DENTON COUNTY HOMELESSNESS LEADERSHIP TEAM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

United Way of Denton County, Inc.

Thursday, April 11, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

United Way of Denton County (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

Agenda

I.	Welcome & Consideration of February 2019 Minutes	T. Gilmore	2 min.
II.	Welcome New Appointees	T. Gilmore	5 min.
	• Dale Tampke, Health Services of North Texas		
	• Ashleigh Feryan, City of Lewisville		
III.	Homelessness Data Report/Point-In-Time Count Report	C. Cross	20 min.
IV.	Workgroup Updates		40 min.
	• Data	K. Gonzales	
	• Housing	T. Widmer	
	• Ad Hoc Committee	C. Cross	
	• Shelter Planning	C. Cross	
	• Ending Veteran Homelessness		
V.	Denton County Homeless Coalition Update	M. Jones	10 min.
VI.	Backbone Support Update	C. Cross	10 min.
	• Barriers Fund		
	• Housing Navigator		
	• Denton County Days		
VII.	New Business	T. Gilmore	
VIII.	Adjourn	T. Gilmore	

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday, June 13, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way of Denton County

CITY OF DENTON

LEWISVILLE
Deep Roots. Broad Wings. Bright Future.

United Way
of Denton County, Inc.

Thursday, February 14, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

Meeting Summary

Appointees/Ex-Officios Present: Alice Mankoff, Councilman TJ Gilmore, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Courtney Cross, Cynthia Harris, Dani Shaw, Emily Taylor, Isabel Rodriguez, Jessica DeRoche, Leroy Schuetts, Mary Jones, Nicole Recker, Roy Metzler, Sheryl English, Stephen Coffey, Terry Widmer

Appointees Absent: Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Deputy Chief Frank Padgett, Gary Henderson, Herman Oosterwijk, Josh Ashford, Kathy Srokosz, Mayor Chris Watts (regrets), Mayor Thomas Muir, Monica Glenn, Prit Patel, Valerie Foster

Guests: Sarah Kuechler (City of Denton), Sonia Redwine (United Way of Denton County), Katherine Gonzales (United Way of Denton County), Alyssa Mostaffa (United Way of Denton County), Tyheshia Scott (Giving Hope), Stephen Thomas (Salvation Army of Lewisville)

Welcome & Consideration of December 2018 Minutes

Chair Councilperson TJ Gilmore called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Chair requested a motion to approve December 2018 minutes.

Motion: Terry Widmer
2nd: Dr. Mary Jones
Motion was approved.

Chair welcome the Leadership Denton class number 34 and invited members to introduce themselves.

Welcome New Appointees

Chair welcomed two new appointees and invited them to share their background. Emily Taylor is the new board chair and DCHLT appointee for Our Daily Bread. Emily has a background as a nutritionist and has been in Denton for 33 years. Nicole Recker is the Salvation Army of Denton's new DCHLT appointee from their advisory council. Nicole also serves as the VP of Marketing and Communications for the Denton County Transportation Authority.

Making a Pit Stop (Documentary Teaser)

Chair invited Tyler Short and Jen Peace to share a short teaser and information about a homelessness-awareness documentary project they are working on, 'Making a Pit Stop'. The group viewed the 5-minute teaser and posed questions to Tyler and Jen.

Appointees asked questions regarding the end goal of the project, and whether the film would highlight the progress made by the community. Tyler and Jen stated that the goal of the film is to highlight the progress and future work of the community to provide solutions for people experiencing homelessness, and to engage the community to help be a part

of the solution, primarily through donations to the Denton County Homelessness Barriers Fund.

Tyler and Jen shared the documentary proposal, which included a proposed budget for the project. Donations specific to the film project may be made through the United Way of Denton County. The anticipated project release date is September 2019.

Chair requested a motion for the DCHLT to endorse the documentary and allow for use of the DCHLT logo in promotion.

Motion: Dr. Mary Jones
2nd: Terry Widmer
Motion was approved.

Workgroup Updates

Data Workgroup

Katherine provided an update of the Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard.

In December Front Door and Receiving Agencies participated in Diversion training provided by Org Code and the Texas Homeless Network. The Diversion workflow was launched in December 2018 in the HMIS and has been fully implemented within the Coordinated Entry process across Denton County. The Diversion workflow gives front door assessors the tools to facilitate meaningful conversations with households seeking emergency services and assists households find alternative solutions to emergency shelter. Data from the Diversion pilot will be a catalyst for the Data Workgroup to start collecting homeless prevention data.

In preparation of gathering system performance measures UWDC backbone support is working with Front Door and Receiving agencies to complete a final data clean-up before system performance measure baselines are recorded.

Councilperson Keely Briggs (Denton) noted that prior to the launched of the DCHLT and the implementation of Coordinated Entry, the community did not have the data it needed to implement data-driven solutions.

Housing Workgroup

Terry Widmer provided and update on the Housing Workgroup. The workgroup meets biweekly for case conferencing to prioritize the top households on the Housing Priority List. The group reviews households categorized by priority population (chronic, Veteran and domestic violence survivors), and assigns action steps.

Workgroup members continue to learn from each other and identify opportunities for increased training and process improvement. Backbone support plans to incorporate more training material into regular workgroup meetings. Backbone support also continues to collaborate with agencies to identify opportunities to revisit program policies and extend financial assistance as needed for higher acuity households.

Ad Hoc Committee

UWDC backbone support has engaged a student group at UNT to assist in the aggregation and analysis of housing affordability data. Additionally, UWDC staff is participating in a City of Denton Affordable Housing Workgroup.

Shelter Planning Workgroup

The Shelter Planning Workgroup is set to meet March 27th to review funding options pertaining to recommendations set forth by the group in their Fall 2018 report. The workgroup will agree on recommendations to bring to the DCHLT, Denton City Council and other governing/funding bodies.

Ending Veteran Homelessness

UWDC backbone support convened a meeting of various Veteran, housing and supportive service providers in December to initiate community planning for the DCHLT's strategic goal to End Veteran Homelessness by 2020.

The group reviewed community progress towards the improvement of access and quality of mental health and housing assistance resources for Veterans in Denton County, what an end to Veteran homelessness means, and the benchmark criteria for success in reaching that goal:

An end to Veteran homelessness means that the community will have a systematic response in place that ensures homelessness among Veterans is prevented whenever possible or is otherwise a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience.
- Specifically, the community will have the capacity to:
- Quickly identify and engage Veterans at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Intervene to prevent the loss of housing and divert Veterans from entering the homeless service system.
- Provide immediate access to shelter and crisis services, without barriers to entry, while permanent stable housing and appropriate supports are being secured.
- When homelessness does occur, quickly connect Veterans to housing assistance and services—tailored to their unique needs and strengths—to help

The group will reconvene in the new year to identify and prioritize next steps.

Denton County Homeless Coalition Update

Dr. Mary Jones provided an update on the Denton County Homeless Coalition. Mary reviewed the composition of the Denton County Homeless Coalition as a local homeless coalition within our HUD-recognized Continuum of Care. The coalition's Steering Committee reviewed the DCHLT's strategic plan in January, and plans to host a community-wide discussion on homelessness and affordable housing in the Summer.

Backbone Support Update

Courtney provided an update on the Barriers Fund and informed appointees of UWDC's recent application for Independent Bank's Community Grant Cycle to support the fund. UWDC will also submit an application for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program February 22nd. Courtney also informed the group that UWDC backbone support will explore ways to engage people with lived experience as we continue to develop and implement homeless solutions.

UWDC staff recently accompanied City of Denton staff on a visit to Seattle to learn about their innovative approach to funding homeless services and improved shelter practices in the city. Courtney explained the city's shift towards enhanced shelters and performance-based funding, which has resulted in an increase in people accessing shelter, as well as an increase in successful housing placements for people experiencing homelessness.

New Business

Chair requested any new business from the group. Councilperson Keely Briggs share her experiencing volunteering for the Point-In-Time Count. One of the six people she spoke with came from Denton, four were working and living in their cars; some of the people she spoke with requested a safe lot where they could park their cars overnight without being harassed. One person she spoke with said a Roanoke Police Officer brought them to Denton.

Leah Jordan informed the group of UWDC's new collective impact initiatives, the Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team (DCWSLT).

The Chair took the remainder of the time to address the Leadership Denton class and provide a summary of why the DCHLT exists. The Chair stated that as a councilperson his goal is often to not spend money, but that cities are spending money on jails and other systems people experiencing homeless crises or homelessness might interact with. He addressed the concept of an enhanced shelter and challenged the privileged notion that if someone was experiencing homelessness, they should be happy with whatever shelter environment they are provided. The DCHLT exists to create a network of government, nonprofits and leaders in the business community. He challenged business owners and leaders in the room to find opportunities to serve and/or donate to the solutions being discussed at a county level.

Next Steps:

Chair requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Motion: Terry Widmer
2nd: Councilperson Keely Briggs
Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:
Thursday, April 11, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way of Denton County, Inc.
(1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

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Secretary   **Date**

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

April 2019

DCHLT DATA WORKGROUP | CHAIR: STEPHEN COFFEY

Members Present: Stephen Coffey,Danielle Shaw, Courtney Cross, Katherine Gonzales, Keith Henderson

The Data Workgroup convened to discuss next steps for the Homelessness Data Dashboard and ways to improve data visualization. First the group discussed the latest process improvements of pulling data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to Google Data Studio. Group members have identified next steps in brining in University of North Texas (UNT) computer science faculty and students as well as other community members to assist in streamling the data pulling process as automated as possible.

Next the group discussed System Performance Measures (SPM) and identified timelines to roll out throughout this spring and summer. SPM 1,3,5 will be added to the homelessness Data Dashboard with March data in the beginning of April. The group also discussed the formulas and special reports necessary to created SPMs 2,5,6,7. Group members will reach out to Texas Homeless Network (THN) within the month of April to help build out customized reports to pull SPM data from the HMIS.

Upcoming updates to the Homelessness Data Dashboad include:

- Regular updates to homelessness student data. A list of Denton County school district homelessness liasons have been identified and will be contacted soon about sending student data on a regular basis. (May 2019)
- Total households housed throughout the year (April 2019)
- Point in Time Count Data (May 2019)

Short-term action items

SPM 5 & 7 added to dashboard May 15th

Create Formulas to generate SPM 2 & 6

SPM 2 & 6 of Data Dashboard June 15th

Accomplishments

SPM 1,3,5 added to the Data Dashboard

Concerns

Training case managers to effectively capture income information during program enrollments and exits to accurately measure SPM 6

Next Meeting Dates

TBD

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

DCHLT HOUSING WORKGROUP | CHAIR: TERRY WIDMER

The Housing Workgroup has convened 5 times between February 14th and April 8th.

The Housing Workgroup continues to meet bi-weekly to prioritize households on the Housing Priority List. At the start of every meeting, group reviews vacancies in local housing programs along with available rental units through the Doors for Denton County Housing Navigation program.

UWDC's Homelessness Coordinator conducts weekly phone check-ins with providers to touch base on outflows and reassessments. The Housing Navigator has joined these calls to review available units and discuss how they can support each programs housing search and placement needs.

March 4th, the workgroup reviewed program-specific processes and eligibility criteria, and they reviewed Coordinated Entry processes and roles. March 11th, the group received a Fair Housing presentation from Frances Espinoza of North Texas Fair Housing.

Short-term action items

Continued program-specific training based on Standards of Excellence

Accomplishments

Attendance and collaboration of providers

Fair Housing training from the North Texas Fair Housing Center

Concerns

Access to wrap-around services for households with severe service needs

Understanding of program-specific processes and flexibility of funds to assist households for extended periods as needed

Next Meeting Dates

April 22nd, May 6th, May 20th

DCHLT Workgroup Reports

ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

UWDC Backbone support continues to collaborate with Community Solutions' Built For Zero data collaborative to improve local homeless data and work towards the goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness by 2020. Additionally, the Denton County Homeless Coalition is exploring the possibility of a 100-day challenge early next year, to house 25-30 Veterans over the course of 100 days.

The next step towards these goals includes a Veteran-specific case conferencing meeting (scheduled for April 17th) during which Veteran service providers will identify barriers, housing needs and supportive service needs of all the Veteran households currently identified. This will allow us to identify common problem areas to focus on as a community, develop opportunities to enhance service provision and advocate for increased community resources.

Short-term action items

Veteran By-Name-List Case Conferencing

Develop action steps through identification of common problem areas

Accomplishments

Successful asset mapping of community resources

Balanced Veteran data

Concerns

Timely implementation and consistent tracking of progress towards goal

Next Meeting Dates

April 17th