

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Seat 2 – Homeless Veterans

Charles Laws

Current Position:

Case Manager - NB Housing Partners

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?

Unsure

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.

I retired from the United States Air Force and have personal and professional experience with Armed Services personnel regarding visible and invisible wounds. The wounds of service members have contributed to their high suicide rate and homelessness. After retirement, I worked with former military members while being a Contractor Officer Representative on the A-29 program which allowed me to interact and glean more of a perspective of individuals struggling with invisible wounds. I then went and spent the next several years in Europe where I had the honor to meet former military members living abroad. I experienced firsthand how some traveled all over but never had a place they felt comfortable staying for long periods of time. I then moved to Texas and started volunteering with the Salvation Army reaching out to the homeless in our community, which includes prior military members. I then had the opportunity to join NB Housing Partners in opening a homeless shelter as a Case Manager



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

The current position I hold is my first experience with which I have become familiar with TX BoS CoC.

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 not had specific experience with ESG, SSVF, PATH, or RHY, but am familiar with the programs. NB Housing Partners First Footing Program has been allocated funding through Barriers and CDBG which I have been involved with maintaining the requirements of the funding.

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

The Salvation Army, New Braunfels TX--2020-Current/Advisory ANEWCHURCH, ENID OK--2012-2014/Advisory

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

I have an MS-Nonprofit Management which I have learned the process for grant writing and budgetary compliance.

Please describe your specific skills that can benefit the CoC.

My specific skills that could benefit the CoC are that I have personal experience with the target population.

Why do you want to serve on the CoC Board?

I believe that by working with the CoC one can have a direct impact on the outcomes of Homeless Veterans. I believe working on such a board could elevate my experience to better serve the homeless.

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

I would be working on identifying the population of Homelessness Veterans per county and if related supports are available or if they could be resourced. I would create a working relationship with the Veterans Administration, Texas Representatives, and other associated agencies that are committed to ending homelessness amongst veterans.

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

I am a team player that is results-oriented.

