



**Thursday, March 9, 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 & Consideration of January Minutes	C. Watts	2 min.
II.	Strategic Planning Committee Update	J. DeRoche	20 min.
III.	Workgroup Updates		15 min.
	• Housing Workgroup	T. Widmer	
	• Data Workgroup	S. Coffey	
	• Consumer Workgroup	C. Cross	
IV.	Speakers Bureau	C. Cross	10 min.
V.	Backbone Support Update	C. Cross	10 min.
	• Denton County Days – TDHCA Board Nomination		
VI.	Denton County Homeless Coalition Update	J. Peters	10 min.
VII.	New Business	C. Watts	
VIII.	Adjourn	C. Watts	

### **Next Meeting Date:**

**Thursday, April 13, 2016 – 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. – UWDC**

#### **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, February 9, 2017**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Appointees Present:** Alice Mankoff, Chasz Parker, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Cynthia Harris, Isabel Rodriguez, Jessica DeRoche, Mayor Chris Watts, Roy Metzler, Terry Widmer, Valerie Foster

**Ex Officios Present:** Gary Henderson, Courtney Cross, Dani Shaw, Jessica Peters

**Guests Present:** LaTiffany Coleman, Nick McRae, John Cabrales, Katherine Gonzales, Barbara Ross, Hope Nordon, Sydney Wilburn

**Appointees Absent:** Barton Duffy, Chief Lee Howell, Kathy Srokosz, Monica Glenn, Sandra Robinson, Thomas Muir

**Welcome & Consideration of January Minutes**

Mayor Watts welcomed appointees and guests to the meeting at 8:00 a.m. Mayor Watts acknowledged Valerie Foster's presence at the meeting and offered condolences on behalf of the Denton County Leadership Team for the recent loss of her son, Tyler Foster.

Mayor Watts requested a motion to accept the January meeting minutes.

Motion: Terry Widmer

2nd: Councilman TJ Gilmore

Motion Approved

**Workgroup Updates**

Terry Widmer provided an update on the Housing Workgroup. The group has begun drafting its strategic goal to increase access to housing for residents of Denton County. Objectives include identifying unmet housing needs and expanding housing capacity. Strategies for achieving objectives include collaboration across agencies to network with private landlords and build a shared database of landlords willing to accept clients with special circumstances, and asset mapping and determining actual housing capacity to identify unmet needs. The Housing Workgroup will finalize its strategic goal for submission to DCHLT Strategic Planning Committee after the next meeting scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup>. Terry commended Giving Hope's recent launch of a Housing Navigation program

Terry and Courtney provided an update on the Denton Supportive Housing Pilot. The Implementation Team is set to meet Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss immediate next steps for housing clients. United Way of Denton County has executed an MOU with Denton Supporting Housing, Inc., who has fully funded the pilot program up-front. UWDC will act as fiscal agent for the program. UWDC has also executed and MOU with Denton Affordable Housing Corporation (DAHC). DAHC's board has agreed to a



negotiated rent of \$650 per unit, and has agreed to prioritize pilot clients for units as they become available. Community member Deborah Cosimo works in program evaluation for Health and Human Services in Dallas, and has agreed to review the program overview for the pilot in-kind to ensure outcome measures are being tracked consistently.

Stephen Coffey provided an update on the Data Workgroup. The workgroup met with the Denton County Homeless Coalition Coordinated Entry Steering Committee January 13<sup>th</sup>. The groups voted to approach their respective governing bodies for formal approval to combine their efforts to implement Coordinated Entry in Denton County, and to prioritize Veterans. The prioritization of Veterans was recommended because of the existing resources and mechanisms in place for Veterans and their families, and the ability of local agencies to utilize those existing resources as a way of launching the Coordinated Entry Process in Denton County.

Mayor Watts requested motions for the following recommendations:

- Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team to combine efforts with the Denton County Homeless Coalition to implement a Coordinated Entry Process in Denton County.  
Motion: Stephen Coffey  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Terry Widmer  
Motion Approved
- Prioritization of Veterans for the initial implementation of a Coordinated Entry Process in Denton County.  
Motion: Stephen Coffey  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Keely Briggs  
Motion Approved

The Data workgroup will draft its strategic goal at the next meeting, Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. The DCHLT Strategic Planning Committee has advised the workgroup's goal focus on the implementation of a Coordinated Entry Process in Denton County.

The DCHLT continues to partner with the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team to obtain community feedback regarding behavioral health and housing needs and experiences. The Consumer Workgroup met February 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to obtain feedback. The group voted to change the name to 'UWDC Community Conversations' in order to be more relatable and accessible to the general community, and the 'workgroup' will now serve as an oversight committee for the planning and facilitation of consistent conversations with various community groups throughout Denton County.

### **Strategic Planning Committee Update**

Councilwoman Keely Briggs provided a report of the DCHLT Strategic Planning Committee's first meeting. Committee members include: Keely Briggs, Jessica DeRoche, Alice Mankoff, Dani Shaw (Ex-Officio), Courtney Cross (Ex-Officio), Gary Henderson (Ex-Officio), Chief Lee Howell, Monica Glenn and



Sherri McDade. Councilwoman Briggs and Jessica DeRoche were appointed co-chairs by committee members.

Councilwoman Briggs reviewed recommendations of the committee to workgroups as they develop their strategic goals:

- Data Workgroup
  - o Strategic Goal: Implement a Coordinated Entry System in Denton County.
  - o Suggested Objectives: Funding, capacity issues, staffing at agencies, collaboration/partnerships across agencies
- Housing Workgroup
  - o Strategic Goal: Increase access to housing in Denton County. (Intentional removal of the word 'affordable' to be more inclusive of the spectrum of need.)
  - o Suggested Objectives: unmet need, housing inventory (assure accurate and real-time)

Councilwoman Briggs raised the topic of Workforce Development as a potential future workroup and requested feedback from DCHLT appointees. Jessica DeRoche stated the importance of income and employment in maintaining housing, and Dani Shaw stated the Data Workgroup's System Performance Measure of increasing income. Mayor Watts raised the question of whether the DCHLT was equipped to launch a Workforce Development workgroup. After discussion, appointees requested that UWDC Backbone Support staff conduct fact-finding meetings to assess current workforce development related initiatives in Denton County and report back to the DCHLT in April.

### **Speakers Bureau**

The need for increased community awareness and presentations throughout Denton County was raised during the Strategic Planning Committee meeting. Mayor Watts emphasized the importance of communicating 'wins' through presentations to various community and civic groups throughout Denton County. Courtney presented a draft of Speakers Bureau slides for feedback from the group. Appointees provided feedback for additions to the presentation, and Courtney will make updates for the March meeting.

### **Backbone Support Update**

Gary Henderson provided an update on the nonprofit team that will join the Denton Chamber's joint position group for Denton County Days in Austin February 28<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>. UWDC leads the nonprofit team and collaborated with partner agencies to develop their 2017 Legislative Agenda to inform advocacy efforts. Approximately 150 Denton community members will be in Austin to call on delegates regarding various bills and legislation.

### **New Business/Public Comments**



Mayor Watts informed appointees to recent proposals by developers and the Denton Housing Authority regarding low income housing tax credit developments in Denton, and the potential for increased funding for housing and homelessness initiatives as a result of future developments.

The meeting was adjourned by consent at 9:23 a.m.

**Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday, March 9, 2016 @ 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**  
**United Way of Denton County Office**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# DCHLT Workgroup Reports

February 2017

## WORKGROUP NAME: HOUSING

## CHAIR NAME: TERRI WIDMER

### Meeting Summary: February 13, 2017

Workgroup members: Terry Widmer (Chair), Dani Shaw, Jeff Coffey, Rebekah Woodland, Leslie Moseley, Kristin English, Sherri McDade, Alonzo Peterson, Pauline Jemison, Tiffany Youngblood, Christy Daniel, Betty Kay, Cathy Brown, George Morrison, Melanie Torres, Brenda Jackson, Jessica Burchfield, Alex Reed, Courtney Cross

Attending: Terry Widmer (Chair), Dani Shaw, Rebekah Woodland, Tiffany Youngblood, Christy Daniel, Betty Kay, Cathy Brown, Melanie Torres, Brenda Jackson, Jessica Burchfield, Alex Reed, Courtney Cross, Hope Nordon (UWDC Intern)

The group discussed the current state of the Housing Pilot and further steps towards implementation. A unit on Robert St. has been identified for a prospective client, with two more units predicted to be available within six weeks following the above meeting date. DAHC will prioritize DSHP clients.

The group discussed the workflow to identify clients as the following: Review Team will access deidentified HMIS list, Review Team will contact MHMR with Client Identification number, MHMR will provide source of contact to Review Team, Review Team will reach out to client.

The group finalized the Strategic Plan and determined a significant need for a rental and housing database and successfully created a policy/advocacy objective.

### Short Term Action Items

Explore approaches to creating a real-time dashboard of rental and housing availability, may include utilizing university student interns.

Review Team to identify potential program candidates. UWDC to gain HMIS license and finalize expected communication with MHMR.

Assign Strategic Plan tasks and subcommittees.

### Accomplishments

First DSHP unit identified.

The group made steps towards addressing housing stability at a macro level through the creation of strategies and metrics to influence public policy.

### Concerns

Lack of available housing and rental inventory and resources.

Time-sensitivity of obtaining HMIS licensure.

### Next Meeting Dates

March 20, 2017

# DCHLT Workgroup Reports

February 2017

**WORKGROUP NAME: DATA | WORKGROUP CHAIR: STEPHEN COFFEY**

## Meeting Summary: February 10, 2017

Members Present: Stephen Coffey (Chair), Christy Daniel, Dani Shaw, Courtney Cross, Jesse Hamner, Keith Henderson, Patrick McLeod, Alonzo Peterson, Linda Choi, Katherine Gonzales

The DCHLT Data Workgroup and the DCHC Coordinated Entry Steering Committee met to collaborate on the group's strategic goal, objectives, and strategies to further the implementation of Coordinated Entry throughout Denton County. United Way's Courtney Cross lead the discussion of HUD required systems performance measures and how to integrate established best practices into the workgroup's strategic planning. The group established three main objectives around implementing Coordinated Entry throughout homeless service and housing providers, continuous evaluation of System Performance measures, and determining the housing need throughout Denton County.

Members discussed the importance of establishing agency roles with the implementation of Coordinated Entry, which agencies will be administering the CE process and which agencies will be getting people experiencing homelessness housed. Other conversations were facilitated regarding the importance of data for improved system performance measures and determining housing need throughout Denton County. Strategic planning will continue in the upcoming meeting focusing on direct service providers and how to best support these agencies with the further implementation of Coordinated Entry.

**Next Steps: MHMR's Leslie Mosley will facilitate a discussion about barriers direct providers face with implementing CE and how the group can best support these agencies moving forward.**

## Shor-term action items

Implement Coordinated Entry to prioritize homeless veterans

Continue to work with workgroup members to compile data and create a "real time" homelessness data dashboard

## Accomplishments

Established initial strategies and metrics of CE implementation

Established new partnership with Catholic Charities and began discussion around integrating processes and databases

## Concerns

Implementing Coordinated Entry in a timely manner

Utilization of common assessment tool by the four front door agencies

Capacity for direct data entry

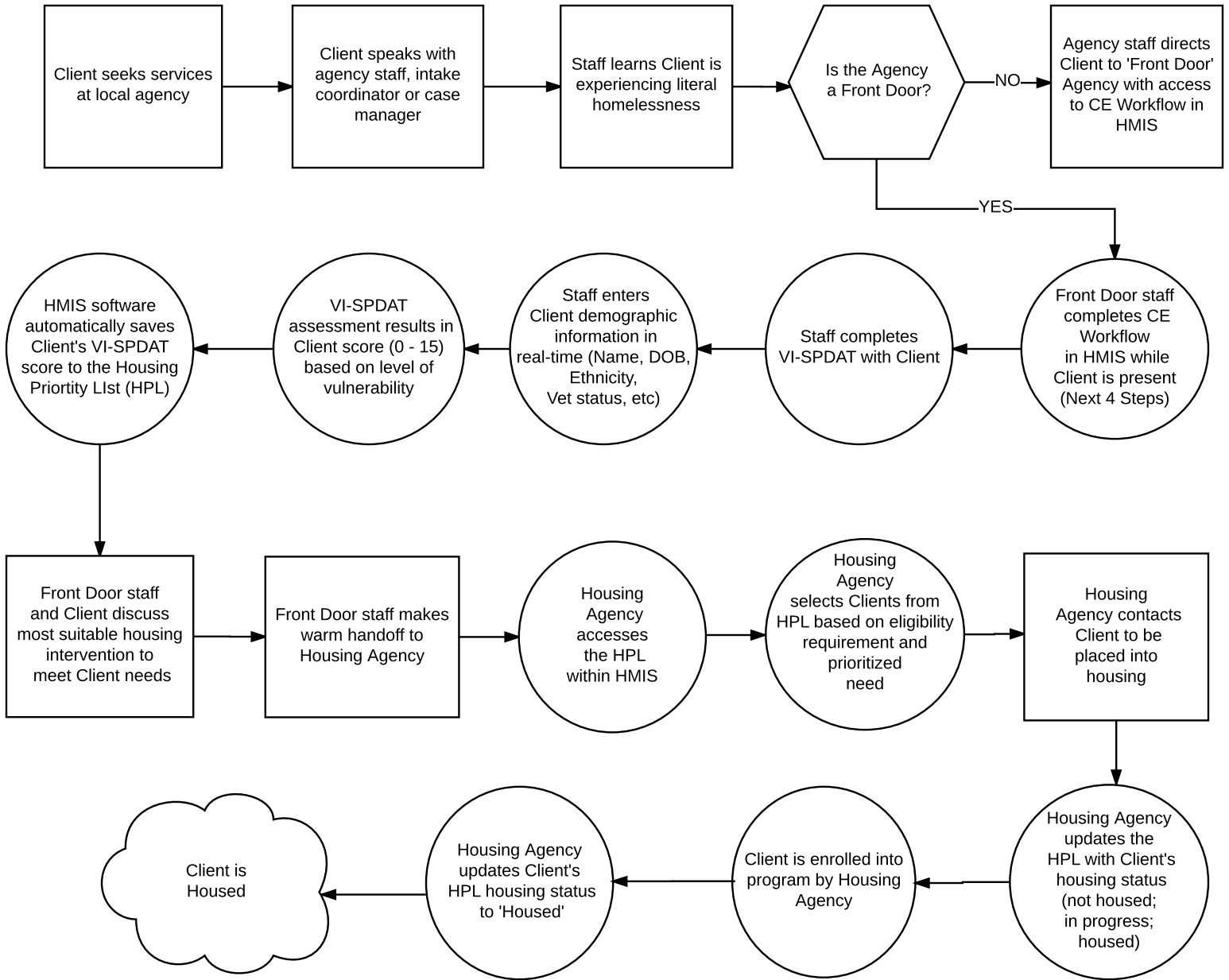
Data sharing capabilities of HMIS between agencies

## Next Meeting Dates

March 24, 2017 from 10:00 A.M. – 11: 30 A.M.at the United Way of Denton County (1314 Teasley Lane)

**DRAFT**

# Denton County Coordinated Entry Process



**LEGEND**

□ Person to Person Step      ○ HMIS Database Step





# DCHLT Workgroup Reports

February 2017

**WORKGROUP NAME: COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS - CONSUMER WORKGROUP**

**WORKGROUP CHAIR: ELIZABETH FERRING**

## Meeting Summary: February 2, 2017

Workgroup members engaged in Community Conversations are not identified for confidentiality purposes. The workgroup attendees remain fluid as representatives of the DCHLT and DCBHLT attend local, established groups.

The workgroup leadership met on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the workgroup next steps in increasing intentionality in consumer engagement. Workgroup attendees relayed the titling of the group was not commonly utilized or honoring of the population. Workgroup leadership elected to refocus the group to a more fluid structure, entitling the engagement process "Community Conversations".

Workgroup leadership emphasized the necessity of reaching out to established groups for group dynamics, boundaries and feedback preferences. Workgroup attendees advised that 2 – 3 representatives from the leadership team facilitate Community Conversations to ensure appropriate ratio of guests to group attendees.

Workgroup leadership also emphasized establishing a goal for the utilization of feedback. UWDC representatives relayed that feedback from Community Conversations will be utilized for the Community Needs Assessment, proposals to the leadership teams and to inform practice implementation. The group discussed collecting data through qualitative and quantitative metrics.

The workgroup also elected to develop a Strategic Goal for the workgroup. The workgroup noted that a formalized goal will assist in devoting attention to meeting metrics for community feedback.

**Next Steps: UWDC team will begin calendaring conversations throughout 2017 calendar year, following development of facilitation and data collection materials.**

## Shor-term action items

- Develop facilitation materials for Community Conversations
- Recruit 2 – 5 appointees to facilitate Community Conversations
- Develop quantitative and qualitative metric tools
- Develop Strategic Goal for Community Conversation workgroup

## Accomplishments

- Establishment of workgroup leadership to support and guide strategic planning for Community Conversations
- Scheduled Community Conversation for March 15<sup>th</sup> in Lewisville

## Concerns

- Effectively scheduling diverse conversations
- Capturing and synthesizing collected feedback

## Next Meeting Dates

- March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Road to Recovery - Lewisville