

2021-22 CoC Action Plan -- Progress Report	
Quarter 2: 4/1/2022-6/30/2022	
Goal 1: Improve the Current Housing Crisis Response System	
Strategy 1: Integrate public and community-based services linked to outreach, engagement, shelter, and housing	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. System Performance Measure 3: Number of Homeless Persons	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 3. Number of agencies participating in Coordinated Entry	Baseline: 82 agencies currently participating in CE
Measure 4. Updated assessment standards and process in Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures	Baseline: THN is in the process of evaluating the entire Coordinated Entry process/ system at this time. Any updates are on hold until the Systems Change team has had time to understand the strengths within the current processes as well as the opportunities for change.
Measure 5. Increased use of existing processes and procedures available to communities, like the Domestic Violence (DV) workaround	Baseline: THN is in the process of evaluating the entire Coordinated Entry process/ system at this time. Any updates or increased participation initiatives are on hold until the Systems Change team has had time to understand the strengths within the current processes as well as the opportunities for change.
Activity 1.1a. Fully implement CE throughout the CoC	<p>Hiring new Systems Change Coordinator after previous person resigned. Continuing projects as discussed in Q1 report related to evaluating all CE regions and partnering with the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health (TIEMH) to brainstorm best practices for CE in rural communities.</p> <p>Selected the consultant that will be conducting the CE Evaluation which will hopefully provide actionable recommendations for how to improve CE across the BoS. Evaluation will be completed by the end of Q3.</p>

	<p>In the recruitment stage for vacant Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC) positions. Began meeting with Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) to discuss prioritization and assessment issues for survivors specifically.</p> <p>Selected the consultant that will be conducting the CE Evaluation which will hopefully provide actionable recommendations for how to improve CE across the BoS. Evaluation will be completed by the end of Q3.</p>
Activity 1.1b. Standardize assessment and prioritization	
Strategy 2: Improve communication and cooperation between communities in the same region to improve service delivery	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. System Performance Measure 3: Number of Homeless Persons	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 3. Number of agencies participating in Coordinated Entry	Baseline: 82 agencies currently participating in CE
Measure 4. Completed regionalization pilot project	Baseline: Regionalization project does not exist yet
Activity 1.2a. Explore regional planning and decentralized governance	On hold
Strategy 3: Increase capacity of local providers and communities	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. System Performance Measure 2: Returns to Homelessness	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 3. Identified current gaps in discharge planning	Baseline: This measure doesn't apply to Activity 1.3a. It applied to a different activity that staff did not select to be implemented in Year 1.
Measure 4. Formal incorporation of homeless prevention into the Coordinated Entry system	Baseline: There is an HP tool created and integrated into the workflow in HMIS, but only Endeavors and the Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in Hidalgo County have access to it currently.
Activity 1.3a. Promote the use of homeless prevention and diversion strategies to assist people experiencing	On hold
Strategy 4: Strengthen practices of local providers and communities	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. Update to the CoC Written Standards for Service Delivery	Baseline: Update scheduled to begin in Quarter 3 and finalized in Quarter 4.
Measure 3. Finalized Program Standards for Emergency Shelter	Baseline: to be incorporated in Written Standards with 2022 revision (Quarter 3)
Measure 4. Number of trainings offered by the CoC to providers	Baseline: All required trainings (3) have been identified; 0 have been offered in Quarter 1.

Measure 5. Completed development of a case management training series	Baseline: CM Training series outline exists
Activity 1.4b. Establish high "minimum standards" for emergency shelter (ES)	Further evaluation of existing ES Resources in the BoS through the Gaps analysis, made comment on changes to the Texas Administrative Code regarding the eligible uses of State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program as it relates to Emergency Shelter. Designing consultation process for 2021 State ESG Competition. No ES Focus Groups held.
Activity 1.4c. Promote the use of evidence-based practices such as Housing First, trauma-informed care, and harm reduction	Planning trainings for BoS general membership regarding Equal Access and regarding Trauma Informed Safety Planning for Survivors; exploring vendors for broader Case Management training
Goal 2: INCREASE SUPPLY OF, AVAILABILITY OF, AND ACCESS TO HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	
Strategy 1: Increase affordable housing options	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 2: Returns to Homelessness	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. System Performance Measure 5: First Time Homeless	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 3. System Performance Measure 7: Successful Placement to Permanent Housing	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 4. Increased housing stock in all Community Investment Committee (CIC) regions	Baseline: Not yet established
Measure 5. Community Investment Committee (CIC) actively participates in funding allocations	Baseline: CIC participates in all funding allocations, as directed by the CoC Board
Activity 2.1a. Assess the distribution of housing units and beds by component type, and work to have the supply meet the demand	Ongoing analysis of the 2020 Gaps Analysis assessing emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing (PSH) bed distribution across the CoC's geography, based on population
Strategy 5: Ensure the availability of housing for special populations of people experiencing homelessness (youth, veterans, families, chronically homeless persons)	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 7: Successful Placement to Permanent Housing	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. Identify top five communities where homelessness has a disparate impact on black and African American persons	Baseline: Data team is still working on this! We have not yet identified the top 5 communities.

Measure 3. Advisory group of persons with lived experience is established and operating	Baseline: Advisory group does not exist yet
Measure 4. Materials for engaging people currently experiencing homelessness are developed	Baseline: Materials are not developed yet
Activity 2.5a. Establish a workgroup within the TX BoS CoC to look at disparate impact of homelessness on Black or African American persons	Data team is working to identify the top 5 communities. We have a plan to use Census data and compare that to HMIS data. Capacity has not allowed for us to find these 5 communities yet, but we are meeting monthly to determine this. Our team has also begun looking at VI-SPDAT data of HMIS clients enrolled in CE and we have begun identifying communities where clients of certain racial demographics score higher or lower than the average for that community.
Activity 2.5b. Develop a plan to end Youth Homelessness and create a Youth Action Board (YAB) comprised of youth with lived experience of homelessness	Ending Youth Homelessness Committee (EYHC) Committee met twice in Q2. Active YAB recruitment with the Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS); primary THN staff member assigned to this metric submitted resignation at the end of Q2; plan to hire new person
Activity 2.5c. Develop a plan to end Veteran Homelessness	Ending Veteran Homelessness Committee (EVHC) continues to meet; work will be paused going into Q3 because of THN staffing capacity. Restructuring the Planning team to better meet committee needs
Goal 3: MORE EFFECTIVELY USE DATA TO INFORM DECISION-MAKING, MEASURE PROGRESS, AND SET GOALS FOR SUCCESS	
Strategy 1: Continuously improve homelessness data management	
Measure 1. Improved Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Quality metrics	Baseline: The data team is in the process of creating a data Quality improvement plan. Anticipating implementation date in the future
Measure 2. Improved performance on System Performance Measures (SPMs) identified by the Data Committee	Baseline: Data Committee has begun studying SPMs, and the staff support will continue to ask for input from the Committee on SPMs and how we can improve our performance

<p>Activity 3.1c. Conduct quarterly data quality checks and provide communities with more one-on-one and peer learning opportunities to enhance their data entry practices.</p>	<p>Staff have begun mapping out a new and improved Data Quality Plan where staff will check in with agencies quarterly or monthly, depending on the data element. We hosted a kick off webinar with our HMIS Administrators (a representative from each agency that uses HMIS) to discuss Phase 1 roll out of the new Data Quality plan on July 6th. The current phase 1 plan will begin on July 15 and our HMIS Admins have until August 15 to complete all data corrections. We are still working on making a plan for the Phase 2 roll out which will include more comprehensive data elements than phase 1. We will continue to check in with agencies on the phase 1 and phase 2 data elements monthly or quarterly, depending on the element.</p>
<p>Strategy 2: Increase HMIS participation in order to better understand the housing crisis response system</p>	
<p>Corresponding Data Measurement 1. Increased participation rate (i.e., the number of organizations using HMIS)</p>	<p>Baseline: 131 agencies participating as of 4/19/22</p>
<p>Corresponding Data Measurement 2. Number of Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) meetings attended by the Data Team</p>	<p>Baseline: 0</p>
<p>Activity 3.2a. Educate providers on the benefits of using HMIS and conduct targeted outreach of non-participating organizations</p>	<p>On hold. We have not prioritized this activity, as we feel we need to get a handle on the data quality of our currently participating agencies before we conduct targeted outreach.</p>
<p>Goal 4: INCREASE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, IMPROVE PUBLIC PERCEPTION, AND SHAPE PUBLIC POLICY</p>	
<p>Strategy 3. Increase community awareness and participation and community engagement around ending homelessness through coalition building, advocacy, volunteerism, and engagement</p>	
<p>Measure 1. Number of people new to homeless services who were introduced to homeless services using materials and the process that THN developed</p>	<p>Baseline: Materials and process do not exist yet</p>
<p>Measure 2. Increase in knowledge among persons new to homeless services, as evidenced by pre- and post-test training test scores</p>	<p>Baseline: Intro meetings have not been held yet</p>
<p>Measure 3. Increase in the number of people who were introduced to homeless services that subsequently began participating in their Local Homeless Coalition (LHC)</p>	<p>Baseline: Intro meeting have not been held yet</p>

Measure 4. Increased awareness of racial disparities, as evidenced by pre- and post-training test scores	Baseline: Trainings have not been held yet
Measure 5. Positive changes in the racial demographics reported in the homeless population report	Baseline: Data Team is in the process of identifying racial demographics/disparities within the HMIS system.
Measure 6. Increase in the number of programs participating in the Point in Time (PIT) Count	Baseline: # of Regions in 2022: 42 # of Counties in 2022: 55 #of Sheltered projects in 2022: 138
Activity 4.3a. Create content and process to introduce educational materials to people new to homeless services	CoC Orientation scheduled for June 15th. Will be recorded and posted on THN's website for viewing by anyone. Consulting with cities, counties, and the State that received HOME-ARP funds. Created "sources of homelessness data" list for HOME-ARP recipients that can be used for other planning, as well.. Outreach to potential LHC members (for example, Beaumont Mayor's Coalition and Big Spring). Working with "Be Well, Texas" and "All Texas Access," both focused on mental health care.
Activity 4.3b. Promote awareness of racial disparities in housing access, and help communities address inequality	Data team has begun conducting a plan to find racial disparities in HMIS data and will meet with the Engagement team to help us promote awareness
Activity 4.3c. Develop CoC-wide or region-wide plan/outreach around data collection events [for example the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and the Housing Inventory Count (HIC)]	No updates from Q1. PIT count planning will begin in August and this will be a collective brainstorming activity between all teams.
Strategy 4. Increase involvement of persons with lived experience	
Measure 1. The advisory group of persons with lived experience is developed and operating.	Baseline: The advisory group does not exist yet
Measure 2. Persons with lived experience will guide the revision of the CoC Action Plan by 9/30/2022	Baseline: The advisory group does not exist yet
Measure 3. More persons with current or recent lived experience will participate in the CoC Board and on CoC Committees	Baseline: 5 CoC Board members; unknown number of CoC Committee members
Activity 4.4a. Develop a workgroup of people with current and recent (within the past 3 years) lived experience of homelessness that will consult with THN staff and CoC stakeholders on CoC activities	Staff have been recruiting nominees and recruiting a co-facilitator with lived experience and expertise. Staff have drafted committee policies for input and finalizing by members. Staff have created a committee development timeline, with a goal of holding the first meeting by the end of July.

Goal 5: INCREASE FUNDING TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS	
Strategy 1: Align funding and other resources to complement the strategic framework	
Measure 1. System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 2. System Performance Measure 2: Returns to Homelessness	Not using SPMs as measures in Year 1
Measure 3. Increase to the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) dollar amount	FY 2021 ARD = \$9,220,238
Measure 4. All new projects are based on documented need in a given region	Baseline: Need is not always reflected in applications received or funding decisions
Measure 5. Existence of a publicly available funding alignment plan	Baseline: No such funding alignment plan exists
Activity 5.1a. Develop funding alignment plan, incorporating Program Models Chart, to align CoC funding with approved models and needs	No Funding Alignment plan yet. Planning Team is restructuring to support CoC Committees.
Strategy 4. Provide technical assistance and promote capacity building to agencies regarding applying for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funding	
Measure 1. Increase in the number of new communities in the TX BoS CoC's application for CoC Program funds	Baseline: Analysis of current CoC funding by region scheduled to take place in Quarter 2, to identify communities targeted for outreach.
Measure 2. Increase to the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) dollar amount	FY 2021 ARD = \$9,220,238
Activity 5.4a. Increase outreach to communities that do not currently receive CoC Program funding to identify any barriers that may keep them from applying	On 6/22 HUD released a Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for funding to address unsheltered homelessness and rural homelessness. Staff previously performed outreach to applicants that had applied for CoC Program funding in the past but did not receive an award, performed outreach to ESG Recipients not receiving CoC Program funds, and engaged TCFV to better understand why Victim Service Providers do not apply for the DV Bonus funds available to them. Staff will proactively reach out to VSPs planned for Q3.