



**Friday, April 20th, 2023 | 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
Virtual Meeting**

**Agenda**

- |       |  |  |
|-------|--|--|
| I.    | Welcome & Approval of Minutes            | Bob Troyer- City Council Lewisville                  |
| II.   | Introductions                            |  |
|       | - Name                                   |  |
|       | - Entity                                 |  |
|       | - Role                                   |  |
| III.  | 2023 Committees                          |  |
|       | - Strategic Plan                         | Christina Davis- City of Denton Economic Development |
| IV.   | DCWSLT Overview                          | Shelby Redondo- UWDC Staff                           |
| V.    | Advocacy Update                          | Shelby Redondo- UWDC Staff                           |
| VI.   | Workgroup Updates                        |  |
|       | • Child Care & FCCN                      | Courtney Knighten- UWDC Staff                        |
|       | • Financial Empowerment                  | Olivia Mata Williams- UWDC Staff                     |
| VII.  | Denton County Leadership Teams Update    |  |
|       | • DCBHLT                                 | Shanan Spencer- UWDC Staff                           |
|       | • DCHLT                                  | Olivia Mata Williams- UWDC Staff                     |
| VIII. | Backbone Support Update                  |  |
|       | • Workforce Ready Training               |  |
|       | • Child Care Subsidy Information Session | Shelby Redondo- UWDC Staff                           |
| IX.   | Public Comment                           | Bob Troyer- City Council Lewisville                  |
| X.    | New Business                             | Bob Troyer- City Council Lewisville                  |
| XI.   | Adjourn                                  | Bob Troyer- City Council Lewisville                  |

**Next Meeting Date:  
Friday, May 19th 2023 | 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. | Virtual Meeting**



## **Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team**

Friday, March 17, 2023, 8:30 AM  
Virtual Meeting Over Zoom

### **Welcome and Introduction**

Councilmember Troyer motions for approval of the February meeting minutes. Dr. Del Rio approves and Mr. Emerson seconds.

### **Strategic Plan of Child Care Work Group**

Ms. Vaughn introduced herself as a senior childhood specialist and eligibility coordinator for Texas Rising Star. The work group is focused on revamping and rebuilding, with a primary goal of engaging and empowering parents, families, professionals, and communities to provide an enriched environment for children up to age 8 through advocacy. Ms. Vaughn listed three specific goals of the work group: providing support, improving quality, and increasing awareness and education within communities. She detailed strategies for each goal, including professional development and workforce retention, securing additional funding for childcare initiatives, and educating parents through corporate campaigns. The work group will meet next week to discuss objectives and connect with the leadership team. Dr. Jeng asked about a work group for children 8 and older, and Ms. Redondo stated that one could be created in the future if needed.

### **Financial Empowerment Pilot Program**

Ms. Dooley highlights the Economic Mobility Pilot Program she has been working on over the last few months as part of the Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team. Cumberland and Denton County Friends of the Family are the two partners of this program. Single female head of households are the largest group in ALICE in Denton County. The survival budget of 2018 pertaining to childcare for families does not account for post COVID and inflation. She shares the positive impacts of the EMPathways program on financial goals and career development set by single female head of households and adults (ages 18-21) transitioning out of foster care, and other programs she worked on with Denton County Friends of the Family and public facing presentations at the City of Lewisville Library. She also highlights the key takeaways from these experiences.

### **Financial Empowerment Work Group Updates**

Ms. Redondo highlights the Austin trip on March 1<sup>st</sup> with United Ways of Texas and United Ways of Metropolitan Dallas, and the issues United Way of Denton County is advocating for at the state level including affordable housing, workforce, childcare and mental health. UWDC will also go to Austin on March 21<sup>st</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup> for Denton County days to continue advocate for important issues such as affordable housing, workforce, and child care.

### **ERA 2 Updates**

Ms. Mata-Williams says that the internal program for emergency rental assistance that started in October 2022 is closing its application doors at the end of this month. In January United Way had spent a 1 million dollars just in rental and utility assistance and the money is projected to end by summer. Due to the influx of applications received for rental and utility assistance in mid-March, the application period was shortened to two days rather than two weeks. She emphasizes a call to action to utilize human capital in helping increase the effectiveness of the current resources and funding available to United Way of Denton County.

### **Childcare Workgroup Updates**

Ms. Knighten introduces herself as the new part-time child care coordinator and also part-time finance and administration eviction prevention coordinator in the emergency rental assistance program. Currently, the



Workgroup has 91 members and 2 of the newest members are from Parker County. The group started marketing the summer childcare conference occurring on May 20<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup>. The first quarterly meeting will take place via zoom on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Belinda and Cynthia will be participating in NCTC's El Mercado where they will provide resources and information to this standing community about the program.

### **Behavioral Health Leadership Team Updates**

Ms. Spencer mentions the leadership team is continuing with current strategic plans. The team is also trying to get approval for mental health navigators.

### **Homelessness Leadership Team Updates**

Ms. Mata-Williams says that all three leadership teams have been working together to figure out how to bridge the resource gaps in Denton County and utilize all the resources effectively. The Behavioral Health Leadership Team created a work group yesterday that aligned homelessness and mental health. The Homelessness Leadership Team will be awarded Senior Gap funding from the city of Lewisville. An application was submitted to expand housing navigation specific to city of Lewisville yesterday. And Point in Time Count data should be released late spring.

### **Backbone Support**

Ms. Redondo mentions the work completed by an intern focusing on referral calls. She also mentions there will be a call happening soon with vocational rehab to discuss what their program process is like.

### **New Business**

Councilmember Troyer invites the Leadership Team to visit Lewisville tomorrow for a Saint Patty's, Texas Style celebration. The event integrates St. Patrick's Day and Independence Day into one big event. He then reemphasizes that her if anyone is interested in the Financial Empowerment Work Group or knows anyone interested to contact Ms. Redondo.

### **Adjourn**

Councilmember Troyer adjourns meeting at 10:30 am.

Dr. Ling Hwey Jeng  
Secretary of DCWSLT