



Minutes

Committee: Equity Committee

Date: 07/13/2023

Duration: 12:00 – 1:30

Meeting Place: Zoom virtual meeting

Attendance:

P = Present
 TC = Attended via Dial in
 A = Absent

Equity Committee Members					
P	Guen Brown	P	Claire Burrus	A	Junghee Cho
P	Jesus Gonzales	P	Sulipsa Luque	A	Soleece Watson
A	Lori Neyland	A	Kellee Coleman	P	Tiffany Hart
Co-Chairs					
P	Kimberly Holiday	P	Esteban Olave		
Other Community Members					
	Belinda Sayabouapheth		Kayla Yerby		
	Karem Castillo		Patricia Barrera		
	Cassandra Richards				
ECHO Support Staff					
P	Chris Davis				
Other ECHO Staff					
	Alesandra Dominguez		Meagan Biscamp		Danica Fraher
	Sara Fuetter		Tania Hughes		Daniel Armendariz

AGENDA		DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
I. Welcome & Check-in		Thankful Thursday - use one word (or more) to say something you're thankful for	•
II. Diversion Funds	A. Dominguez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation - WoodNext Foundation grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Background: Effects of diversion funds - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ After two weeks, someone who was supported in a hotel room is still going to be unhoused and in need of further resources ○ Diversion is a way to get people resources quickly to help them end their homelessness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Example: someone has a family member in Ohio they can live with to end their homelessness. After verifying info, diversion funds can purchase a bus ticket there. ■ Other examples 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How diversion works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Someone accesses the Homelessness Response System (HRS) through a Coordinated Assessment (CA) - long wait to get access to housing; if someone finds another housing option while waiting, ■ Successful diversion is housed for 30 days or longer - want it to be more permanent ■ If someone finds themselves unhoused again within six months, provider can reactivate person to housing waiting list for housing referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If after six months, would need to complete a new CA ■ Diversion may not always be a permanent solution, but it can open up new possibilities and set people on a new path ● Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question - do administrative/operational costs come out of diversion grant totals? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ECHO is new to providing funds directly to community - WoodNext Foundation provided ■ WoodNext fund grants do not include additional money for operational/admin costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First funds awarded in November - targeted at smaller agencies who need funds to continue diversion/rapid exit work already happening ■ Can be flexible allowable costs, but all geared toward ending someone's homelessness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paid for new tires in the past when someone needed car for transport to a new place to live, for example, but not just for general car repairs ○ Interest in infrastructure to help clients access some of these alternative pathways to support and successful exits? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Always looking for the best resources to help people - would be helpful to have diversion resources available to share ■ List of diversion providers shared with group ■ Contact info for more info about diversion or to let ECHO know if diversion funds at any organizations are harder to access than should be, etc: alesandradominguez@austinecho.org 	

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III. Inactive Workgroup Interest	K. Holiday, E. Olave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UPDATE from T. Hart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership Council laid out new committee guidelines and priorities for new version of roadmap ○ Priority for Equity Committee will be creating an equity review process for everything that happens in the CoC ● Background <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inactive workgroups: Policies & Procedures, Trainings, Professional Development ○ Workgroup descriptions from 2022 Leadership Council roadmap: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lv3Lb9z_kt9djky37ugAzCq4eB4-pwn89FnSFE9oyic/edit?usp=sharing ● Who wants to lead these workgroups? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Last meeting, Tiffany and Gemstone volunteered to co-lead Trainings workgroup - someone from ECHO will contact co-leads to get started ○ Denver interested in Professional Development workgroup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ECHO to reach out to Tiffany and Gemstone to start Trainings Workgroup ● Denver, Esteban, and Tania Hughes (ECHO) to connect about Professional Development workgroup
IV. Updates & Announcements	C. Burrus, T. Hart, & All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Active Workgroup Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ APAT Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Added a bunch of pilot questions to CA that are being tested <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Request for next month's agenda: How frequently do we want to update the CA as a community? Currently using same tool as October 2021 when the new tool rolled out - voted to approve new version, but haven't rolled it out yet because it takes a lot of effort and don't want to get it wrong ▪ Contact claireburrus@austinecho.org to join workgroup ○ PLE Support Space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not many updates, but group continues to meet ▪ Anyone with lived experience who would like to join can contact Tiffany at hartchangesconsulting@gmail.com ● Inactive Workgroups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policies & Procedures Workgroup ○ Trainings Workgroup ○ Professional Development Workgroup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agenda request added to 8.10 agenda
Adjournment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next Meeting: 8.10.23 12:00PM – 1:30PM; Virtual meeting via Zoom 	

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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