

Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team
Thursday, September 8, 2016 – 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76201)

Agenda

- | | | | |
|-------|--|-------------------|---------|
| I. | Welcome | C. Parker | 2 min. |
| II. | Consideration of August Minutes | C. Parker | 2 min. |
| III. | DCHLT Homeless Summit | C. Cross | 10 min. |
| IV. | Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Update | C. Cross, D. Shaw | 15 min. |
| V. | Denton County Homeless Coalition | R. Del Rio | 25 min. |
| VI. | Work Group Updates | | 15 min. |
| | • Housing | T. Widmer | |
| | • Data | S. Coffey | |
| | • Consumer | C. Cross/A. Reed | |
| VII. | Backbone Support Update | C. Cross | 15 min. |
| | • DCHLT Secretary | | |
| | • Bridging the Gap | | |
| VIII. | New Business | C. Parker | |
| IX. | Adjourn | | |

Next Meeting Date:
Thursday, October 13, 2016 – 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County, Inc.

Vision:

Every person in Denton County has a place to call home that is safe, affordable, accessible and supported by community resources.

Mission:

The Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team fosters an effective and coordinated system of homelessness prevention and intervention, resulting in homelessness that is rare, brief and nonrecurring through:

- Community awareness and connection
- Data-driven, evidenced-based, fiscally responsible recommendations
- Innovative solutions around affordable housing, access to primary and behavioral health care services, adequate incomes and coordinated services
- Mobilizing, advocating and empowering public-private community-wide collaboration

Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team
Thursday, August 11, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Appointees Present: Alice Mankoff, Angie Cadena, Barton Duffy, Chief Lee Howell, Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Cynthia Harris, Herman Oosterwijk, Isabel Rodriguez, Mayor Chris Watts, Monica Glenn, Roy Metzler, Sandra Robinson, Sherri McDade, Stephen Coffey, Terry Widmer, Mayor Thomas Muir, Valerie Foster

Ex Officios Present: Gary Henderson, Courtney Cross, Dani Shaw

Guests Present: Barbara Ross, Pat Smith, Alex Reed, Katherine Boswell, Toni-Johnson Simpson, Alonzo Peterson, Michelle DeGrate, Donna Bloom, Julian Gill

Appointees Absent: Jessica DeRoche, Kathy Srokosz,

Welcome & Consideration of July Minutes

Mayor Watts welcomed appointees and guests to the meeting at 8:03 a.m.

Mayor Watts directed members to the July meeting minutes for review. There was one amendment to the minutes regarding a typo wherein the minutes listed July rather than June. Mayor Watts requested a motion to accept them as amended.

Motion: Councilman TJ Gilmore

2nd: Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell

Motion Approved

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Update

As of July 28th, TDHCA's board elected not to award the Denton ESG Collaborative any of the requested \$600,000 of ESG funding for the 2016-2017 grant year. The week of August 1st, the Denton City Council pledged \$200,000 of one-time, emergency stop-gap funding to help make up for the loss of federal funding. Denton County Commissioner's Court also contributed \$35,000 of contingency funds.

The DCHLT invited the four ESG-funded organizations today to share how the ESG funding reduction has and will affect their organization representatives from each ESG organization provided short presentations.

Toni Johnson-Simpson provided an update on the effects of funding losses for the Denton County Friends of the Family Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Shelter. ESG funding accounted for approximately 26% of the shelter's budget, and roughly 50% of shelter operating expenses. Loss of funding has resulted in a case manager and counselor being reduce from full time to part time, and the loss of a full-time crisis intervention specialist. The shelter has seen a 22% increase in shelter demand over the last five years, and have seen a 40% decrease in the number of their clients successfully

transitioning into Transitional Housing programs once they leave the shelter. Moving forward, the shelter plans to adjust their budget allocations and address the rapid re-housing issue which contributed to the loss of funds, and to build a larger shelter facility as well as transitional housing units for domestic violence and assault victims in Denton County.

Michelle DeGrate presented on behalf of Christian Community Action (CCA), stating that focus their ESG funded programs on Homeless Prevention under the mentality that is more cost effective to keep someone in housing rather than try and help them secure housing altogether. Last year eighty-eight individuals (thirty-five families) were served at CCA via ESG funds. The loss of funding has resulted in CCA having to cut one full time position from their already short case management staff, and a deficit of \$90,000 previously used to provide assistance and promote stability.

Alonzo Peterson presented on behalf of Giving Hope, Inc., noting cuts to rental assistance, the elimination of a full-time street outreach coordinator, the reduction of a Housing Navigator from full-time to part-time, and the possibility of not being able to fully fund their remaining two full time case managers. ESG funds accounted for 37% of Giving Hope, Inc.'s total expenses. Immediate solutions include possible shared staffing with the Salvation Army Denton Shelter, a potential increase in housing stock south of Lake Lewisville and applying to various Dallas foundations for stopgap funding.

No representatives from the Salvation Army Denton Shelter were present to report on the effects of ESG funding loss.

DCHLT members discussed the loss of ESG funding, and inquired into the types of funds currently funneling into the community. Currently the City of Denton and City of Lewisville receive this type of funding, but there are no funds of this type coming in at the county level.

Alice Mankoff asked what strategies can be used in order to improve the likelihood the community will receive ESG funding next year, and Mayor Watts requested that be addressed at the next meeting.

Work Group Updates

Terry Widmer provided an update from Housing Workgroup regarding their goals to finalize all details by 8/22/16 for the tentative 9/1/16 housing pilot program launch date. Regarding the request for funding from a pilot program partner, the Housing Workgroup made the following recommendations to the DCHLT:

1. UWDC does not fulfill the funding request submitted by the Denton Community Health Clinic; workgroup members voted that no pilot participants should seek funding from UWDC
2. After reviewing multiple RFPs, the workgroup recommends that Denton Community Health Clinic serve as lead case management organization for the low-barrier, transitional, intensive case management pilot program. Additionally, program MOUs and documents will state that the workgroup will reevaluate all aspects of the program at various stages to ensure efficiency.

Stephen Coffey provided and updated for the Data Workgroup. Barriers moving forward will be the sharing and aggregation of data from multiple sources. Including homeless and housing agency board members in the conversation will help address capacity issues agencies face in data collection and tracking.

Courtney Cross and Alex Reed informed the leadership team that the DCHLT will be partnering with the DCBHLT and the United Way of Denton County's 2016 Community Needs Assessment Steering Committee to pilot a community conversation approach to obtaining qualitative consumer data as it pertains to behavioral health and housing needs and experiences throughout Denton County. The group will conduct listening sessions with community groups which vary in demographic and need throughout the Fall and report back to the leadership teams with results.

Backbone Support Update

Dani Shaw and Courtney Cross informed the DCHLT of the Denton County Homeless Coalition's (DCHC) request that United Way of Denton County serve as the fiscal agent for the 2016 Bridging the Gap event. This event is intended to establish relationship and open lines of communication between social service agencies serving the homeless and housing-insecure throughout Denton County. This year the DCHC will make an ask of faith organizations to contribute financial donations in light of the loss of ESG funding.

Roy Metzler noted the tentative event date's proximity to North Texas Giving Day, and requested the DCHC consider this. After discussion regarding who would be eligible to receive funds and how they would be disbursed, Mayor Watts requested a motion to approve that the United Way of Denton County the Denton County serve as the fiscal agent for Bridging the Gap 2016 event provided that the homeless coalition determine the aforementioned details before the event takes place.

Motion: Alice Mankoff

2nd: Keely Briggs

Motion Approved

New Business

Monica Glenn shared Leadership Denton's 2016-2017 project focus of housing and homelessness in Denton, and informed the DCHLT that Leadership Denton Candidates will be interviewing key stakeholders in the coming weeks.

Mayor Watts made an inquiry into the possibility of mapping Denton County's current housing and homelessness system. Dani Shaw informed the group of the work of the Coordinated Entry Steering Committee to do this, and informed the leadership team that the committee would be ready to share their work with DHCLT workgroups and present to the leadership team once it is further developed.

Public Comments: No public comments were received.

The meeting was adjourned by consent at 9:27 a.m.

**Next Meeting: September 8, 2016 @ 8:00 a.m.
United Way of Denton County Office**

Secretary

Date

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

September 2016

WORKGROUP NAME: HOUSING

CHAIR NAME: TERRY WIDMER

Meeting Summary – August 22, 2016; September 1, 2016

Members Present 8/22: Terry Widmer (Chair), Dani Shaw, RayAnne Climer, Christy Daniel, Beth Tellez, Cathy Brown, Melanie Torres, Courtney Cross, Alex Reed, Sherri McDade; Guests Present: Carrie Breedlove, Amanda Foster

Members Present 9/1: Terry Widmer (Chair), Leslie Mosely, Beth Tellez, Christy Daniel, RayAnne Climer, Alex Reed, Courtney Cross, Dani Shaw, Cathy Brown; Guests Present: Gary Henderson, Katherine Gonzales, Kelsey Naughton, Carrie Breedlove, Amanda Foster

The DCBHLT/DCHLT Housing Workgroup has convened twice within the past month, and will meet again Tuesday, September 13th to finalize details of the Denton Supportive Housing Pilot.

The group agreed that the Treatment Team will be fluid, and composition will vary based on individual client needs, and determined the Review Team would be made up of the following combination of direct and non-service providers: Terry Widmer, Melanie Torres, Dani Shaw, Christy Daniel and Beth Tellez.

The Policies and Procedures Sub-Committee has finalized the program eligibility, the program agreement and termination policy, and is working with Denton Supportive Housing, Inc. and the pilot project property owner to finalize the lease agreement.

The Direct Service Sub-Committee finalized intake screening criteria and the assessment tools that will be utilized by the case manager. They will meet again separately to finalize application and intake packet details and to summarize broader overall measures for the pilot from the various assessment tools.

The Logistics Sub-Committee drafted MOUs between Denton Supportive Housing, Inc. and the various agencies who have committed to the pilot. They will compile the information for the referral packet and finalize the online referral portal this month.

The group also discussed developing Speakers Bureau slides for the purpose of sharing about the pilot throughout the community. They are drafting slides and will finalize guidelines for community presentations at a later date.

The workgroup finalized their strategic goal per DCBHLT 2016 Strategic Planning.

Short Term Action Items

Obtain Master Lease information from Denton Supportive Housing, Inc. and the pilot project property owner.

Finalize MOUs between Denton Supportive Housing, Inc. and pilot program partners.

Finalize DCBHLT Workplan documentation.

Train program Case Manager in Efforts to Outcome (ETO) case management software.

Input assessment tools into ETO software.

Finalize intake packet and establish online referral portal.

Finalize Lease Agreement.

Finalize facility schedule with church.

Finalize move-in process details for new clients.

Accomplishments

Workgroup agreed to develop uniform speakers bureau slides and presentation script for future program presentations throughout the community.

Submitted the following documentation to Denton Supportive Housing, Inc: program agreement, eligibility criteria, termination policy.

Modified strategic goal to fit broader missions of both the DCBHLT and DCHLT.

Concerns

Insurance between Denton Supportive Housing, Inc. and the pilot project property owner.

Covering minor costs such as background checks, etc.

Finalizing all necessary details by the tentative 10/3/16 program launch.

Next Meeting Date

September 13, 2016

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

September 2016

WORKGROUP NAME: DATA

CHAIR NAME: STEPHEN COFFEY

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

Attending: Stephen Coffey (chair), Christy Daniel, Courtney Cross, Dani Shaw, Jesse Hamner, Keith Henderson, RayAnne Climer, Stephen Thomas

The third meeting was held Friday, August 19th. The group approved their charter with the following deliverables (per the short and long-term goals assigned them by the DCHLT):

1. Compile and interpret data in order to inform the DCHLT in their efforts to foster an effective and coordinated system of homelessness prevention and intervention.
2. Establish a comprehensive definition of homelessness, with the consideration of various federal definitions and homeless sub-populations including but not limited to: individuals, families, youth, elderly, and domestic violence and sexual assault victims.
3. Define affordable housing for the purpose of determining local baseline measurements.
4. Collaborate with the Denton County Homeless Coalition, and other community stakeholders to assess for county-wide measurements of the following: total number of individuals and families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, total number of affordable housing units.
5. Present findings to the DCHLT which quantifies the current gaps in affordable housing throughout Denton County.

Additionally, the workgroup adopted the definition of homelessness according to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (see attached), which encompasses homeless and at-risk individuals and families at various stages.

The group also adopted HUD's system performance measures in order to begin gathering baseline data information:

1. Reduce the number of homeless persons (#)
2. Reduce Length of time persons remain homeless (length)
3. Reduce the number of person who become homeless for the first time (1st time)
4. Reduce the number who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations but then return to homelessness (recidivism)
5. Increase access to housing through a variety of successful housing placement options (barriers)
6. Increase income (\$)
7. Identify all vulnerable populations (outreach)
8. Other accomplishments (TBD)

The workgroup reviewed various barriers to agencies sharing client information for reporting purposes, and the pros and cons of an electronic, centralized intake system.

Short Term Action Items

Review current and past tools used to gather and analyze homelessness data in Denton County.

Consult other communities who have successfully harnessed and utilized data to assess and address homelessness in their communities.

Accomplishments

Adopted a workgroup charter.

Concerns

None at this time.

Next Meeting Dates

September 16, 2016; October 21, 2016; November 18, 2016

Definitions of Homelessness According to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessAssistanceActAmendedbyHEARTH.pdf>

GENERAL:

The term “homeless”, “homeless individual”, and “homeless person” means—

- (1) an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;
- (2) an individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
- (3) an individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including hotels and motels paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and transitional housing);
- (4) an individual who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;
- (5) an individual or family who—
 - (A) will imminently lose their housing, including housing they own, rent, or live in without paying rent, are sharing with others, and rooms in hotels or motels not paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, as evidenced by—
 - (i) a court order resulting from an eviction action that notifies the individual or family that they must leave within 14 days;
 - (ii) the individual or family having a primary nighttime residence that is a room in a hotel or motel and where they lack the resources necessary to reside there for more than 14 days; or
 - (iii) credible evidence indicating that the owner or renter of the housing will not allow the individual or family to stay for more than 14 days, and any oral statement from an individual or family seeking homeless assistance that is found to be credible shall be considered credible evidence for purposes of this clause;
 - (B) has no subsequent residence identified; and
 - (C) lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing; and
- (6) unaccompanied youth and homeless families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes who--
 - (A) have experienced a long term period without living independently in permanent housing,
 - (B) have experienced persistent instability as measured by frequent moves over such period, and
 - (C) can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse, the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or multiple barriers to employment.

Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team

A collective impact initiative supported by:



United Way
of Denton County, Inc.

UnitedWayDenton.org



Consideration of Minutes

- August 11th DCHLT Meeting



Homelessness Summit

- Saturday, November 12, 2016



ESG Update

- Stopgap Funding
 - City of Denton: \$200,000
 - City of Lewisville: \$164,500
 - Denton County: \$35,000



2016 ESG Agency Allocations

Agency	2016-2017 Loss of Funds	Approximate % Total Expenses
Christian Community Action	\$125,000	1%
Denton County Friends of the Family	\$143,820	8%
Giving Hope, Inc.	\$181,180	37%
Salvation Army Denton	\$150,000	15%



Persons Served by ESG

	2014	2015	2016 YTD
Street Outreach	144	112	96
Shelter	872	944	654
Homelessness Prevention	247	296	171
Rapid Re-Housing	270	204	130
TOTAL:	1,533	1,556	1,051



ESG Update

ESG Client Service Report

Agency	Programming Covered by ESG	Clients Served by ESG*	% Overall Clients Served by ESG**	Denton Resident Served by ESG***		Lewisville Residents Served by ESG		Sanger Residents Served by ESG		Denton County Residents ⁺
				#	%	#	%	#	%	
Christian Community Action ^x	Financial Assistance Program	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denton County Friends of the Family	Domestic Violence Shelter		-	125		50				-
Giving Hope, Inc.	Rapid Re-Housing, Street Outreach	360	75%	253	70%	38	11%	11	3%	360
Salvation Army Denton	TSA Denton Shelter	734	-	219	76%	22	0.07%	-	0.02%	290

*All according to 2015-16 ESG year (completes 9/30/16) EXCEPT for TSA-Denton Shelter which is per 2015 year.

**Where unavailable, ESG funds covered all clients served by shelter programming.

***All residents served listed by city are unduplicated

(+)All according to 2015-16 ESG EXCEPT for TSA-Denton Shelter which is YTD.

(x)Awaiting final ESG numbers from CCA.



Denton County Homeless Coalition

- Roxanne Del Rio, Associate Dean of Denton County Campuses for North Central Texas College



Workgroup Updates

- Housing Workgroup
- Data Workgroup
- Consumer Workgroup



Backbone Support Update

- DCHLT Secretary
- Bridging the Gap



Thank You

Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 13, 2016

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

UWDC (1314 Teasley Lane)



United Way
of Denton County, Inc.
UnitedWayDenton.org





DENTON COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

History



Established and Formed in 2001, Denton County Homeless Coalition (DCHC) works to help address the needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness.

Statement of Purpose

The Denton County Homeless Coalition serves as a catalyst for developing and providing needed services to homeless individuals and families and those who are at risk for homelessness in Denton County.



COALITION



ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN DENTON

Governance

Steering

Committees:



- **Chair:** Jessica Peters, Journey to Dream
- **Community Member:** Mary Jones, UNT
- **Domestic Violence:** Connie Schmidt, Friends of the Family
- **Education:** Carmen Washam, Friends of the Family
- **Emergency Services (Police & Fire):** Frank Padgett, Denton Police Dept.
- **Food Insecurity:** Brenda Jackson, Our Daily Bread
- **Government:** Dani Shaw, City of Denton Human Services Coordinator
Community Development
- **Health Care:** Alice Masciarelli, M.D.
- **Homeless Mgt. Info System:** Alonzo Peterson, Giving Hope Inc.
- **Immigration:** Stephanie Aguilar, Friends of the Family
- **Legal:** Prudence Sanchez, Attorney
- **Mental Health Care:** Jordan McCarty, MHMR
- **Nonprofit:** Michelle DeGrate, CCA
- **Open:** Roxanne Del Rio, NCTC
- **Religiously Affiliated:** Katie Klein, Pastor, Cooper Creek UMC &
Chaplin, Cumberland
Presbyterian Home
- **Temporary/Transitional Housing:** Sharell Clay, Giving Hope, Inc.
- **United Way:** Courtney Cross, Denton County Community Impact

Governance (con't)

General Membership

Members meet regularly to assess and prioritize the needs of the homeless and at-risk population.



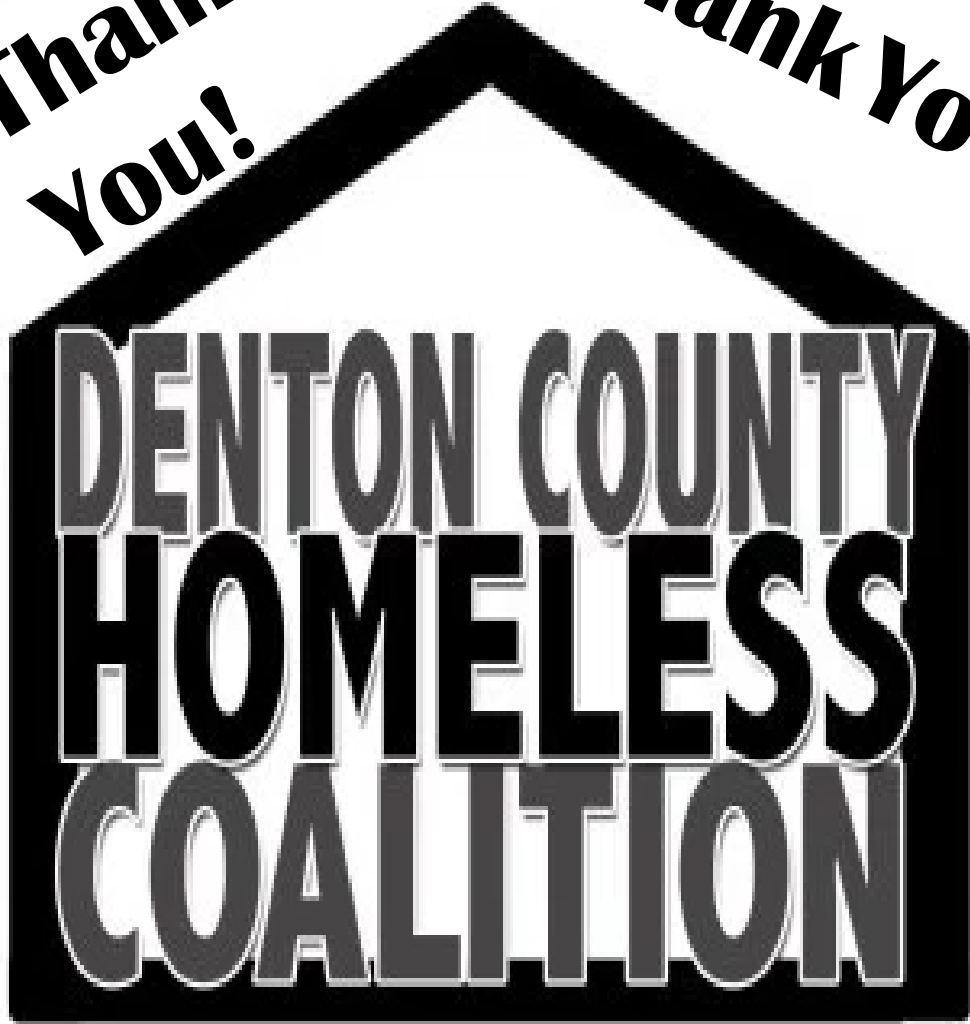
Standing Committees

- Point in Time Count
- Coordinated Entry



**Thank
You!**

Thank You!



Thank You!