

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Seat 2 – Homeless Veterans

Annie Erickson

Current Position:

Senior Director - Endeavors

TX BoS CoC county served:

Comal

Do you have lived experience of homelessness? In other words, have you ever lived in a homeless situation?

No

Are you affiliated with a HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program-funded project and/or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program-funded project operating in the TX BoS CoC?

Yes

Are you the Chair of a Local Homeless Coalition (LHC)?

No

Please describe your personal and/or work experience with the population you would be representing in the designated seat, if elected.

Since 2016 I have been working with the Veteran population in over 80 counties in the Texas Balance of State. I managed programs that provide case management, housing stability services and financial assistance to Veteran and their families. In this fiscal year, the Endeavors programs I oversee will serve close to 2,000 Veteran households. My commitment and passion aligns with THN's mission to serve our military families, specifically those in crisis. In my experience, the rural communities are at most risk of housing instability due to low paying jobs and lack of supportive services. The need for programs supporting housing stability continues to rise as costs of goods continue to rise. This post pandemic world has had a significant effect on mental health and Endeavors provides behavioral health issues specifically for Veterans and their family members. I am humbled to work in programs that provide assistance to our much deserved Veterans.

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Please describe how you have participated in the TX BoS CoC in the past.

As a subrecipient of THN funding, I have led multiple teams serving both Veterans and non-Veterans for the Balance of State. Our teams have all engaged with the TX BOS in receiving referrals and discussions of process improvement. If elected to the TX BOC CoC, I will dedicate my efforts to strongly support the CoC's efforts to make homeless brief and non reoccurring.

Please describe your experience, if any, working with the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program or similar programs focused on ending homelessness (ESG, SSVF, PATH, and RHY).

I have led the SSVF team for Endeavors since 2016. The program has grown over the past few years and now serves over 1,800 Veteran households in 109 Texas counties. During COVID, our staff worked tirelessly to emergency house homeless Veterans into hotels, prevent Veteran homelessness and rapidly rehouse literally homeless Veterans and their families. Our case managers put in countless hours, along with our community partners, to keep our homeless (or about to be homeless) Veteran population safe.

Please describe your experience, if any, serving on a board of directors, including any leadership roles.

Throughout my career, I have served on the board of United Way, the Alzheimer's Assoc., and as Provider at Large for the South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless.

Please describe your experience, if any, with managing grants.

Along with my banking background of managing financial departments, I have managed grants for 7 years. As Senior Director, I currently am responsible for the management of 41 federal, state and local grants.

Please describe your specific skills that can benefit the CoC.

I can benefit the CoC through my experience with serving our Texas Veteran population, knowing the multiple challenges they face in securing housing for themselves and their families. I bring a strong skillset of financial and budget acumen, creative problem solving, relationship building, and ability to facilitate change.

Why do you want to serve on the CoC Board?

My experience with Jim and his team has been, and continues to be, very positive. My interest in serving on the board is to ensure the representation of our Veterans while contributing to the success of the CoC. I would enjoy the opportunity to improve services, promote collaboration offer technical assistance, and help solve homelessness in rural communities where resources are few.



Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

If you are elected to the board, what do you plan to work on and accomplish?

Be a voice for homeless or about to be homeless Veterans in rural communities, leverage resources through innovative partnerships, improve processes, recruit talent, and promote programs.

What else would you like the CoC members to know about you?

I truly have a passion to serve our Veteran population-- and what better way then to work to provide stable housing with supportive services? I would consider it a privilege to serve on the Board of TX BOS CoC.

