



Austin/Travis County CoC Workgroup Structure

The following outlines existing ECHO Workgroups, their roles, required attendees, and the ECHO staff/community partner ensuring the outcomes of each group are consistent with its function. In alignment with requirements set by the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), some working groups are in place as part of the governing structure for the Continuum of Care Program.

1. Membership Council

- Primary decision-making body for the Austin/Travis County CoC.
- Determine the policy direction of the CoC and ensure the CoC fulfills its responsibilities as assigned by HUD.
- Oversees and approves the work of CoC committees and workgroups.

2. Local Policy & Practice Committee

- Members provide feedback on various strategic affordable and supportive housing initiatives and problem solve community-wide challenges.
- Policy recommendations may be made to the Membership Council for approval.

3. HUD Continuum of Care & ESG Committee

- Align HUD funded grantees to review and evaluate HUD priorities.
- Oversee HUD CoC NOFA competition needs and timeline and review system performance measures.

4. Opening Doors Initiatives

- While not a workgroup, the CoC is charged convening stakeholders to achieve the timeline of ending homelessness for specific subpopulations, and ultimately community homelessness in Austin/Travis County.

Some workgroups address individual client information and are not open to the public. The following workgroups are open to the public. For more information, contact info@austinecho.org

1. Local Policy & Practice Committee

Purpose:	Members are responsible for leading and recommending work related across various funding streams and build cross community collaboration around affordable housing, supportive housing, and local policies impacting access to necessary resources to end homelessness. Members engage in long-term strategic planning and problem solve community-wide challenges. Policy recommendations may be made to the Membership Council for approval.
Schedule:	Monthly 3 rd Wednesday of every month 9:00am – 11:00am ECHO Office: 300 E. Highland Mall Blvd., Suite 200

Local Policy & Practice Committee Workgroups		
Workgroup	Purpose	Chair(s)
RRH Policy Workgroup <i>4th Thursday</i> <i>9:30am – 11:30am</i> <i>Family Eldercare</i>	Identify best practices and standardize RRH policy and services across the continuum. Responsible for the development of Austin/Travis County CoC Written Standards.	Laura Evanoff, ECHO Taryn Davis, Front Steps Megan Podowski, Caritas
Citywide Outreach & Navigation Workgroup <i>3rd Thursday</i> <i>10:00-12:00</i> <i>Integral Care Dove Springs</i>	Facilitate face-to-face coordination between community members providing homeless outreach. Work to streamline and standardize outreach and navigation services across the community, to connect highly vulnerable persons to housing.	Katie Rose, ECHO
Income & Employment <i>3rd Friday</i> <i>1:00-2:30pm</i> <i>Goodwill Office (Norwood)</i>	Responsible for identifying barriers and recommending strategies to increase access to income and employment. Develop and strengthen partnerships across homeless services and workforce services.	Preston Petty, ECHO Sam Verde, AIDs Services of Austin Jennifer Cerretti, Goodwill

2. HUD Continuum of Care (COC) & ESG Committee

Purpose:	Members are responsible for the planning and collaboration of HUD funded projects and ensuring the community is strategically using HUD funds to end community homelessness. Develops and implements strategies to evaluate program performance and system outcomes. Reviews and evaluates HUD funded priorities in Austin/Travis County during the local HUD CoC application process. Members engage in Performance Improvement Plan process for CoC-funded projects. Oversees HMIS and PIT Workgroups to ensure management of system-wide performance and HUD compliance.
Schedule:	Monthly 1 st Wednesday of every month 9:00am – 11:00am ECHO Office: 300 E. Highland Mall Blvd., Suite 200

HUD CoC & ESG Committee Workgroups		
Workgroup	Purpose	Chair(s)
Point In Time (PIT) Count Workgroup <i>3rd Thursday</i> <i>1:00-2:30</i> <i>ECHO Offices</i>	Plan, coordinate, and implement the annual Austin/Travis County Point in Time Count (PIT) as required for communities received federal funds. Ensure coordination with collecting data for the Housing Inventory Count (HIC).	Tim Long, ECHO (email for invitation to committee timothylong@austinecho.org

3. Opening Doors Initiatives

Purpose:	While not a workgroup, the CoC is charged convening stakeholders to achieve the timeline of ending homelessness for specific subpopulations, and ultimately community homelessness in Austin/Travis County.
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Related Workgroups

Workgroup	Purpose	Chair(s)
<p>Austin Homeless Veterans' Initiative Community Meeting</p> <p><i>2nd Monday 10:00 - 12:00 ECHO Offices</i></p>	<p>Evaluate progress made in achieving and sustaining work toward ending veteran homelessness; identify internal policy revisions and external resource recommendation and integration.</p>	<p>Taryn Davis, Front Steps Preston Petty, ECHO</p>