



Thursday, May 20, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Virtual Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93852469789?pwd=Uj96NVpVSldxRDNKYlI6OVppWGRyQT09>

Agenda

I.	Welcome	T. Widmer	2 min.
II.	Vote to Approve Minutes	T. Widmer	2 min.
III.	New Participant Introductions	T. Widmer	2 min.
IV.	Report on Mental Health Awareness Month	A. Quimby S. Spencer	5 min.
V.	Workgroup Committee Reports		15 min.
	a. Child and Family Systems	L. Prillwitz/L. Elliott	
	b. Veterans Workgroup	S. Spencer	
	c. Jail Diversion	D. Lee	
	d. Substance Use	H. Galloway	
VI.	Denton County Veteran Stability Program	E. Baxter	5 min.
VII.	Backbone Support Update		15 min.
	a. COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Fund Outcomes - G. Henderson		
	b. Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team Update - E. Lusk		
	c. Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team - O. Williams		
VIII.	New Business	T. Widmer	15 min
	a. Research by Kelly Partin from UNT		
IX.	Public Comment		
X.	Adjourn	T. Widmer	

Next Meeting:

Thursday, July 15, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way Denton County





Thursday, March 18, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome T. Widmer

Chair Terry Widmer called the March DCBHLT meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and welcomed the group. In

attendance:	Craig Daugherty	Lisa Elliott	Hope Galloway	T.J. Gilmore
	Tamara Knapp-Grosz	Douglas Lee	Matt Richardson	Scott Domingue
	Kevin Deaver	Chris McGinn	Roxanne Del Rio	Linda Holloway
	Bobbie Mitchell	Terry Widmer	Laura Prillwitz	Pam Gutierrez
	Alisa Quimby	Courtney Cross	Gerard Hudspeth	Loren Fouch
	Kyle Infante	Elishia Baxter	Gary Henderson	Elena Lusk
	Olivia Williams	Rebecca Champion	Jacob Chamberlain	Ginny Brundeen
	Shanan Spencer			

II. Vote to Approve Minutes T. Widmer

Terry called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Lisa Elliott made a motion to approve and Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

III. New Participant Introductions T. Widmer

Terry introduced new participants to the group, Loren Fouch, CEO of Mayhill Hospital and Kyle Infante, Director of Business Development at Mayhill Hospital. The team welcomed them and thanked them for their work.

IV. Vote to Approve New Appointee T. Widmer

Terry reported that Melinda Galler from the City of Lewisville has retired. She expressed gratitude for the work Melinda contributed to the BHLT. She introduced Chris McGinn from Lewisville to be the appointee to replace Melinda. She called for a motion to approve Mr. McGinn’s appointment. T.J Gilmore motioned, Bobbie Mitchell seconded. The group voted unanimously to approve Mr. McGinn’s appointment.

V. Report on Increased Mental Health Needs L. Elliott

Lisa Elliott presented a report on the increased mental health needs of children in Denton County. She cited an increase in suicidal ideations and attempts. She indicated that there are not enough beds for children needing inpatient care. She expressed concern for the residual affects of COVID on children’s mental health and parents’ stress levels. Hope Galloway indicated seeing similar trends in children’s mental health needs.

Gary Henderson mentioned needing data regarding increased need. Hope Galloway and Tamara Knapp-Grosz reported having data to share. All data is to be sent to Lisa Elliott, who will share it with Shanan Spencer at UWDC.





VI. New MHMR SAMHSA Grant

P. Gutierrez

Pam Gutierrez reported that Denton County MHMR has applied for a grant to cover the costs of two additional counselors to work with children. They also received a grant from Lewisville for an additional counselor for children and adults.

Pam also reported that MHMR has received a \$3.9 million, two year SAMHSA grant for substance use. MHMR has applied for CCBH certification. With the grant, MHMR will provide substance use treatment and detox services. They are working on to get the program running in the next month.

VII. Workgroup Committee Reports

- Child and Family Systems: Laura Prillwitz reported that CFS continues to work on the Lake Cities Focus. The group is still in the planning phase. She also reported that CFS co-sponsored a workshop on Human Trafficking in January. There were nearly 100 participants and the feedback was positive. Lisa Elliott reported that CFS continues to participate in the Okay to Say campaign. She added that the Children's Feelings are a Work of Art contest is coming to close tomorrow. There will be a virtual art gallery in May as part of Mental Health Awareness Month. The group also continues to look for funding for mental health navigators.
- Veterans Workgroup: Shanan Spencer reported that the group has continued to meet bi-monthly to address the needs of Denton County veterans. The work is done in partnership with the Veteran Community Navigators and Denton County Veteran Stability Program.
- Jail Diversion: Doug Lee reported that the group has begun meeting monthly. They have focused on true jail diversion, i.e. intervening in mental health crisis to get treatment for people vs. taking them to jail. The group, along with county law enforcement are making strides in this area.

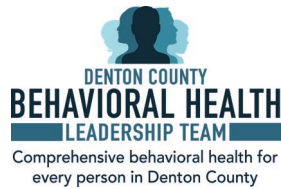
VIII. Denton County Veteran Stability Program

E. Baxter

Elishia Baxter reported that the Denton County Veteran Stability program has provided over \$83,000 in assistance for housing, utilities, and transportation using funds from the TVS grant. The grant is up for renewal review at the end of April. They are on target to be considered for renewal. The grant can be used for veterans, surviving spouses, and dependents. The use of funds are not dependent on discharge status.

IX. Backbone Support Update

- COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Fund Outcomes – Shanan Spencer reported in Gary's absence. The Consolidated Appropriations Act Emergency Relief Assistant (CAA ERA) rent & utilities assistance program opened on March 3rd. We have 900+ households that have pre-screened for assistance. City of Denton & City of Lewisville's TERAP (Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program) opened in February, all funds are targeted to be expended around the end of March. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) COVID-19 Round 1 grant for homelessness intervention & prevention is open. ESG CV2 grant will come online in March. All of these programs can be accessed via a single screening webform at <https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/eviction-prevention>. NOTE – this year, LANDLORDS/PROPERTY MANAGERS can refer their tenants for assistance. Landlord referral also happens at <https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/eviction-prevention>. Together in 2020 we helped 4,600



households across 32 cities & towns in Denton County received 7,900 months of housing assistance through United Way of Denton County in 2020! 2021 will be EVEN BETTER!

- Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team Update – Elena Lusk reported that the Eviction Prevention Program, funded with \$25 million, is up and running. There is a pre-screening tool on the UWDC website for tenants and landlords. Also, the HLT is running a “100 Day Challenge” to end veteran homeless in Denton County. The challenge will run from April 1 – July 10. The Point in Time (PIT) count was conducted in January. Due to COVID concerns, only people in shelters or hotels were counted.
- Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team: Olivia Williams reported that the WSLT did not meet last month due to weather. The group is continuing their work on the business survey to determine needs and solutions for local businesses after COVID. They are also continuing to recruit for childcare providers. They are at 25 of their 50 provider goal in their network. Denton and Lewisville are conducting in home visits for licensing. The Childcare Network is having its first conference in May.

X. New Business T. Widmer

- Ad Hoc Substance Use Workgroup: Hope Galloway reported that the Substance Use workgroup will have its first meeting in April. She is looking for members from community providers and experts. Rebecca Champion suggested Dr. Heller-Garland from Addiction Studies from UNT. Terry suggested a representative from Mayhill. Loren Fouch agreed to join.

XI. Public Comment

Dr. Matt Richardson reported that vaccination clinics are going well and they are working through the wait list quickly. He encouraged anyone over the age of 50 to sign up for vaccination if they had not already done so. He received several pieces of positive feedback from members of the group. He gave website information and shared that people can call the number on the website to receive help with registering. He also reported that he thinks the list will open in the next few weeks to non-priority folks.

Shanan acknowledged Terry for her exemplary work as the co-chair of the DCBHLT and thanked her for her ongoing support to the work of the group.

XII. Adjourn T. Widmer

Terry called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, May 21, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way Denton County





DCBHLT Workgroup Reports

May 2021

WORKGROUP NAME: CHILD AND FAMILY SYSTEMS WORKGROUP

CHAIR NAME: LISA ELLIOTT AND LAURA PRILLWITZ

CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION (EMAIL AND PHONE): LISA.ELLIOTT@COOKCHILDRENS.ORG (940) 484-4311 AND LAURA.PRILLWITZ@DENTONCOUNTY.COM (940) 349-2455

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

The group last met on April 23, 2021. Workgroup members: Lisa Elliott, Laura Prillwitz, Shanan Spencer, Amy Lawrence, Monya Crow, Lisa Pierce, Sadaf Meckfessel, Trish Robinson, Scott Domingue, Suzy Gange, Alisa Quimby, Joshua Marshall, and Lisa Settles.

Attending: Laura Prillwitz, Dr. Lisa Elliott, Shanan Spencer, Dr. Lisa Pierce, Alisa Quimby, Lisa Settles, Joshua Marshall, Scott Domingue, Suzy Gange, Sadaf Meckfessel, Trish Robinson, Erica McKinnie and Parker Stathatos. Also included Karna Garcia (UWDC Intern), Taylor Howard (UWDC Housing Case Manager) and Kelly Partin (UNT graduate student).

Short Term Action Items

- Members discussed that May is National Mental Health Month with Friday, May 7th as National Children's Mental Health Day. Multiple Mental Health Awareness Month activities were discussed including:
 - My Feelings Are a Work of Art Youth Art Contest which is a virtual art gallery to be held May 21-28, 2021.
 - Proclamations that will be read at the Denton County Commissioners Court and various city council meetings.
 - Okay To Say messaging will be included in social media posts throughout the month of May.
 - Social Media Campaigns – both UWDC, WATCH and THR will saturate social media with mental health message throughout the month of May in support of Mental Health Month.
 - Alex Reed, Kamilah Hasan and Judge Andy Eades helped to organize the Denton County court house to be lit up green throughout the month of May in support of Mental Health Awareness month. Posters were also distributed to businesses on the square for their windows to show support.
 - WATCH sponsored a workshop entitled "Encapsulated: The link between substance use disorders and mental health" that will be held virtually on May 7th.
- Laura and Shanan provided an update on the Lake Cities 40 Development Assets Framework Opportunity.
- Shanan provided an update on the Mental Health Navigator noting there is an opportunity to apply for grant funding from the city of Lewisville. These funds can only be used for Lewisville residents however this opportunity may be helpful for demonstrating the need for mental health navigators throughout the county.

- HB 3489: Trish Robinson and Parker Stathatos from Representative Tan Parker's office discussed HB 3489. This bill is aimed at establishing best practices for the use of tech and digital devices for children. The bill aims to use ACES and prevention and early intervention strategies to address the issue. The group was encouraged to contact their legislators' offices with input and to let others know about the bill.

Accomplishments

- Progress towards applying for Lewisville grant opportunity.
- Multiple Mental Health Awareness events/activities completed and/or in progress.
- Progress towards Strategic Goals for 2021-2022.

Concerns

- Inability to carry out certain strategies and metrics identified on current strategic plan due to COVID-19 limitations and restrictions, in particular: Conducting focus groups with ISDs and administering a community needs and barriers to behavioral health care assessment in partnership with ISDs, due to increased demands on ISDs, parents and youth in a virtual learning setting.
- Funding for Mental Health Navigators – need at least 2 dedicated to Child and Family work

Next Meeting Dates

My Feelings Are A Work Of Art virtual Youth Art gallery May 21-May 28 at www.WATCH.org (?)

May 20 (virtual DCBHLT)

May 28 (virtual Child and Family Workgroup)



DCBHLT Workgroup Reports

May 2021

WORKGROUP NAME: VETERANS WORKGROUP

CHAIR NAME: CHRIS MARTIN AND RAYMOND HOLDER

CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION (EMAIL AND PHONE): C2W2MARTIN@AOL.COM AND HOLDERRAYMOND2@GMAIL.COM

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

The group last met on April 15th to review progress towards its 2020-2022 strategic plan; to identify training opportunities for workgroup members through guest presentations; to review outcomes of the Denton County Veteran Stability Program (DCVSP) funded by the Texas Veterans Commission; to identify accomplishments and areas for growth regarding the Veteran Outreach Day (November 6th and 7th 2020); to review progress towards Ending Veteran Homelessness; and to discuss opportunities to support isolate Veterans.

Workgroup members: Chris Martin, Raymond Holder, Liz Emerson, Nikki Perez, Melanie Torres, Cierra Stanko, Michael Hunn, Elishia Baxter, Mira Brown, Louise Ferrill, John Czapko, Paul Flannagan, Dr. Mary Jones, Terry Widmer, Dani Shaw, Courtney Cross, Artie Williams, Elena Lusk

Attending: Liz Emerson, Dr. Mary Jones, Nikki Perez, Elishia Baxter, Courtney Cross, Terry Widmer, Cierra Stanko, Chris Martin, Ginny Brundeen, Megan Ball, Madeline Fink, Hope Rodgers, Taylor Howard, and Shanana Spencer

Short Term Action Items

- Coordinate workgroup guest speakers as identified by workgroup members
- Distribute donation of cell phones and minutes to Veterans experiencing barriers to communication
- Coordinate with DCHLT Veteran Case Conferencing Workgroup as needed to ensure prioritization of HUD VASH Vouchers
- Identify best practices for volunteers that could conduct social support outreach to isolated Veterans

Accomplishments

- Ongoing progress of Veteran Community Navigators and Veteran Stability Program

Concerns

- The group believes the current need is to determine any further gaps in services and to address those needs vs. addressing areas of the current strategic plan.

Next Meeting Dates

June 10th, (Virtual via Zoom)



DCBHLT Workgroup Reports

May 2021

WORKGROUP NAME: JAIL DIVERSION WORKGROUP

CHAIR NAME: CHIEF DOUGLAS LEE

CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION (EMAIL AND PHONE): DOUGLAS.LEE@DENTONCOUNTY.COM

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

The group met on May 18 to review progress towards its 2020-2022 strategic plan; to improve law enforcement processes and protocols for pre-arrest diversion to enhance law enforcement mental health crisis response; to improve accessibility of behavioral health treatment options in intercepts 0 & 1.

Workgroup members: Chief Douglas Lee, Scott Wisenbaker, Troy Manning, Asst. Chief Barry Caver, Chief Daniel Carolla, Loren Fouch, Kyle Infante, Judge Coby Waddill, Judge Bonnie Robison, Judge David Jahn, Brittney Nolan, Judge Douglas Robison, April McDonough, Cheryl Rayl, Sgt. Elisa Howell, Sara Gawor, Cpt. Roger White, Lt. Curtis Stevenson

Attending: Chief Lee, Asst. Chief Caver, Loren Fouch, Kyle Infante, Judge Jahn, Chief Lee, Judge D. Robison, Brittany Waymack, Rebecca Champion, Shanan Spencer

Short Term Action Items

- Develop a standard protocol for Denton County police officers encountering people in mental health crisis.
- Foster relationships between law enforcement and local mental health service providers

Accomplishments

- A standard protocol for Denton County police officers has been established. Information has been distributed to all law enforcement agencies on how to respond. If officers need assistance, they can call the Sheriff's Office and the Mental Health Team will respond to help.
- The relationship between law enforcement, MHMR, and the hospitals is strong.

Concerns

- There is a need for continued training in some agencies re: mental health protocols.

Next Meeting Dates

TBD



DCBHLT Workgroup Reports

May 2021

WORKGROUP NAME: SUBSTANCE USE

CHAIR NAME: HOPE GALLOWAY

CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION (EMAIL AND PHONE): HOPEGALLOWAY@TEXASHEALTH.ORG

Meeting Summary (provide meeting date and items discussed during meeting)

The group had its first meeting on April 28th to establish the work and discuss goals.

Workgroup members: Hope Galloway, Paula Heller-Garland, Scott Wisenbaker, Awstin Gregg, Courtney Cross, Lauren Titsworth, Marjorie Fitzgerald, Linda Holloway, Sonia Redwine, Loren Fouch, Emily Redondo, Monya Crow, Amy Lawrence, Shanan Spencer

Attending: Hope Galloway, Scott Wisenbaker, Courtney Cross, Lauren Titsworth, Marjorie Fitzgerald, Linda Holloway, Sonia Redwine, Loren Fouch, Emily Redondo, Rebecca Champion, and Shanan Spencer

Short Term Action Items

- Gather statistics re: substance use in Denton County and available resources.
- Develop a strategic plan.

Accomplishments

- The group is up and running.

Concerns

- Stigma surrounding substance use.

Next Meeting Dates

June 9th and monthly thereafter, (Virtual via Zoom)



VIRTUAL ART GALLERY

Visit watchdenton.org from May 21 - 28 for this year's Art Gallery. You will find submissions from this year's Art Contest, Community Resources, children's mental health related games, and a Community Reflections Board. Participate in the Scavenger Hunt for a chance to win a prize!

**Wellness Alliance
for Total Children's Health
of Denton County**
led by Cook Children's


**DENTON COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
LEADERSHIP TEAM**
Comprehensive behavioral health for
every person in Denton County