DENTON COUNTY
WORKFORCE SUCCESS
LEADERSHIP TEAM

Friday, February 18, 2022 | 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

Agenda

I.	Welcome & Approval of Minutes	B. Troyer
II.	Data collection	O. Mata Williams
III.	Workgroup Updates	
	• Child Care	S. Redondo
	• Working Family Success – Financial Empowerment	A. McElroy
IV.	Denton County Leadership Teams Update	
	• DCBHLT	S. Spencer
	• DCHLT	E. Lusk
V.	Backbone Support Update	
	• TWC Self-Sufficiency Grant	O. Mata Williams
	• CREW grant	S. Redondo
VI.	Public Comment	B. Troyer
VII.	New Business	B. Troyer
VIII.	Adjourn	B. Troyer

Next Meeting Date:
Friday, March 25, 2022 | 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Virtual Meeting

United Way
Denton County

Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team

8:30 am Fri, Jan. 21, 2022

Virtual Over Zoom

Welcome and Introduction

Mr. Bob Troyer calls the meeting to order and welcomes everyone.

2020 Road Map

Ms. Olivia Mata-Williams overviews last year's continued pandemic, UWD moving from reactive to proactive. EdFarm was one large undertaking, as well as pairing with local libraries and applying for the Texas Workforce Grant last month. The target population is already served in house, but a need to identify barriers and troubleshoot how to meet them. As steering committee meetings come up again, eviction surveys have been sent out to discuss them. Remarks on Ms. Shanan Spencer from the DCBHLT in their meeting 1/20/2022. Changes on council staffing as well. While watching DCHLT and DCBHLT develop, having a good blueprint to keep progress going, will keep updated with information.

Mr. Bob Troyer remarks that the City Council has hired a new Economic Project developer, in addition to a new City Manager.

Questions from Dr. LH Jeng about data collection processes, and the importance of sufficient data collection in grant writing and coordination among leadership teams.

Mr. Gary Henderson remarks on Dr. LH Jeng's question with two scenarios, one being that the DCHLT is the most advanced due to the coordinating entry system. The DCBHLT is struggling with data collection because of stigma and HIPAA compliance- goal to set up a information database established in a meeting yesterday. COVID Eviction Prevention with ERA 1 and ERA 2 is currently supplying the most data, 49% of Denton County respondents under or unemployed.

Dr. LH Jeng advocates the need for coordinating data collection activities among the three leadership teams to survey what data already exist and where the gaps in data collection are; the need for another layer/team altogether that collects data to meet the needs of the three leadership teams.

Ms. Dani Shaw from City of Denton remarks that shared data as an important baseline, but also which pieces of data are most important to collect.

Mr. Gary Henderson- (HMIS) homeless management information system is currently the most comprehensive in data collection.

Ms. Courtney Douangdara remarks the HMIS is still segmented, but legislation is coming up to try and integrate data sharing across regions, specifically with homelessness.

Mr. Gary Henderson spoke about a meeting with Elena Lusk and Denton County, who is purchasing a web-based system called Neighborly to assist with ongoing eviction prevention work. Ensuring that entry questions target needed data for HMIS; concerns over including health information because of HIPAA concerns. Further conversations needed on how privacy legislation such as FERPA and HIPAA prevent or discourage holistic data collection needed to acquire services.

Dr. LH Jeng says that the strongest argument being that people are not one-dimensional and need to think more holistically about data collection.

Gary Henderson remarks the need to advocate to change laws around privacy and data collection.

Workgroup Committee Updates

- **Denton County Works Steering Committee – R. Del Rio**

Dr. Roxanne Del Rio remarks that the committee has not met yet, but it should shift its focus toward data collection, for the county and cities within it. She remarked on the need to start with collecting the existing data; and will review the results of the survey given to recipients of eviction prevention services.

- **Strategic Planning Committee – L.H. Jeng**

Dr. LH Jeng confirmed the updated strategic plan was passed in the last meeting.

- **Family Childcare Network – S. Redondo**

Ms. Olivia Mata-Williams covered for Ms. Shelby Redondo and provided 5 updates. One being that FCCN Year 2 the goal is 100 new providers, current total stands at 58. For the Educating Educators training there are over 50 registered participants for STEM focused training. Planning the second annual Childcare Conference on June 11 & 12- 6 free CEUs for educators. The new masters level interns will be working on the creation of a childcare data dashboard that is updated weekly – it will contain information on the childcare providers throughout the county, such as their location, potential bus routes, what capacity they have, what the waitlist is, public or private, etc, to create an active directory.

Mr. Gary Henderson mentions the need to use this information with case managers helping clients find employment and also find childcare.

Mr. Bob Troyer comments on the need for transportation- children to childcare and parents to work.

Ms. Anabel Castillo-Soto mentions findchildcaretexas.gov, which was launched recently. It allows filters that include transportation, scholarships, ages accepted. She also mentioned Wonder School, a private directory of childcare services, and assists those interested in starting their own childcare business. Thirdly, Jeff Bezos has launched Bezos Academy, which is a free Montessori childcare service in Dallas County- it provides teachers, materials and curriculum, while the county provides the school building. The aggressive goal for educating/caring for more children on a larger scale.

- **Working Family Success: Financial Empowerment – D. Burgoon**

 No new updates

Denton County Leadership Teams Update

- **DCBHLT – S. Spencer**

Ms. Shanan Spencer mentioned that the goal for the DCBHLT is to get the Mental Health Navigator pilot going; also looking to develop a data dashboard for mental health services. Suicide prevention strategies are another focus due to the heightened number of deaths by suicide in the past year, the most incidents involving a firearm.

- **DCHLT – E. Lusk**

Ms. Elena Lusk overviews the Point In Time Count will be going on next week- the annual census of persons experiencing homelessness, training opportunities before the day- 1/27/2022.

Backbone Support Update – O. Mata Williams

- **EdFarm**

Ms. Olivia Mata-Willliams spoke about EdFarm, which was tied strongly to the Build Back Better bill; the human infrastructure was not passed as expected.

Mr. Gary Henderson speaks about the limitations of grant money, needing homes to place residents and jobs to place potential employees.

- **TWC Workforce Grant**

Mr. Gary Henderson speaks about how we should find out about this grant in the next few months.

Ms. Olivia Mata-Williams details the grant: 12-month grant, goal is a minimum of 700 persons at risk for homelessness or eviction, to re or upskill, would bring 20 new hires and 6 paid Masters level interns. She spoke about the desire to purchase EMPathways should the grant be awarded; which addresses trauma-informed care. If funded, it begins April 25th, and is renewable for up to 5 years.

Ms. Anabel Castillo-Soto forewarns that if awarded, it might be on shorter notice, so there is a need for a shorter ramp.

Public Comment – B. Troyer

Dr. Roxanne Del Rio asks for a potential motion and second to promote the data collection.

Dr. LH Jeng motions to focus on data collection/data coordination.

Mr. David K seconds the motion for the Steering Committee to focus on data collection.

Mr. Bob Troyer announces that the motion has passed.

New Business – B. Troyer

Ms. Anabel Castillo-Soto remarks on her event occurring on Tuesday at the Gaylord Texan for a conference 1/25/2022.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourns at 9:29 am.

If you have something you would like on the agenda for our next meeting, please contact Olivia Mata- Williams: Olivia@unitedwaydenton.org

Next Meeting Date:

Friday, February 18th, 2022 | 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Remote Meeting

X _Ling Jeng_
Dr. Ling Hwey Jeng