



TEXAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE NEWS

April 2024

Announcements



TX BoS CoC General Membership Meeting on May 15, 2024

The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, from 2:30-4:00 PM. The CoC is exploring options to modernize structures and processes to enhance capacity in ways that improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness at the local level. What might that look like? How can you have a say? Join us for a discussion with technical assistance providers from Cloudburst Consulting to learn more. If you have questions prior to the meeting, contact Mary Stahlke at mary@thn.org or 512-861-2180.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Calling All Presenters!

Applications are now open to present at the [2024 Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness](#)! Share innovative solutions and insights to drive real change for Texas. Don't miss the opportunity to elevate your voice and expertise while providing tangible support to your colleagues across the state. [Submit your presentation application now](#) and be a part of the movement to end homelessness in Texas.



PRESENT AT
THE 2024 TEXAS CONFERENCE
ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Sept 11-13th in Houston, TX

LOOKING FOR DYNAMIC PRESENTATIONS ON:

Homelessness and racial equity, immigration, natural disaster response, policy, youth, lgbt+, low-barrier shelter, domestic violence, and so many more!

USE YOUR VOICE
 SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE
 GROW YOUR INFLUENCE

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PRESENTATIONS
 APPLICATION IS APRIL 5TH

 www.thn.org/thn-conference

Recruiting Independent Review Team Members

The TX BoS CoC is recruiting Independent Review Team (IRT) members to assist in reviewing and scoring applications submitted under the FY24 Local Application Process for the CoC Program. IRT members can expect a 1-2 hour training session prior to reviewing applications. The total time commitment is expected to be less 10 hours during the months of August or September. IRT members will receive compensation of \$75 per application that is reviewed and scored with a maximum of 5 applications per member.

If you are interested in taking part in the process, please complete the IRT Interest Form below. Selected individuals who register their interest via the below form will receive direct communication from THN staff with access to an IRT application when available in May.

[Click here to complete the IRT Interest Form.](#)

Introduction to Harm Reduction for Housing Providers

Join THN & Texas Harm Reduction Alliance for a free, interactive training designed to help housing providers and case managers throughout the state serve people who use drugs in their work. This training will teach housing providers about harm reduction theory and practice, how drug policy has impacted housing access, and how they can implement

Housing First principles at their organizations.
-Apr 18, 1-3 PM CST

[Click Here to Register](#)

VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations

Last year, the VAWA 2022 [Foundations for Continuum of Care \(CoC\) and Emergency Solutions Grants \(ESG\) Webinar Series](#) provided detailed, foundational knowledge about implementing VAWA and survivor-centered housing practices.

VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations will continue in 2024 through a series of discussions about successfully implementing VAWA and survivor-centered housing at the system, project, and human levels. Each conversation will feature a diverse panel of system leaders, project staff, and people with lived experiences from both the homelessness response and victim services worlds.

The next webinar will be **April 18, 12:00-1:30 CDT**.

[Click here](#) to review all the upcoming 2024 VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations.

CDC's Respiratory Virus Guidance







The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated its [guidance for respiratory viruses](#), such as COVID-19, flu, and RSV. Key takeaways:

- Five core strategies (immunizations, hygiene, steps for cleaner air, treatment, and stay home and away from others) and three additional prevention strategies (masks, distancing, and tests) are recommended.
- People experiencing homelessness may need help accessing supplies and implementing the strategies, and some of the actions need to be taken at the facility level: taking steps for cleaner air, cleaning frequently touched surfaces, and providing hygiene supplies.
- If a person has respiratory virus symptoms, they can shelter in individual rooms or physically distance themselves from others.
- People can return to normal activities once their symptoms are improving and they are fever-free for 24 hours, and the CDC recommends they take additional prevention actions for another five days.





Providers can follow the CDC guidance and work with their state and local health departments to ensure everyone stays as safe and healthy as possible. Find the graphic below at [this link](#).

Respiratory Virus Guidance Snapshot


Core prevention strategies

 <p>Immunizations</p> 	<p>Hygiene</p> 	<p>Steps for Cleaner Air</p> 	<p>Treatment</p> 	<p>Stay Home and Prevent Spread*</p> 
---	---	---	--	---

Additional prevention strategies


 <p>Masks</p> 	<p>Distancing</p> 	<p>Tests</p> 
---	--	---

***Stay home and away from others until, for 24 hours BOTH:**




Your symptoms are getting better

+



You are fever-free (without meds)

Then take added precaution for the next 5 days



Layering prevention strategies can be especially helpful when:

- ✓ Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community
- ✓ You or those around you have risk factors for severe illness
- ✓ You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering

Funding & Other Opportunities

Second Chance Act Pay for Success Program

The Justice Department's FY24 [Second Chance Act Pay for Success Program](#) offers funds to states, cities, townships, counties, special districts, federally recognized Tribal governments, and community-based public and Native American housing authorities to address transition and re-entry services including permanent supportive housing for people with mental health, substance use, or co-occurring disorders who are or were involved in the criminal justice system. Applications are due [April 25](#). For more information, contact DOJ at 800-851-3420 or grants@ncjrs.gov.

Funding Categories:

Category 1: Performance-based and Outcomes-based Contracting for Reentry Services

Category 2: Performance-based and Outcomes-based Contracting for Permanent Supportive Housing

Closing Date: April 25, 2024

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

Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program

The purpose of this program is to develop, expand, and/or strengthen funded organizations so they can provide housing and associated support services to victims of human trafficking.

Applicants are invited to apply under two program purpose areas.

Purpose Area 1: Developing Capacity to Serve Human Trafficking Victims

Under Purpose Area 1, OVC expects to make up to six awards of up to \$600,000 each for a 36-month period of performance to begin on October 1, 2024.

Purpose Area 2: Enhancing Scope of Housing Assistance for Human Trafficking Victims

Under Purpose Area 2, OVC expects to make up to 11 awards of up to \$1.2 million each for a 36-month period of performance to begin on October 1, 2024.

Closing Date: May 6, 2024

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

TDHCA and Texas Workforce Commission present Fair Housing Month Webinars in April

To celebrate the 56th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) will present three informative webinars on fair housing topics throughout April, also known as National Fair Housing Month.

Each of the webinars are approximately 90 minutes long and will allow ample opportunity for questions, so feel free to bring your lunch and have questions at the ready!

For more information or if you have questions about these upcoming webinars, please email fair.housing@tdhca.texas.gov.

Registration is required for these webinars. The Fair Housing Webinars schedule is as follows:

- Fair Housing Overview
Time: Monday, April 15, at 10:30 a.m., Central
[Register here](#)
- Reasonable Accommodations
Time: Monday, April 22, at 10:30 a.m., Central Time
[Register Here](#)
- Assistance Animals
Time: Monday, April 29, at 10:30 a.m., Central Time
[Register Here](#)

Providing High-Quality SOAR Services in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Programs



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

Join SAMHSA for an informative webinar where we explore the intersection of SOAR and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs. PSH combines affordable housing with supportive services to help people maintain stable housing and improve their overall well-being. It is designed for individuals who face challenges related to mental health, substance

use, or other disabilities. On this webinar, SOAR providers will share how they have seamlessly integrated SOAR services into their PSH initiatives, ultimately enhancing services for individuals with disabilities experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

An SSA representative will discuss how living arrangements and housing vouchers impact SSI eligibility and benefit amounts. We will also have an SSI/SSDI beneficiary join us to share their experience receiving SOAR and PSH assistance to navigate the SSI/SSDI disability determination process and connect to housing and supportive services.

Apr 17, 2024 02:00 PM

[Click Here to Register](#)

National Integrate Heat Health Information System Webinar

Helping people experiencing homelessness to stay safe during extreme heat is critical. The National Integrate Heat Health Information System recently held a webinar with tips for ensuring communities have systems in place to prevent heat-related illnesses among the homeless population. Suggestions include homeless services agencies working with local government emergency management departments and faith communities to provide additional shelter, food, pet care, and items to protect from the heat, such as sunscreen, hats, and cold water. Hear more ideas on the [recorded webinar](#).

Important Dates

***2024 TX BoS Full General Membership Meeting**

May 15, 2024, 2:30 PM

[Click Here to Register](#)

Community Investment Committee Meeting

April 10, 2024, 1:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

Introduction to Harm Reduction for Housing Providers

April 18, 2024, 1:00 PM

[Click Here to Register](#)

Texas BoS Board Meeting

April 24, 2024, 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](#)

What's Happening Across the TX BoS CoC?

North

[Denison nonprofits serving the homeless move into new building, celebrate new opportunities](#) (Grayson County)

[Longview Police Department to add third nonprofit to program that gives 'hand up' to people experiencing homelessness](#) (Gregg County)

[Bonham PD addresses ongoing complaints and concerns regarding homeless](#) (Fannin County)

South

[Homeless people forced to leave campsite, city cites dangerous conditions](#) (Nueces County)

East

[A Port Arthur pastor is doubling down to help people experiencing homelessness](#) (Jefferson County)

[Hiway 80 Rescue Mission calls for donations of summer supplies in Tyler, Longview](#) (Smith and Gregg Counties)

West

[Odessa's PIT count results: The growing issue of homelessness](#) (Ector County)

[2024 PIT Count sees concerning increase in homeless population](#) (Midland County)

[New signs from Lubbock Police encourage drivers to donate to charities, not panhandlers](#) (Lubbock County)

Central

[HUD report: Homeless numbers up 10% in Killeen](#) (Bell County)

[Appeals court upholds decision in favor of City; dismissal of homeless housing lawsuit](#) (Williamson County)

[Faces of Fort Cavazos: Retired veteran Nigel Dunn makes helping the homeless his new mission](#) (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.

Staff Recommendation

Infant & Toddler Homelessness Across 50 States: 2021-2022

SchoolHouse Connection has released a report on homelessness among infants and toddlers showing that 364,390 of them experienced homelessness across the United States during the 2021-2022 program year. This represents approximately 2.5% of the entire birth through age three population. In Texas, more than 32,000 children in that age range experienced homelessness, and only 1 in 15 was enrolled in an early childhood development program. From the report, "The period of life from prenatal through age three is critical for physical and social-emotional development, but the experience of homelessness jeopardizes healthy growth and can have long-term consequences. Early childhood development programs can

mitigate the impacts of homelessness on child development, and connect families to housing and services."

Read the [new report](#) with data for every state and policy recommendations.

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

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.



[THN Home](#)

[Our Blog](#)

[Our Mission](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Texas Homeless Network
3000 S IH-35, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78704
United States

{{Disclaimer}}

(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews)