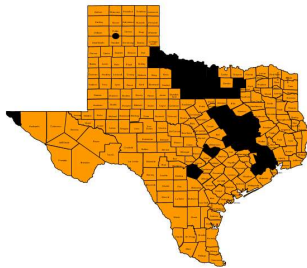
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Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care News

September 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

You're Invited

The next CoC General Membership Meeting will be held on **Monday, October 4th, from 9:00-11:30 a.m.**

The meeting is scheduled to be held in person in Houston immediately prior to the Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness and by webinar. The agenda will include a State of the CoC address from CoC Board Chair, Daphne' Adams, and a discussion about the CoC Strategic Plan, as well as time for networking with CoC Board members. Watch the [THN website](#) and [social media](#) and the [CoC's email list](#) for more details.

A Note from THN on COVID-19

We want to assure you that as we continue to plan for the annual Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness, the health and safety of our attendees, exhibitors, sponsors, speakers, and staff is our top priority. We continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as updates and recommendations. Since this situation remains fluid, we will be adapting and expanding our plans as needed. We will be sharing updates on the conference with registrants, partners, sponsors, exhibitors, and speakers in the coming weeks. In addition, please continue to check our website regularly for updates.

[Click here to register.](#)

Staff Updates

We are pleased to announce that four team members have received promotions:

- Kyra Henderson is now the Data Manager
- Margaret Hill is now the CoC Governance Coordinator
- Marliza Marin is now the Subpopulations Coordinator
- Katie Martinez is now the Systems Change Coordinator



And we're wishing some other team members farewell as they're moving on to positions with other agencies. So, THN is hiring! Learn more about all the opportunities to join our team as we work to end homelessness.

- [Chief Operating Officer](#)
- [Emergency Solutions Coordinator](#)
- [Emergency Housing Voucher Coordinator](#)
- [Systems Change Coordinator](#)

[Click here to learn more and apply today.](#)

Congratulations to the newly elected CoC Board members!

And thanks to all the CoC general members who voted.



Seat 1 – Persons with Lived Experience of Homelessness

- [John Meier](#) – Program Manager at West Central Texas Regional Foundation

Seat 3 – Chronically Homeless Persons

- [Andrea Omojola](#) – Chief Operating Officer at Lubbock Open Door

Seat 5 – Homeless Youth

- [Natasha Hayden](#) – Executive Director at North Texas Youth Connection

Seat 7 – Mental/Behavioral Health

- [Linda White](#) – Director at New Life Family Education

Seat 9 – Local Government

- [Courtney Cross](#) — Assistant Community Services Manager at the City of Denton

Seat 11 – Public Housing Agency

- [Ronnie Odom](#) — Director of Affordable Housing Programs at the Housing Authority of Texarkana, Texas

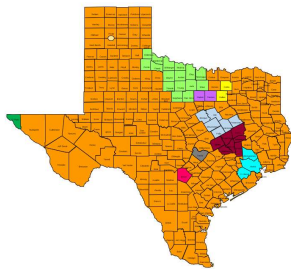
Seat 13 – Business

- [Daphne Jackson](#) – Admin. Assist/ Co-Owner at A Servant's Heart-Texas, LLC

Seat 15 – Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless (TICH) or State Government Agency

- [Marqus Butler](#) – Manager-V of Reentry Systems and Parole Operations, Texas Juvenile Justice Department

New board members' terms will begin in October and go through September 2023. More information about board members can be found on [THN's website](#).



Homelessness Prevention Assessment Tool - Optional for Communities

With the influx of homelessness prevention assistance funding from the CARES Act, the TX BoS CoC recognizes a need for a standardized approach to assessing and prioritizing referrals for prevention assistance. Currently, the CoC's Coordinated Entry (CE) process is not accessible to people at risk of

homelessness.

THN staff is publishing the Homelessness Prevention Tool and guidance as an optional tool to be used across agencies within a community. The tool has not yet been approved by the TX BoS CoC Board or the Coordinated Entry Steering Committee for use. Therefore, it is not yet an official part of the CE process. The tool is provided in two formats--paper and Excel--and is not in HMIS. THN staff will provide technical assistance as needed (please email the Systems Change team at CE@THN.org) and will continue to work on how to embed people at risk of homelessness into the CE process across the CoC.

Documents:

[Draft HP Tool and Guidance \(PDF\)](#)

[Draft HP Tool \(Excel Workbook\)](#)



National Summary of Homeless System Performance 2015-2020

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published a summary of system performance measures at the national and Continuum of Care (CoC) levels since FY 2015. [Read the summary here](#). For more visualizations of this data, [click here](#).

Guide to ARP Funding That Impacts People Experiencing Homelessness



United States Interagency
Council on Homelessness

The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has developed a "[Guide to American Rescue Plan Funding That Impacts People Experiencing Homelessness](#)." The guide is intended to help people navigate the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and the many ways it can prevent and end homelessness.

It provides an overview of how much money is available, for how long – and how it can be used for more than 30 funds and programs.

Inform the next Federal Strategic Plan!

The USICH is [seeking input](#) on the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The USICH has expressed its commitment that this plan will be guided by equity and evidence. Among the people who are encouraged to submit feedback are: people who have experienced homelessness; people who serve the LGBTQ, BIPOC, or veteran communities; and people whose work involves the justice system.

[Submit your feedback here](#)



Eviction Prevention Program Maturity Model

The Treasury Department, in collaboration with the U.S. Digital Service, released an [Eviction Prevention Program Maturity Model](#).

The model can help grantees shape a strategy and have actionable steps to address eviction diversion. A maturity model is a tool that helps organize strategy, practices, and processes into a framework that can act as a blueprint for building up stronger capabilities. This model is intended to aid Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) grantees and stakeholders in determining their program's current development stage and identify improvements that will facilitate increasingly robust, comprehensive, and effective approaches to ensuring housing stability within their jurisdictions.

[View the model on this page.](#)

Important Dates

September

*No General Meeting

September 2021 Executive Committee of the CoC Board

Thursday, September 2, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

HMIS and Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) Webinar

Tuesday, September 7, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM

-This training will cover how to enter Emergency Housing Voucher data into HMIS.

Who Should Attend: All Active TX BoS CoC HMIS users

[Register Here](#)

September 2021 CESC Meeting

Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 10:15-11:45 AM

*Closed Meeting

September 2021 TX BoS Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

2021 Annual HMIS Data Security and 2022 Data Standards Webinar

Thursday September 23, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM

-The annual Data Security training is required by HUD. To maintain HMIS compliance, all HMIS users must complete this webinar either live or in Litmos. This training will also include the introduction of the 2022 HMIS Data Standards which will be represented in HMIS starting October 1, 2021.

Who Should Attend: All Active TX BoS CoC HMIS users

[Register Here](#)

September 2021 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 30, 2021, 2:00-3:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

October

October 2021 General Meeting

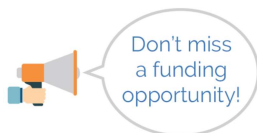
Monday, October 4, 2021, 9:00 -11:30 AM

[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](#).

USDA Emergency Rural Health Care Funds



Up to \$500 million in U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) grants is now available to help rural health care facilities, tribes, and communities expand access to COVID-19 vaccines, health care services, and nutrition assistance.

[Find out more here](#)



Shared Housing Learning Collaborative

The [Shared Housing Institute](#) is facilitating a [Shared Housing Learning Collaborative](#). "This collaborative process will entail weekly leadership workgroup meetings as well as eight 90-minute trainings on effective shared housing components for system-wide stakeholders." The initiative "provides local systems with expanded skills and tools to establish shared housing as a high-performing housing assistance option."

Shared housing is "when two or more unrelated people live in one rental unit and share common spaces." Shared housing can be a viable housing solution for preventing and ending homelessness.

Trainings are 90 minutes per week for 8 weeks and will start on **September 30th**. For more information, see the [Shared Housing National Learning Collaborative Overview](#).

What's Happening across the TX BoS CoC?

North

[Open Arms Homeless Shelter announces new Director](#) (Grayson County)

[Local business delivers \\$15k donation to support homeless teens](#) (Denton County)

South

[McAllen police: Homeless man in wheelchair dies following violent attack](#) (Hidalgo County)

[Two sophomore students at West Oso high school help out the homeless](#) (Nueces County)

East

[Guest commentary: Help is available for those struggling in Galveston County](#) (Galveston County)

West

[Open Door celebrates 75th resident now in permanent housing](#) (Lubbock County)

Central

[Woman finds hope at backyard homeless encampment](#) (Bastrop County)

[Killeen: 100 free meals provided for homeless and less fortunate](#) (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.

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

