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## July 2023 BoS Newsletter

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Fri, Jul 7, 2023 at 2:01 PM



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# TEXAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE NEWS July 2023

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## Announcements

### Are You Registered for the Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness?

Registration is open and slots are filling up fast for the [2023 Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness](#).

For over 25 years Texas Homeless Network has organized and led this unique and powerful statewide conference on ending homelessness. With over 500 participants, this opportunity builds networks, educates providers, and leads conversations in our communities.

Join us in Austin, TX from **September 27 - 29** for another unforgettable conference.

## REGISTER NOW



**Please read these notes before registering:**

⇒ If you are registering and need to pay by check, please email [conference@thn.org](mailto:conference@thn.org) for more information.

⇒ We're pleased to announce that **CoC Program recipients may spend HUD CoC Program admin funds on attendance to the 2023 Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness**. This allowance is the result of [HUD guidance](#) that states it is permissible for CoC Program recipients may spend CoC Program Admin funds on attendance as long as the conference includes a speaker from HUD or a TA speaker assigned by HUD.

⇒ This year, HUD will present a start-up conference for HUD-funded recipients on **September 26th**, *a day before the full program conference*. Please be sure to plan accordingly for your hotel and transportation if you plan to attend.

⇒ Need to confirm if you're a member? View our [current supporters page](#). If you are a member, email [samantha@thn.org](mailto:samantha@thn.org) for the members-only discount. [Want to join as a member? You can do so here.](#)

**Register Now!**

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## FY2023 CoC Program Competition Update

The FY2023 CoC Program Local Application is right around the corner! On Wednesday, July 6th, HUD published the [FY2023 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFO\)](#).

While Local Application dates for the TX BoS CoC have not been announced, Applicants should anticipate the Local Application Process to begin later this month (July) or early August. THN will announce the availability of application materials by publishing the FY23 Request for Proposals (RFP) to our [CoC Program landing page](#) and communication via this listserv.

As we anticipate a short application window, prospective applicants are highly encouraged to prepare for this opportunity by taking the following actions in advance of the RFP release:

### **Ensure individual and organizational access to e-snaps, HUD's grant management platform**

[Update their e-snaps Applicant Profile](#) (existing users)

[Get started in e-snaps](#) (new users)

[Access the e-snaps 101 Toolkit](#) as needed (all users)

### **Ensure your organization's SAM registration is active**

[Check your organization's SAM status](#)

### **Review HUD & THN resources on the CoC Program**

[HUD Exchange "CoC and ESG Virtual Binders"](#)

[HUD Exchange "CoC Program Toolkit"](#)

[CoC Interim Rule \(24 CFR Part 578\)](#)

[THN's FY23 CoC Program Competition Q&A Session recording](#)

We look forward to another successful CoC Program Competition!

For questions, please contact [txboscoc@thn.org](mailto:txboscoc@thn.org)

## Sign Up for CoC Competition Updates

### 2023 CoC Board Nominations Period is Extended for Four Seats



Have you experienced homelessness? Do you have expertise in homeless assistance? Do you want to get more involved in the TX BoS CoC's work? If so, run for a seat on the CoC Board!

Nominations for four board seats are still needed, so the CoC has extended the nomination period for:

Seat 5 – Homeless Youth

Seat 11 – Public Housing Agency

Seat 13 – Business

Seat 15 -- Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless (TICH) or State government agency

#### Key dates:

**The deadline for nominations is July 7, 2023, at 11:45 PM**

**Click here to complete the [online nomination form](#).**

Voting will occur in late September and early October.

The term of service will be January 2024 through March 2026 (27 months).

The CoC Board plans to meet in person in Austin in February 2024 for an orientation session and once per month for 1.5 hours by webinar.

#### Background:

The CoC Board determines the policy direction of the CoC and ensures that the CoC fulfills its responsibilities. Additionally, the Board oversees the work of CoC committees and the CoC Lead Agency and HMIS Lead Agency (Texas Homeless Network). Board members also stay informed about how the CoC is performing to prevent and end homelessness, and they serve as liaisons between the CoC and the counties and sub-populations they represent.

Seat 1 is filled by a person with lived experience of homelessness. Seats 2-15 are filled by people who represent the stakeholder groups designated for those seats by:

- Being a member of that group (for example, Seat 2 could be filled by a currently or formerly homeless veteran); and/or
- Working for an agency/organization that serves the designated group; and/or
- Clearly representing the interests of that group, as evidenced in the nomination form.

The Board needs members with varying skills, expertise, and backgrounds to represent the diversity of people experiencing homelessness in the CoC. Anyone who lives and/or works in the [TX BoS CoC's geographic area](#) is a general member of the CoC and may run for a seat on the Board. See more guidance about elections in the [CoC Board Requirements Policy](#).

and in the [online nomination form](#).

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Mary Stahlke, Director of Engagement, at [mary@thn.org](mailto:mary@thn.org).

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## Lived Experience Steering Committee Recruiting

Texas Homeless Network (THN), as the lead agency of the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC), is recruiting individuals that have experienced of homelessness to serve on a steering committee. This Lived Experience Steering Committee, will provide Texas Homeless Network staff with valuable input on homeless services within the TX BoS CoC.

### **Purpose:**

The committee will serve as a steering committee for TX BoS CoC's efforts to get input from people with lived experience of homelessness. They will guide the work of developing input processes and reaching out to people with lived experience of homelessness.

The feedback provided by committee members will be based on their personal experience interacting with homeless services within [Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care communities](#).

Please be aware that this group will not directly discuss policies made by cities, counties, or other smaller jurisdictions.

### **Requirements for participation:**

Recent (within the last 7 years) experience of homelessness  
Live within the [geographic boundaries of the TX BoS CoC](#)

### **Important Considerations:**

Members that wish to receive compensation for participating in meetings will receive \$40 per meeting.

Members will attend bi-monthly virtual meetings that will last about one and a half hours.

Interested individuals should fill out the [Interest Form](#).

Questions be directed to [margaret@thn.org](mailto:margaret@thn.org).

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## Point-In-Time Count Public Comment Survey

Please provide your feedback on the language and wording used in the Point-In-Time Count survey! The public comment survey will be open until **Monday, August 7th**.

For any questions regarding the public comment survey please reach out to Data Coordinator Ava Paredes [ava@thn.org](mailto:ava@thn.org)

[Click Here to Submit Public Comment](#)

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## Funding & Other Opportunities

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### Take Action Now to Urge Robust Federal Renter Protections!

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) issued a [Request for Input \(RFI\)](#) on how the agency can create and enforce renter protections for households living in rental properties with federally backed mortgages. Any renter protections created by FHFA could cover a significant share of renters across the nation and put America on a pathway towards stronger protections for all renters.

Advocates now have **60 days** to weigh in with FHFA to demand strong renter protections by [submitting a public comment](#) by **July 31, 2023** and signing on to the [national support letter!](#)

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### Runaway and Homeless Youth-Prevention Demonstration Program (RHY-PDP)

The [Runaway and Homeless Youth-Prevention Demonstration Program \(RHY-PDP\)](#) supports the design and delivery of community-based demonstration initiatives to prevent youth and young adults from experiencing homelessness. Through the development and coordination of partnerships with youth and young adult services providers, community organizations, and private and public agencies, the RHY-PDP will: 1) Identify young people at risk of experiencing homelessness; 2) Design and develop a comprehensive community prevention plan to prevent youth homelessness; and 3) Implement the robust, holistic services plan to respond to the diverse needs of youth who may be at risk of homelessness and their families.

**Deadline to apply: July 31, 2023**

[Click here to read the full grant announcement.](#)

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## Important Dates

**\*No General Meeting in July**

#### LHC Using Your PIT Data

*July 12, 2023, 11:00 AM*

This training is intended to give LHC members and stakeholders a better understanding of the 2023 PIT data and how to utilize it for funding opportunities.

**Who Should Attend:** Local Homeless Coalition

[Click Here to Register](#)

#### June Texas BoS Executive Board Meeting

*July 13, 2023, 2:00 PM*

\*Closed Meeting

#### Community Investment Committee Meeting

July 21, 2023, 1:15 PM

\*Closed Meeting

### June Texas BoS Board Meeting

July 26, 2023, 2:00 PM

\*Closed Meeting

Our webinar platform is Zoom, please make sure you are using the most up to date software from Zoom's [Download Center](#)

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## What's Happening Across the TX BoS CoC?

### North

[Denton homeless community struggling to find overnight shelter from excessive heat](#) (Denton County)

### South

[The homeless advocacy group, the Humility Project now has a new home, thanks to a very generous donation](#) (Victoria County)

[Mid-Coast Family Services plans day center for those living on the streets](#) (Victoria County)

### East

[Local nonprofit is helping the homeless population in East Texas](#) (Gregg County)

### West

[Annual homeless count finds troubling increases](#) (Midland County)

[A Ride with Backyard Midland ... Karl Boroski turns homeless past into inspiring nonprofit](#) (Midland County)

### Central

[New community in Temple will provide housing for over 100 homeless Central Texans](#) (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](mailto:txboscoc@thn.org).

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## Member Feedback

In our efforts to stay transparent and up to date with our members, we are creating this anonymous feedback form for members of the TX BoS CoC to provide any input they want the TX BoS CoC staff and Board to know about.

[Provide Your Feedback Here](#)

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## Join Us

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 ["Join Us" 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 [Join Us 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](mailto:txboscoc@thn.org).



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