



Minutes

Committee: Local Policy & Practice Committee

Date: 9/16/2020

Duration: 9:30 – 11:00

Meeting Place: Zoom virtual meeting

Attendance:

P = Present

TC = Attended via Dial in

A = Absent

Local Policy & Practice Members							
A	Akeshia Johnson-Smothers	A	Greg McCormack	A	Marilyn Hartman	P	Victoria Perez
P	Allison Shurr	A	Hannah Cweigenberg	P	Marissa Latta	A	Sam Verde
A	Bailey Gray	A	Jason Phillips	A	Megan Podowski	A	Sarah Frazier
A	Chris Larson	P	Juan Lazcano Jr	P	Michelle Myles	A	Scott Merritt
A	Chris Meigs	P	Karen Dorrier	A	Myk Stocks	A	Shawna Arnesen
A	Caitlin Bond	A	Ruth Ahearn	A	Quiana Fisher	A	Sonja Burns
A	Donna Ware	A	Laura Enderle	A	Rachel Hampton	P	Steven Potter
P	Emily Edgerly	P	Lauren Katz	A	Rhie Azzam Morris	A	Sylvia Garrett
P	Eric Kunish	A	Liz Baker	P	Rick Rivera	A	Vedia Sherman
A	Erin Goodison	P	Mamadou Balde	P	Robyn Schoen	A	Caitlyn Bayer
P	Asher			P	Elizabeth Perch	P	Dawn Perkins
Co-Chairs							
P	Dylan Shubitz	P	Kellee Coleman				
ECHO Staff							
P	Andrew Willard	A	Laura Evanoff	P	Axton Nichols	P	Allison Mabbs
P	Bree Williams	P	Niki Kozak	P	Preston Petty	A	Chris Davis
A	Claire Burrus	P	Chris Murray	A	Whitney Bright	P	Katie Rose
A	Mason Turpin	A	Jordan Schmid	P	Eri Gregory		

AGENDA		DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
I. Welcome & Introductions	D Shubitz	Review and Approve August 2020 Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes approved with no changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August minutes approved with no revisions
II. Membership Council Updates	D Shubitz	September 2020 Meeting - Actions Taken at Membership Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poppe Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoA representative presented on the findings from the Poppe Report Report can be viewed here Multiple Actions Items on MC agenda, but decisions were not reached and items will be carried over to next month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changes would stipulate that for a project to receive funding for Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program as a “supportive development” the project must implement minimum criminal background check requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This would be the first time TDHCA has dictated standards for project criminal background checks ▪ Proposed changes would prevent programs from operating with “Housing First” principals by removing a program’s ability to define their own (minimal) criminal background check standards, and instead force programs to adopt these pre-written (more restrictive) standards ○ https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/board/docs/books/200903-supplement-200831.pdf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New proposed guidelines around criminal background checks can be found on page 98 of the above document ○ Public comment period ends on October 9th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ECHO Community Housing Department is working on talking points for partners to use to submit their own comments ▪ Comments can be submitted online: https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/public-comment.htm or email htc.public-comment@tdhca.state.tx.us <p>RHDA CoC Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Investment Review Committee (HIRC) will be reviewing housing development applications on September 24th at their 5:30pm meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HIRC will make recommendations to City Council on what projects should be approved ○ Included on the slate to be reviewed are 2 developments important to the work of increasing affordable housing/CoC units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Espero at Rutland (Caritas development), 170 units with 101 CoC units. ▪ Sweeney Lane, 60 CoC units ○ Individuals are encouraged to attend this public meeting to advocate for the above housing projects ○ Applications can be viewed and comments submitted here: http://www.austintexas.gov/page/current-rhdaohda-applications 	

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<p>V. Outreach Request Policy Updates</p>	<p>K Rose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures to request outreach services have been in place for some time now, but this proposed Policy document will formalize the process • Outreach Request process allows providers to document and request support for incomplete client referrals and/or client disengagement in program services • Outreach Request Policy includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The number and type of contact attempts programs should make prior to making an Outreach Request ○ Procedure for submitting an Outreach Request <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The same online submission form is used for both BOLO and Engagement outreach requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOLO (Be On the LookOut) requests are used to locate individuals who have been out of contact • Engagement Outreach requests are used when clients have disengaged with providers or refused services ▪ When submitting an Outreach Request, program staff are required to provide an appointment date and time, approx. 30 days in the future, to be used as a deadline for engagement (Last Chance Appointment) ○ If a program referral or participant successfully re-engages within 30-days, the housing or intake process should continue where it left off ○ If a program referral or participant cannot be re-engaged within 30-days, the accepted housing program referral will be marked “declined.” ○ Inactivation of a client profile occurs when the BOLO or Engagement Outreach process is unsuccessful and a client remains disengaged or out of contact beyond the outreach request timeline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inactivation of a client in the BOLO process occurs after 90 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs may close client referrals after 30 days, but client profile will not be marked inactive until 90 days ▪ Inactivation of a client in the Engagement process occurs after 30 days unless a provider alerts ECHO that they will continue engagement ○ If provider commits to continue engagement attempts beyond 30-day timeline, that client will be flagged for Long Term Refusal (LTR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LTR applies to a small group of clients that have disengaged or refused services but have a service provider attempting engagement with them ongoing ▪ Client remains active on prioritization list but will not be referred to housing programs • Outreach Best Practices Guide available on ECHO’s website lays out the outreach request procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item: Committee approves Outreach Request Policy Update to be presented to Membership Council at October meeting for adoption

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		<p>Action Item: Committee approves Outreach Request Policy Update to be presented to Membership Council at October meeting for adoption</p>
<p>VI. Workgroup Updates</p>	<p>P Petty</p> <p>K Dorrier</p> <p>P Petty</p> <p>A Willard</p> <p>RRH WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WG began meeting again in September after a couple-month hiatus <p>Outreach & Navigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WG has not been meeting regularly • Some workgroup members have been working on the US Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Census homeless population count occurs 9/23 thru 9/25 <p>VAWA WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates <p>Equity WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last month's meeting canceled • No updates <p>PSH WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSH Written Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ECHO staff created a draft of updated PSH Written Standards based on best practices from SAMHSA and CSH ○ At the September meeting, MC was expected to establish a sub-committee to review public comments for and compile a final version of the PSH Written Standards. Final version of Written Standards was expected to be adopted at the October meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MC failed to reach a consensus on establish a Written Standards review sub-committee. Discussions are expected to continue at the October meeting ▪ PSH Written Standards draft will still be posted for public comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHO will notify providers once draft is posted for review ▪ Updated PSH Written Standards are now expected to be adopted by MC in November, at the earliest • PSH to PSH Transfer Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New transfer policy is in place and providers report it is working well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

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VII. Other Community Updates & Discussions	<p>R Ahearn</p> <p>Health Communities Collaborative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return of Investment Analysis for Terrace at Oak Springs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Integral Care completed an analysis gauging the effectiveness and cost savings of Terrace at Oak Springs PSH interventions ○ Analysis tracked 50 individuals placed in PSH at Terrace at Oak Springs for the 6 months prior to and 6 months after placement in Oak Springs. ○ Oak Springs clients were compared with a control group of 50 individuals on the PSH waiting list ○ Individuals housed at Oak Springs experienced substantial declines in EMS encounters, ER visits, medical inpatient stays, and arrests following being housed ○ Individuals on the PSH waiting list utilized emergency services and had encounters with law enforcement at a much higher rate than individuals housed at Oak Springs ○ Total utilization costs (emergency services, justice involvement, etc.) for individuals housed at Oak Springs decreased by nearly 70% (savings of more than \$336k) <p>S Potter</p> <p>AHAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the pandemic lockdown, members of AHAC have been filling out various in-depth surveys on topics ranging from Coordinated Entry to pandemic response • Groups seeking to obtain feedback from AHAC can contact Laura Williamson at the Downtown Austin Community Court <p>A Nichols</p> <p>PIT Count</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still waiting for guidance from HUD on how to proceed with the 2021 PIT Count • Planning work is on hold for now <p>N Kozak</p> <p>Care Connections Clinic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates • Client is still seeing patients, but case workers are advised to call to check availability before showing up with a client for a walk-in appointment <p>B Williams</p> <p>YHDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHO, working with LifeWorks, is entering into an agreement with the Pearl Street Co-Op to make housing available to youths and young adults <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expecting to house 60 people over the next 45 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

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	<p style="text-align: center;">○ Austin Youth Collective has been working to form relationships with Pearl Street Co-Op officers</p> <p>Veterans Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Programs are well staffed and Veterans continue being housed ● HACA is working to execute a contract for project-based vouchers at a property around Howard Lane and Mopac <p>NAMI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NAMI Central Texas Virtual Walk on October 10, 2020 at 10 am. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Register online here: https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=933 ○ Individuals can join various walk teams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marilyn Hartman has a Housing Advocate team. ▪ Eric Kunish has a Radical Acceptance team (supporting positive talk therapy for people with mental illness) ○ Send questions to efkunish@austin.rr.com 	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next Meeting: October 21, 2020 9:00AM – 11:00AM; Virtual meeting invite tba 	

- AN** Axton Nichols (Me)  
- PP** Preston Petty (Host)   
- AW** Andrew Willard  
-  Allison Shurr  
-  Dylan Shubitz  
- K** krdorrier  
-  15128107346 
- AM** Allison Mabbs  
- A** asher  
- BW** Bree Williams  
-  Chris Murray, ECHO  
- D** Dawn 
-  Elizabeth Perch  
- E** Emily Edgerly  

- E** Emily Edgerly  
- E** Enrique.Rivera  
- EG** Eri Gregory  
- EK** Eric Kunish  
- JL** Juan Lazcano Jr  
- KR** Katie Rose  
- KS** kellee she, hers 
-  Lauren Katz  
- M** Mamadou.Balde  
- M** Marissa  
- NK** Niki Kozak  
- RS** Robyn Schoen  
- VP** Victoria Perez 