



Local Policy & Practice Committee

12/19/2018 | 9:00AM-11:00AM

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

Co-Chairs	Chris Laguna Integral Care Christine.laguna@integralcare.org 512-804-3277	Dylan Shubitz HACA dylans@hacanet.org 512-767-7621
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Agenda

Present Chris Laguna (Integral Care); Dylan Shubitz (HACA); Preston Petty (ECHO); Allison Shurr (SLH); Catherine Williams (VA); Sean Morales (VA); Tim Long (ECHO); Karen Dorrier (Integral Care); Erin Goodison (SAFE); Eric Kunish (NAMI); Marilyn Hartman (NAMI Austin); Natasha P. Shoemake (APH)

9:00-9:10AM	Welcome & Introductions	Co-Chairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Action Item: Approve October Minutes: Minutes approved.</i>• <i>Reminders: PIT Volunteering and Stakeholder Meeting</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>More PIT Team Leads and general volunteers still needed (ideal target for general volunteers is 600).</i>○ <i>ECHO Fall Stakeholder meeting to be held this afternoon at 2pm</i>	
9:10-9:20AM	Membership Council Updates	Co-Chairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• November/December Actions Taken:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>November: VAWA Workgroup formally approved in November. Membership Council agreed to take actions to increase formal representation of individuals on the council with lived experience of homelessness (currently two members are from Austin Youth Collective, and council agreed that two more positions will be added from Austin Homelessness Advisory Committee).</i>○ <i>December: Council reviewed and discussed Action Plan within context of organizations represented.</i>• January Voting Items:	
9:20-9:50AM	Workgroup Updates	WG Chairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PSH (Co-chair open): Group is planning out high priority projects for 2019. Highest current priorities are creating a “move-up culture,” defining a PSH to PSH program transfer workflow, and creating a stronger warm hand-off process between the Outreach/Navigation System and the PSH CM/LOS process.• RRH (CM - Co-chair open, Policy-L. Evanoff, T. Davis, M. Podowski): Group continuing to work on RRH policies and procedures. Group has agreed to test divvying up referrals in real time for January so that programs and members can be prioritization and referral in real-time. BSS+ announced that they have officially	

started the process of adopting the RRH Pilot Pre-screening form that's been tested over the last nine months. New form is more Housing First informed and intended to create a more organic, problem-solving conversation with the client. Contract amendment is moving forward and expected to be adopted January 1st. Group also discussed the potential for common adoption of RRH System Performance Metrics across all community RRH programs.

- **Outreach & Navigation (K. Dorrier/A. Price):** Group has discussed and adopted a common definition and set of guidelines for different steps of the outreach and engagement process (such as initial contact, or case management provided by a program). The hope is to create a common set of minimum expectations so that there are no misconceptions about services that can be provided after a hand-off. Also hoping to better press the communication feedback loop between housing programs and outreach programs (particularly being sure that housing programs know and feel comfortable reaching out to outreach programs when contact is lost). PURC's also continue to be highly successful. There may now be a monthly PURC scheduled to be held around the ARCH. TxDoT communications also continue. Oak Hill Church is in communication with the outreach programs to see what emergency cold weather options can be provided in their area. Workgroup will also be shifting to a quarterly schedule that identifies key issues during the time in between, then assigns specific tasks to workgroups in the time in between. Next meeting set for February. By-name navigation staffing will continue on a monthly basis.
- **Income/Employment (S. Verde/Trent Moore):** Update from Preston Petty; focus is shifting from clients who are engaged in housing programs to clients who do not yet have a case manager (WG has learned through the pilot that housing case managers are very good at closing systems gaps). Workforce Solutions has joined the meeting in an ongoing capacity.
- **VAWA (E. Goodison/L. Evanoff):** Lots of great conversations getting started. Texas Council on Family Violence set to join as a member. Plan is to shift into a deep dive on a handful of extremely important issues (rather than lightly touching lots of broad projects). Initial focus is likely to be on ensuring that landlords are honoring VAWA protection requirements, and that housing programs are taking all of the steps possible to educate landlord and enforce these protections. Erin and Laura have been invited to present at national conference on domestic violence and family law in March.

9:50-10:00AM

Healthy Communities Collaborative

R. Ahearn

- Housing First Oak Springs is now "Terrace at Oak Springs." Integral Care has been meeting with VA and surrounding neighborhood in preparation for pending opening in early May 2019. Property management will be available on-site 24 hours, and supports services are expected to be 40 hours a week, plus on-call (conversations are being held about how those 40 hours can be most accessibly distributed). APD came to one of the neighborhood meetings to assuage fears and correct misconceptions about connections between PSH programs and crime rates. Communities for Recovery position at Community First is up and running. Exploring options to expand those services. CF expected to start building new units in July (7 – 8 a month) with the new round of move-in's slated for September. Integral Care has also been awarded a new RRH contract from the City of Austin to serve clients in and around the ARCH. Sunrise Navigation Center collaboration also continues apace, with IC's APN having seen 81 unique new patients since the weekly clinic date started. Process is successfully linking clients to ongoing care with standing

clinics and services. IC has also been awarded a \$2.5m grant from SAMSHA (over 5 years) to create a medical team for individuals with multiple co-occurring conditions.

10:00-10:45AM

HCBS Update and Discussion

L. Baker

- Introduction from Eric Kunich and Marilyn Hartman about some data coming out from New York about a potential missing gap across the Mental Health and Homeless Services Systems for individuals with some supervisory health needs that can still be met with deliberately targeted assistance outside of an institutional system. The focus on the New York system is trying to match the exactly level of supervisory assistance to allow an individual to live in the most independent situation possible.
- Group discussed what the current service support options are between full institutionalization and fully medically independent living. Group discussed some regulations and efforts potentially coming from the City of Austin to better regulate the Board and Care Home options (currently driven through Code Enforcement, and more focused on structural safety and violations). Sense from Liz that HCBS-AMH could potentially be a way to press this B&C conversation from the services and living quality side of the equation (potentially to even better incentivize B&C homes to identify as such and then receive support in improving services). Tasha pointed out that some prior B&C conversations fizzle due to fear from property owners about code violations leading to costly repairs (with no assistance available).
- Liz gave overview of the program. Primary goal is to address the mental health and day-to-day support needs of individuals with a history of psychiatric hospitalization, jail risk, or emergency department risk. Funded and driven through Medicaid (with some expanded small caveats around institutional eligibility). Intended to be in addition to mainstream mental health supports (not as a replacement). Can support a wide variety of living situations (such as host homes, group homes, or supported home living) to ensure ADL's are met. Two local referral sources are the state hospitals and Integral Care (Integral Care's Inquiry line for the program is 512-279-4280). Turnaround time is very quick (total screening, referral, and enrollment time adds to less than 30 days). Current local HCBS provider is Ndando House (with more on the way). Program can be life-long, and it covers whatever combination of services client needs. Low reimbursement rates are a practical barrier to larger organizations taking on the program. Eligibility criteria can also be a restrictive barrier. Also has to be voluntarily entered into (which can be a barrier for seriously ill individuals who are on the cusp of needing guardianship and/or formal institutionalization). Guardianship in particular is very hard to access in Texas. NAMI has been pressing these conversations from the State level, but current priorities seem to be leaning towards IDD instead of SMI. Current barriers at the state level include the reimbursement rate, the actual application/certification process, and the narrow client eligibility criteria.
- **Potential Action Item: One potential future option for this workgroup could be to give advocacy feedback and requests to the Membership Council about how to press both the HCBS conversation at the state level and the general Board and Care conversation from the City level. Consensus was to continue the B&C conversation in greater depth at next meeting (and that the HCBS conversation will continue from Integral Care and NAMI leadership, with an open invitation if anyone would like help or support)**

10:45-10:55AM

City of Austin Updates

COA Reps

- **Austin Public Health (T. Ponczek):** ARCH contract has gone to purchasing. Will now be processed and then sent to City Council agenda. Downtown Strategy meeting has continued meeting and has scheduled a resource fair outside of the ARCH for tomorrow. Current plan is to continue these meetings monthly. Group is also discussing structural improvement options for in and around the ARCH. Group is also exploring new potential navigation and day resource center options, especially for once the ARCH is no longer accessible to the general public during the day.
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10:55-11:00AM

Other Community Updates & Discussions

Open

- **Veterans Initiative (T. Davis):** Updates from Preston; system continues.
- **YHDP (S. Malatok):** Updates from Preston; Programs all ramping up (PORT, RRH+, and Deeper Diversion); RRH+ programs are actively housing many young people.
- **Point In Time Count (T. Long)** – out of time.
- **Action Item:** *Kozmetsky Clinic updates to be added to agenda for Jan.*

11:00-11:00AM

Next Steps

Next Meeting: January 16, 2019 9:00AM-11:00AM; ECHO Offices 300 E. Highland Mall Blvd.