



**Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Physical –UWDC Community Room: 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205**

**Virtual – Zoom Video Conference Link Attached in Email**

**Agenda:**

I.	Welcome	Thomas Muir	5 min.
II.	April Meeting Minutes	Thomas Muir	3 min.
	• <b>VOTE – Approval of Meeting Minutes</b>		
III.	PIT: State of Homelessness in Denton County	Leia Atkinson	45 min.
IV.	Workgroup Updates		20 min.
	• Housing	Terry Widmer	
	• Denton County Homeless Coalition	Daphne Houston	
	• Data	Leia Atkinson	
	• Healthcare	Isabel Rodriguez	
V.	Backbone Support Update	UWDC	10 min.
	• UWDC Homelessness Initiatives		
	• Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team Update		
	• Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team Update		
VI.	Public Comment	Chair	5 min.
VII.	New Business	Chair	5 min.
VIII.	Adjourn	Chair	2 min.

**Next Meeting Date:**

**Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | Hybrid Meeting**

**Physical – United Way of Denton County, 1314 Teasley Lane Denton TX 76205**

**Virtual – Zoom Video Conference Link Attached in Email**





## **Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team**

8:00 am Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Hybrid Meeting in Person and Zoom

### **Welcome and Introduction**

Mayor Muir welcomes everyone and calls the meeting to order at 8:02 am. The February meeting minutes were approved with a majority vote from the Homelessness Leadership Team.

### **Diversions Committee Presentation**

The Subcommittee was approved in the Summer of 2022 and has been meeting bi-monthly to monthly in order to understand diversion and its impacts. It was comprised of 17 organizations that serve Denton County. Mr. Richardson and Ms. Ball present the plan for diversion implementation in Denton County based on the Ad Hoc Diversion Subcommittee Recommendations. Diversion was adapted into the Housing Crisis Response System.

### **New Workgroup**

Ms. Shaw proposed a joint workgroup that would include mental health and homelessness. Both the Housing and Behavioral Health Leadership Teams would work together. This group would also involve law enforcement, MHMR, DC Public Health Department, and county wide nonprofit agencies. This ad-hoc workgroup was approved by the DCBHLT in March and approved by the HLT appointees.

### **Workgroup Updates**

#### **Housing:**

Terry Widmer noted the improvement of attendance and participation during case conferencing. No further questions were asked of Terry.

#### **Denton County Homeless Coalition:**

Daphne Houston reported that she will be stepping down as Coalition Chair and a search for a replacement would be voted on at the May Coalition meeting. The CoC was preparing to take their annual award submissions for service providers.

#### **Data Workgroup:**

Leia Atkinson presented the Homelessness Data Dashboard, updated March 2023 with 352 reported people experiencing active homelessness. Leia Atkinson that little to no significant data shifts occurred in the veteran and those with chronic illnesses experiencing homelessness. Leia reported an update from the ISDs, which included an expected increase in the two largest districts in the county (Lewisville and Denton).

#### **Healthcare:**

Isabel Rodriguez discussed increasing the size of Healthcare workgroup and recruitment efforts to Homeless Outreach teams, Salvation Army (both campuses), CCA, and Metrocrest. The group has completed its logic model and are deciding on a tool to track progress.



### **Backbone Support Updates**

#### **UWDC Homelessness Initiatives**

Olivia Mata-Williams informed the group that the PIT count data was made available and presentation dates will be announced. Memorial Planning committee picked an October date and are working on themes.

#### **Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team**

Shanan Spencer updated the team of the approval of funding for Mental Health Navigators from the County and the start of the employment search. The BHLT approved forming a joint ad-hoc committee with HLT to explore gaps and needs in the county for persons exiting substance treatment facilities in the county and their interactions with existing systems. The TVC grant was submitted and is pending notification of award. April is preparation for Mental Health Proclamation for May Mental Health Awareness Month.

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

Shelby Redondo shared takeaways from the ESC 11 conference attended; changing conversations between CTE students and their career planning to include economic mobility engagement. There were two legislative trips to Austin in March to discuss workforce, childcare and housing bills. The leadership team is wrapping up the strategic planning for childcare and the leadership team. The Family Child Care Conference is scheduled for May and has over 200 participants registered.

### **Public Comment**

### **New Business**

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am. Next meeting is Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

# DCHLT Workgroup Reports

## DCHLT HOUSING WORKGROUP | CHAIR: TERRY WIDMER

### APRIL 2023-MAY 2023

The DCHLT Housing Workgroup has convened 8 times between April 2023 and May 2023 for Case Conferencing. During each case conferencing meeting, members discussed clients that each agency is actively working with, including client strengths, barriers, and housing-focused actionable next steps, as well as received updates on available homelessness prevention funding and programming in Denton County. Workgroup members are provided an opportunity to report clients who have gained housing during each meeting to maintain quality community wide data, as well as receive training and guidance on how to document a client's "housed" status in HMIS.

Housing Workgroup will continue to meet Mondays from 3-4 PM with a hybrid option either in person at United Way of Denton County or virtually via Zoom.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday – Veteran CC
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday – General CC
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – Veteran CC
- 4<sup>th</sup> Monday – General CC
- 5<sup>th</sup> Monday – Families CC

### SHORT-TERM ACTION ITEMS

- Review and discuss Diversion Rollout
- Continue to increase consistent attendance across agencies.
- Barriers Fund access and funding availability

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Dedicated increased time to agency collaboration on a program level & transparency.
- Re-balanced agenda between clients with highest need & clients engaged in services.

### CONCERNS

- Service provider capacity to conduct follow up on action items identified in Case Conferencing
- Ability to remain in contact / locate clients with little means of communication and transportation for service follow up
- Onboarding for new agency staff

### NEXT MEETING DATES

June: 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, \*UWDC observes Juneteenth as a holiday

July: 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

## DCHLT Workgroup Reports

### DENTON COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION | CHAIR: DAPHNE HOUSTON

#### APRIL 2023-MAY 2023

The Denton County Homeless Coalition met twice from April 2023 to May 2023. The following was discussed:

- Improved collaborative communication of live resources across our agencies and community partners
- Electing a new Coalition Chair: Elena (Lusk) Shehan

#### SHORT-TERM ACTION ITEMS

- Community partners and service providers will continue to update the livespreadsheet monthly to communicate any priority programming available.
- Dr. Jones heading the Panel Discussion Initiatives upcoming discussion: *Follow the Money* on June 6th at 1 pm on Zoom and FB Live.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Increased collaboration and sharing of active information between service providers and community partners.

#### CONCERNS

Agencies continue to report an increase in housing assistance requests while local shelters remain at capacity (both in Denton and in the broader DFW area).

#### NEXT MEETING DATES

June 28<sup>th</sup> (Lewisville; Next Steps), July 26<sup>th</sup> (Denton; Giving Grace)

# DCHLT Workgroup Reports

## DCHLT DATA WORKGROUP | CHAIR: STEPHEN COFFEY

### APRIL 2023-MAY 2023

The data dashboard has been updated with data up to April 2023. As of April 2023, there are currently 414 households actively experiencing homelessness on our Housing Priority List. The 414 total number for April breaks down into:

- 60 families
- 119 individuals
- 29 fleeing domestic violence
- 32 Veteran households
- 174 households experiencing chronic homelessness

#### *No changes in reporting for ISDs*

Denton County school districts' data was updated in February 2023. The two largest school districts reported the following:

- Denton ISD: 587 students (increase from October 22; 347)
- Lewisville ISD: 1,024 students (increase from October 22; 820)

Housing intervention prioritization breakdown:

- Diversion Services: 29 households (7%)
- Rapid Rehousing Intervention: 217 households (52.4%)
- Permanent Supportive Housing Intervention: 168 households (40.6%)

#### Short-term action items

- Address errors with HMIS export by advocating to CoC leads and cross checking inflows with agencies.
- Identify goals for 2023 dashboard improvement and collaboration with other workgroups.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Data Dashboard has been updated with new categories for 'Homeless Start Date' & Disability/Chronic Illness

#### CONCERNS

- Data accuracy from agencies utilizing HMIS continues to be a concern UWDC staff supports in resolving.

# DCHLT Workgroup Reports

## DCHLT HEALTHCARE WORKGROUP | CHAIR: ISABEL RODRIGUEZ

APRIL 2023-MAY 2023

This group is currently in the knowledge-gathering phase, identifying gaps in the current healthcare system as it relates to the unhoused population and determining what can be done on a local level to address these gaps. The ultimate goals of this group are to reduce emergency room visits that could be handled in primary or urgent care, increase funding for primary care and community health services targeted at this population, increase number of options for patients experiencing homelessness with acute needs at discharge, and increase the unhoused population's awareness of healthcare services, measured by repeatedly administered knowledge survey.

### Short-term action items

- Administer survey of community health care providers to get database on services available and their accessibility to the unhoused population.
- Plan for study of unhoused population and agency staff's knowledge of healthcare services.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Procured representation from hospitals, community health agencies, street outreach, shelter staff, permanent supportive housing staff, and community organization entities.
- Drafted community health provider survey to gather information on services and services accessibility, which will be administered and translated into a database accessible to case managers.

### CONCERNS

- There are currently very few pathways for a person experiencing homelessness to access medical care other than utilizing the emergency room.
- Few options are available for the aging population with long term needs, few facilities prepared to meet this need accept Medicaid or Medicare.