



# Minutes

**Committee:** Membership Council

**Date:** 6/1/2020

**Duration:** 1:00 – 3:00

**Meeting Place:** VIRTUAL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82960200392>

Meeting ID: 829 6020 0392

**Presiding:**

**Attendance:**

P = Present

TC = Attended via Dial in

A = Absent

Membership Council Members							
P	Dr. Virginia Brown	A	Esther Johnson	A	Kelly White	A	Steven James Potter
P	Christy Moffett	P	Greg McCormack	P	Andrew Miller	A	Gretchen Nelson
A	Alex Zapata	A	Ryan Adam	P	Laura Ward	P	Vella Karman
A	Ann Teich	A	Jessie Metcalf	P	Lisa Garcia	P	Yvonne Camarena
A	Catherina Conte	A	Dawn Perkins	P	Lyric Wardlow		
P	Donna Ware	A	Kathleen Casey	P	Peggy Davis Braun		
		P	Kathleen Ridings	A	Steve Brothers		
Committee Chairs							
P	Kellee Coleman	P	Dylan Shubitz	A	Kali Holyfield	P	Susan McDowell
P	Erin Whelan						
Advisors							
A	Awais Azhar	P	Bill Brice	A	Sarah Cook	A	Irit Umani
A	Adelita Winchester	A	Paul Caudero	A	Thomas Visco		
A	Cacki Young	A	Phil Session	A	John Waller (COA)		
A	Gyllian Garvey (United Way)	P	Ruth Ahearn	P	Jason Phillips		
A	Amy Price (United Way)	P	Neil Hackett				
ECHO (CoC Lead)							
P	Matt Mollica	P	Kate Moore	P	Preston Petty	P	Axton Nichols
P	Laura Evanoff	P	Sarah Duzinski	P	Chris Davis	P	Paloma Arroyo-Lefebvre
P	Claire Burrus	P	Mason Turpin	P	Whitney Bright	A	Norman Harris
P	Andrew Willard	P	Chris Murray				

AGENDA			DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
<b>I. Welcome &amp; Approval of Minutes</b>	Dr Brown	1:00-1:10	<b>Review and Approve March 2020 Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action item: Review and approve March 2020 minutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 2020 minutes approved</li> </ul>
<b>II. Membership Council Business</b>	Kate Moore	1:10 – 1:20	<b>Governance Consultant Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultant work by HomeBase has been put on hold due to COVID-19 outbreak</li> </ul>	



AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prioritization metrics based explicitly on race are not allowed, but there may be proxy-variables that can approximate the same outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Task Group will continue discussions and research to identify potential proxy-variables/questions that would be allowed</li> <li>▪ Task Group anticipates multiple iterations of the new prioritization tool will need to be approved by MC and tested before a final version is reached</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>V. Continuum of Care Business</b></p>	<p>K Moore</p> <p>2:15 – 3:15</p> <p>S Duzinski</p>	<p><b>CoC Lead Agency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the 2020 NOFA season approaches, we are still waiting on explicit guidance from HUD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Possibility HUD may release a simplified CoC NOFA but still waiting on details</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Results from 2019 NOFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ECHO has begun reviewing the results provided by HUD and plan to provide a full report-out at the July MC meeting</li> <li>○ All CoC programs in “Tier 1” were fully funded, and Lifeworks received funding for their program in “Tier 2”</li> <li>○ Family Eldercare’s “bonus” project was not funded</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Data Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Point in Time Count results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Results released and press conference held on May 19th</li> <li>○ PIT Count report and one-pagers <a href="#">available on ECHO’s website</a></li> <li>○ 2506 people experiencing homelessness were counted during the 2020 PIT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1574 sleeping unsheltered</li> <li>▪ 932 sleeping in shelters</li> <li>▪ Overall increase in homelessness of 11%</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Methodological changes (digital survey system, increased number of volunteers) likely contributed to the increase in homelessness observed</li> <li>○ Per capita rate of homelessness has remained fairly constant over the past decade, around 0.2%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Membership Council discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Suggestion to include the total number of people who accessed homeless services over the, as reported in HMIS, when discussion the size of the homeless population</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	L Evanoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 9,214 unique individuals had services entered into HMIS in 2019               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This number includes people <i>at risk of homelessness</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Discussions around improving community data quality by having more providers enter more information in HMIS</li> <li>○ Question from VA representative, Andrew Miller, about the reported size of the population of Veterans experiencing homelessness               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Veteran status reported to a PIT Count volunteer may differ from Veteran status confirmed by the VA                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VA considers type and length of service as well as discharge type which is not captured via the PIT Count survey</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>TDHCA ESG CARES Act Coordinator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECHO was approved as the CoC ESG CARES Act coordinator on behalf of our community</li> <li>• One of the roles of the CARES Act coordinator is to provide recommendations on how CARES Act funds are used</li> <li>• ECHO identified a need to update and create written standards to cover all CoC and ESG program types to come into compliance       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our community currently operates projects, including Diversion and Joint Component project types, without CoC-approved written standards</li> <li>○ Existing written standards cover Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Transitional Housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Current proposal regarding Written Standards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ECHO will draft new and updated Written Standards for project types in our community currently there is a gap in the existing standards.</li> <li>○ ECHO will post the Written Standards for comment from Membership Council, committees, and the public, then compile and review feedback</li> <li>○ Ad hoc subcommittee consisting of Erin Whelan, Dylan Shubitz, Dr. Virginia Brown, Christy Moffett, and Kellee Coleman will synthesize feedback into a final draft</li> <li>○ Final draft of Written Standards will be presented to Membership Council for approval at July meeting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Ad hoc subcommittee created and approved by consensus to oversee the expedited process for Written Standards approval. Members consist of Erin Whelan, Dylan Shubitz, Dr. Virginia Brown, Christy Moffett, and Kellee Coleman.</p>
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AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>A Willard/ L Evanoff</p> <p><b>TDHCA ESG Annual Application CoC Consultation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TDHCA recently released their <a href="#">annual NOFA for ESG funds</a> for \$579,039 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This funding stream is separate from TDHCA ESG CARES Act funding.</li> <li>○ Submission dates for the annual competition run from June 12<sup>th</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Currently there two projects in the CoC that receive TDHCA ESG funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ These projects are run by Lifeworks and SAFE Alliance</li> </ul> </li> <li>• As part of the application process, TDHCA requires applicants to consult with their local CoC Lead Agency to help ensure project goals align with the larger community goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CoC Lead Agency then provides a recommendation ranking that’s included with the project application</li> <li>○ This is a new requirement from TDHCA</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Request to Membership Council to provide guidance to ECHO (the CoC Lead Agency) on how to evaluate applications</li> <li>• <i>Membership Council discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Suggestion for MC to defer to the funding priorities established last year for the CoC NOFA competition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ These priorities were fairly broad and all CoC programs fulfilled at least one of the priorities</li> <li>▪ Some current ESG programs may not fulfill these priorities</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Suggestion to incorporate priorities from the Consolidated Plans of the City and County, for example, people who are housing insecure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic and mass unemployment has put many people at risk of losing housing and current CoC NOFA funding priorities don’t cover “homelessness prevention” projects</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Request for Rapid Rehousing projects to continue being highly prioritized because this is an existing need already identified in our community</li> <li>○ Clarification that our community receives a substantial amount of additional ESG funds that flow from the City that are not part of this TDHCA ESG NOFA competition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Some of these City ESG-funded projects include projects not eligible for CoC funds, like street outreach</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Agreed for ECHO, as the ESG Coordinator, to recommend TDHCA ESG Applicants w/ activities that align with Austin’s Action Plan to End Homelessness.</p>

AGENDA		DISCUSSION		ACTION
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Suggestion that TDHCA ESG funds should prioritize parts of Travis County outside of the City of Austin because there are fewer funds available for this population.</li> <li>○ Request for additional data around community needs and gaps to inform THDCHA ESG priorities.</li> <li>○ Recommendation for ECHO, as the Lead Agency, to “strongly recommend” projects whose activities align with <a href="#">Austin’s Action Plan to End Homelessness</a>.</li> </ul>	
<b>VI. Coalition Updates</b>	Peggy Davis Braun	N/A	<p><b>ECHO Board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECHO is nearly fully staffed now and has plans to hire a Director of Research and Evaluation</li> </ul> <p><b>Previous discussion ran long and no time remained for other Coalition Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestion to move Coalition Updates to the top of the agenda for July to ensure there is enough time</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment</b>			<b>Next Meeting: July 6, 2020 1:00PM – 3:00PM; Virtual meeting invite to be sent out later</b>	