



Local Policy & Practice Committee

3/21/2018 | 9:00AM-11:00AM

ECHO Training Room
300 E. Highland Mall Blvd, Suite 200

Co-Chairs

Chris Laguna

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Present

Taryn Davis (Front Steps), Dylan Shubitz (HACA), Karen Dorrier (IC), Dan Mosely (HACA), Ruth Ahearn (IC), Andrew Willard (FFH), Chris Laguna (IC), Natasha Ponzcek Shoemake (COA APH), Josh Rudow (COA NHCD), Haggai Eshed (Front Steps), Catherine Williams (VA), Marilyn Hartman (NAMI), Eric Kunish (NAMI), Rick Rivera (TSA), Sam Verde (ASA), Sandra Chavez (ASA), Erin Goodison, Preston Petty, Jordan Schmid, Laura Evanoff, Niki Paul, Ann Howard, Casey Soberon (ECHO)

Minutes

9:00-9:20AM

Welcome & Introductions (Co-Chairs)

- *Action Item: Approve February Minutes*
 - *Minutes approved by consensus with no revisions.*

9:20-9:30AM

Technical Assistance Portal (L. Evanoff)

- ECHO is pleased to announce an online portal to request technical assistance and training for CoC/ESG grant recipients.
- TA/Training will be prioritized by need for the intervention type. Training can be provided within the community or LE will help coordinate a visit from an external expert.
- Currently, CoC/ESG recipients are priority, but opportunity to open up portal to other community partners in the future.
- Portal is found on the echo website under the About ECHO tab.
- RRH Webinar series is still on ECHO listings.

9:30-10:00AM

Workgroup Updates (WG Chairs)

- PSH – Haggai Eshed, Chair
 - Determined 4 eligibility criteria for PSH move-ups:
 - Income and expenses stability
 - Property stability – ability to rehouse
 - PSH services
 - Client choice
- RRH – *Chair TBD*
 - A. Willard – RRH CM Chair (2x per month) – meeting with L. Evanoff today to conference about that group. Discussion on how to maintain the educational piece while also ensuring time for the staffing portion of the meeting. Aim of the group is to case conference, real time unit matching, and provide short best practice trainings.
 - T. Ponzcek – Showed interest in chairing the policy group (1x per month). Looking for one additional chair. Looking to streamline eligibility intake process (rather than enrollment intake process). Aim of the group is to discuss policy in

broad strokes and program/client matching based on eligibility and funding sources.

- Outreach & Navigation – Karen Dorrier / Amber Price Co-Chairs
 - Met last week and identified a mission statement. Aim of the group is to coordinate will all outreach efforts in the community (over 50 attendees across sectors).
 - Request to extend the meeting by 30 minutes. This would push the staffing piece back. Discussions around service mapping and HMIS use.
 - 2nd Thursday of every month; April 12th meeting at SE Health and Wellness Center. 10-11am citywide workgroup; 11-12pm specific outreach cases with HMIS participants. Next staffing will be pushed to 11:15 to allow for networking.
 - Navigation- staffing about 60 clients. Of those, about 15 clients are completely document ready for housing and engaging.
- Income/Employment – *Chair TBD*
 - Chair is Sam with ASA. Early stages are to inform all the housing providers of existing resources in the community via Income & Employment Manual. The manual will be available on ECHO website. Discussions around secondary interventions in the future.
 - Payee services are not eligible as a deductible medical expense.
 - SSVF-Goodwill contract has person dedicated to income and employment.

10:00-10:10AM

Healthy Communities Collaborative (R. Ahearn)

- Quarterly partner meeting with family eldercare. Expedited payee service referrals are up and running.
- Reviewing contracts for next fiscal year. HCC grant ends in 2020, but want to continue partnerships
- Construction at Oak Springs underway. Discussions around housing first and staffing so that once the construction is done, clients are ready to be placed.
- Property management by an outside contractor.
- MLF Community First! Village: Staff getting trained. Move-ins have slowed down. R. Ahearn to check on average response time after application is submitted.
- HCC has a small amount of money left from this fiscal year- would like to host community wide trainings. Contact R. Ahearn with training needs.
- L. Dryer accepted into transatlantic program exchange in early summer (England). Focus in criminal justice piece of mental health services.
- Emily Prince starting on Monday for Program Manger at Community Recovery Center.

10:10-10:35AM

City of Austin Updates (T. Ponczek/J. Rudow)

- APH: Responding to a number of city council resolutions. Coming to a close on temporary work recommendations. Three different models with cost associated with them have been proposed:
 1. Models Albuquerque
 2. Day Labor Plus (outreach for day labor or other work options)
 3. Non-Profit to do an employment program – providing outreach, wrap around services, and housing/employment/training opportunities (supportive employment model)
- City's current day labor program outreaches to unsheltered persons, but is not particularly robust. The new proposal would also outreach to employers.

- Similar program in the 90's was not particularly successful. Learned that there is a cultural aspect to panhandling and there was not much motivation to leave panhandling all together.
- Suggestion to include a SOAR component in the 2nd and 3rd models ensure equity of people with disabilities and are unable to sustain work.
- Interest in seeing whether the money made from panhandling is in decline with the increased use of electronic payment methods.
 - Part of the city's campaign is to provide an online platform of other options for giving instead of providing cash to panhandlers. Signage included in the messaging.
 - Interest in the research on the effectiveness of electronic donation options.
 - This group to discuss and make a formal recommendation to Membership in April's meeting.
 - Should a final Council determination on the model be made before the April meeting, T. Ponczek can provide the model to the Committee to provide feedback.
 - T. Ponczek to share whatever data has been used on this subject.
- Started a partnership with NAEH for technical assistance in revamping the ARCH and its contract.
- Stephanie Hayden chosen as new director.
- ARCH RFI projected to be released in May, followed by RFQ.
- NHCD: TxDOT interested in using the mapping system to inform their outreach and construction.
 - Pedestrian crash data to be included in the map.
 - Currently, map is being used to make proactive moves to serve folks that are in an upcoming construction zone.
- Developing a top ten list for city resource priorities.
- \$30M of city funding that goes towards homelessness – J. Rudow to share that breakdown with the Committee once the data is public.

10:35-10:45AM

Membership Council Updates (C. Laguna/D. Shubitz)

- Review of MC Timeline. Goal is to create a parallel timeline to ensure voting items relevant to the Committee are discussed and a recommendation is provided to MC.
- March Actions Taken
 - Annual approval of ECHO as CoC and HMIS Lead

10:45-10:55AM

Other Community Updates & Discussions (Open)

- Veterans Initiative – Taryn Davis, Chair
 - Veteran Resource Center – no building identified and no funding currently. Still discussing whether the city or a non-profit will manage the center.
 - 16 clients housed in February. VASH cleared their waitlist. Nadia negotiated new partnership with 3 complexes and is working to fill those units. Working with Income/Employment Workgroup to promote financial stability.
 - Anyone who has served active duty is eligible for SSVF and has worked with HUD to ensure it doesn't interfere with data collection.
- YHDP – Niki Paul, ECHO
 - Austin reps presented on a panel for the NAEH conference in LA on systems collaboration (ECHO, LifeWorks, DFPS-CPS, AWWA)
 - RFP Outcomes: LifeWorks's applications approved for TAY-Shelter (joint TH-RRH Program) and Rapid Re-Housing Plus Projects (with SAFE and Caritas). Deeper Diversion Projects are not yet approved. The project proposal will be

voted on by MC in April and discuss the involvement of the education, juvenile justice, and child welfare systems in this intervention.

- Point In Time Count – Casey Soberon, Chair
 - Overall, a slight increase in unsheltered homelessness. Not seeing a notable increase in the downtown areas, but rather districts 3 and 7.
 - Slight decrease in sheltered homelessness. Can be attributed to shelters not being at capacity and a decrease in transitional housing. The TH decrease was not technically a loss in TH, but rather TH that was not dedicated to literally homeless persons was not counted in this year's count and should not have been in previous years.
 - Question regarding Harvey evacuees determined that less than 2% of persons were homeless in Austin/Travis Co due to the hurricane.
- Fair Housing Summit the 3rd and 4th of April. Julian Castro and Mayor Adler speaking.
- SOAR: Discussions with other SOAR providers to ensure they are not duplication efforts.
 - Connecting top of rapid list with soar navigations.
 - Income/Employment Workgroup going to train the navigators in Travis County on how to connect folks to soar.
 - Recent SOAR Training with community healthcare paramedics.
 - Interested in looking at zero income folks on the PSH move-up.

10:55-11:00AM

Next Steps

Next Meeting: April 18, 2018 9:00AM-11:00AM; ECHO Offices 300 E. Highland Mall Blvd.