HRS Leadership Council's All Stakeholders Minutes

Duration:	TIME: 12 pm - 2 pm	Date: 6/2/2025
		Meeting Place: VIRTUAL MEETINGS Meeting ID: ZOOM INFO

P = Present

A = Absent

	Leadership Council Members						
P	Dr. Larry Wallace	P	Linda Jackson	P	Monique Coleman		
P	Coni Stogner	P	Candace McGary	P	Ebonie Trice		
A	Liz Baker	A	Paola Silvestre	P	Ashley Jones		
P	Dylan Shubitz	P	Amanda Jasso	P	Tim Mercer		
P	Jacob Emerson	P	David Gray				
	Committee Chairs						
	Guest Attendees						
	Guest Attendance is Recorded						
P	Angela de Leon	P	Oscar PAul				
P	Joseph Montano	P	Sallie Burchett				
	ECHO Staff Presenting (Collaborative Applicant)						
P	Shan Robertson						
P	Helen Eisert						

AGENDA	PRESENTER	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
Welcome	Shan	**Welcome** Shan welcomed guests and thanked them for attending the June 2 public meeting. **Agenda Overview:** - Shan provided an overview of the agenda items for the June 2, 2025, public meeting. **Public Comment:** - A reminder was given to attendees about the public comment period, emphasizing that comments should be kept between 3 and 5 minutes to allow time for everyone to speak. **Open Leadership Council Seat:** - Shan reminded the group that there is an open non-HUD funded seat on the Leadership Council (LC). Attendees were encouraged to submit applications for the open seat.	N/A

Quick Business	Dyan, Shan	● **Jacob's Reflection on HRS Value:**	Approval of 5/5/2025 Public Meeting Minutes with no edits - Approved on consent
		● Jacob shared a reflection on the HRS value of valuing lived expertise, stressing its importance. As he reflected on his own tenure as Secretary for the Austin Youth Collective, he was reminded of the principle: *"Nothing for us without us."*	
		● **Co-Chair Updates from Dylan:**	
		● Dylan provided updates regarding his co-chair term, announcing that it will end soon, and plans to announce his successor at the Leadership Council retreat.	
		● Dylan also shared community updates:	
		● **Emergency Voucher Program (EHV):**	
		● Dylan highlighted the success of the HomeARP-funded program, which put over 270 vouchers into the community, resulting in the creation of more than 100 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds.	
		● However, it was noted that despite initial plans to renew the program through 2030, the new administration has decided that this year will be the final year for funding. The program will end at least 5 years earlier than expected.	
		● Dylan emphasized the importance of bringing this information publicly, given the large public engagement that led to the program's launch.	
		● **Transition Plan:**	

		● While HUD guidance has not yet been published, the program will be phased out in the next 12 to 15 months. A transition plan has already been initiated to ensure individuals who were referred as PSH clients continue to receive the services and rental assistance they were promised. ● All individuals currently on the program will be supported through the summer of 2026, with outreach and coordination with partner service providers already underway. **Discussion on Mainstream Vouchers:** ● Kaylee asked about the status of mainstream vouchers. Dylan responded that there are no concerns about mainstream vouchers at this time. He clarified that mainstream voucher funding is independent of both Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) funding and the regular Housing Choice Voucher Program funding. Mainstream vouchers are one of the few programs with flexibility in spending, so the program continues to bring people on board and will use mainstream vouchers to help find placements for EHV clients. EHV Program Updates (Follow-up Questions): ● Helen inquired about how many households have been housed in Austin through the EHV program.	

| | | Dylan shared that the City of Austin received 242 vouchers, while the Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) received approximately 30 to 35 vouchers. There was a statutory requirement to stop issuing new EHVs to new clients in September 2023. Currently, HATC has about 25 clients on the program, and the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) has about 200 clients. Jacob asked about the plan for the 200 individuals on the program as funding winds down next summer. Dylan confirmed that there is a plan to transition these individuals to different types of assistance. He explained that for those referred as Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) participants, with long-term programming and the expectation of ongoing rental assistance, the plan is to provide PSH intervention. Although details are still pending, Dylan emphasized that the goal is to ensure that all individuals transition to another permanent housing resource. He added that the PSH service providers have not yet been engaged, and they are still awaiting HUD guidance. **Approval of May 5 Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the May 5, 2025, public meeting were reviewed and approved with no objections. | |

| Update on CoCBuilds FY2025 NOFO | Helen, ECHO | **Helen's Overview of the CoC Builds NOFO Application:**

● Helen provided an update on the CoC Builds NOFO application, explaining that only one application can be submitted per Continuum of Care (CoC). The funding is intended for specific geographic areas to address and reduce homelessness by adding new units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) through new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation. The funds are primarily for building PSH, with 70% allocated for construction costs. No more than 20% can be used for other eligible CoC costs.

● Helen shared details of the new NOFO application released on May 16th. A change in the application included a $30 million reduction from the original $75 million. The $30 million will be specifically for CoCs in states with populations under 2.5 million. If these smaller states don't submit adequate applications, they can use the funds for larger states.

● A significant change was the removal of the equity narrative question from the application.

● **Helen's Recommendation and Request for Feedback:**

● Helen explained that ECHO's recommendation is to not hold another local competition but to resubmit the same application, as it was considered the strongest based on the panel's review. The application amount would remain at $7.5 million. | Voted on resubmission of the National Core Application"Passed"
Amanda Yes
Jacob Yes
Dylan Yes
Candace Yes
Coni Yes
Linda Yes
Tim Yes
Monique No
Dr. Wallace Yes
Ebonie Yes
Ashley Yes |

		● Helen asked the Leadership Council if everyone was okay with resubmitting the same application without another local competition. ● **Questions and Discussion:** ● Amanda asked who the reviewers were for the initial competition. Helen responded that it was a mix of reviewers, and she could look up the names if needed. ● Dylan shared that he was one of the reviewers in the original local competition. He stated that to resubmit the application without any changes would warrant a vote to submit a new application. ● Helen asked if there were any other questions before proceeding to the vote. ● Tim asked what the alternative would be if the original application was not resubmitted, as he was not involved in the initial application submission. ● Helen explained that if they decided not to resubmit the original application, they would need to conduct a local competition. This would involve sending an email to all the groups and providers on the email list, opening up the competition for new submissions. The submitted HUD applications would then be reviewed by an independent panel under ECHO's CoC. **Motion:** Review and resubmission of the National Core application.	

		Discussion Summary: The conversation concluded with a motion to vote on the review and resubmission of the National Core application. **Vote Outcome:** The majority of voting members present voted in favor of resubmitting the application. **Votes:** ● Yes: ● No: **Decision:** Motion passed. The National Core application will be resubmitted.	
2025-2026 RoadMap Update	Shan, ECHO	Shan provided an update on the Roadmap of deliverables, highlighting progress made across various committees and workgroups. She shared key accomplishments to date and outlined the next steps for continued alignment with 2025 goals. Materials for this presentation can be found on the ECHO website.	N/A

| PIT Update | Angela de Leon | Angela provided a comprehensive overview of the 2025 PIT Count, including a review of the methodology, budget, timeline, estimated labor hours, recruitment and outreach strategies, and survey components. She also shared key takeaways from the process with plans to start earlier and engage more with the community.Presentation materials are available on the ECHO website.

Dylan recommended possibly doing some HMIS methodologies that just strictly rely on HMIS data to sort of establish a baseline to not have to look back at a full census, and then our next count is completely different because a new methodology was used. For example being able to go back to 2024 data and grab snapshots of the years leading up.

Angela explained that one big concern with the change in methodology is that we would no longer be comparing apples to apples. The methodology will be different and can't say in strong comparison to 2025, that is how the numbers have shifted. But once we change methodologies, my recommendation would be to stick with the new methodology. She further went on to explain the importance of the PIT count and how it allows for us to have a different angle view in compare or conjunction with the dashboard. The dashboard gives an everyday look, while the PIT count gives the flip side of that image and together those two data pieces can provide a bit of a panoramic view of what we're really looking at in our community. Materials for this presentation can be found on the ECHO website. | N/A |

Scorecards Update	Joseph Montano, ECHO	Joseph provided updates on the Scorecards, highlighting current trends and performance insights. He noted that most projects are performing above the Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) threshold, with the average project score over the past year at 71.46%. He reminded attendees that PIT data is available on the ECHO website and shared efforts to release the Quarter 1 Scorecards soon. Joseph commended providers for actively reviewing their data and notifying the team of any irregularities. He also discussed several rounds of edits made based on provider feedback, along with recent decisions finalized by the Performance Monitoring Committee related to Scorecard functions. These updates will be reflected in the coding and supporting documentation. Materials for this presentation can be found on the ECHO website.	N/A
Public Comment & Adjournment	Public	Tracey made a comment that she had inquired about volunteer opportunities for persons with disabilities and expressed her continued interest in getting involved with ECHO's PIT count work despite she may not be able to go out and count but sure there are some other things she might could help with. She is hoping that at a later date whether there is compensation or not, PLE wanting to volunteer would have opportunities to volunteer in some capacity.	
Next Public Meeting: Monday July 7th, 2025 **12pm-2pm**			

Actions taken by Leadership Council during the meeting on 5/5/2025 Public Meeting

1) Approval of the 5/5/2025 Public Meeting Minutes
2) Voted on the resubmission of the National Core Application "Passed"