

HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION COUNCIL

DRAFT Meeting Minutes Summary **April 14, 2021**

On Wednesday, the fourteenth day of April 2021, at 10:00 a.m., the quarterly meeting of the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council (HHSCC) was held via videoconference.

The following members were present:

1. Bobby Wilkinson, Texas Dept of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), Chair
2. Doni Green, Promoting Independence Advisory Committee representative, Vice Chair
3. Suzanne Barnard, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), Office of Rural Affairs
4. Diana Delaunay, Financial institutions representative
5. Jennifer Gonzalez, PhD, Nonprofit organization representative
6. Mike Goodwin, Multifamily housing developer representative
7. Claire Irwin, Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
8. Donna Klaeger, Rural communities representative
9. Derrick Neal, Health services entities representative
10. Joyce Pohlman, HHSC
11. Scott Sroufe, TDA, Office of Rural Health
12. Barrett Reynolds, Consumer of Service-Enriched Housing
13. Suzie Brady, Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
14. Michael Wilt, Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC)

Welcome and Introductions

Bobby Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. After all attendees introduced themselves, it was determined that quorum was present. Jeremy Stremmer, Housing Resource Center (HRC) Administrator at TDHCA, provided an overview of GoToWebinar for webinar attendees.

1. Approval of January 27, 2021 HHSCC Meeting Minutes

Bobby Wilkinson introduced the meeting minute summaries from the January 27, 2021 HHSCC meeting. Mike Goodwin moved to approve the minutes and Michael Wilt seconded the motion. There were no additional comments and members voted aye unanimously to approve the minutes.

2. Texas Rent Relief, CARES Act, and American Rescue Plan Update

Brooke Boston, TDHCA Deputy Executive Director of Programs, presented an overview of the funds TDHCA received via the CARES Act and gave an overview of the Department's uses of Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funds, LIHEAP and Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV) funds. In addition, she gave an update on TDHCA's Texas Rent Relief (TRR) program, she explained the challenges the department was working through with the contracted vendor at the onset of the program and noted significant improvements with funding being provided to renters and landlords. As part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) the Department expects to receive another \$1 Billion in ERA 2.0 funding, as well as \$132.9 million in HOME funds. The ARP will also provide funds for a Homeowner

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Assistance Fund that will help Texans who have fallen behind on Mortgage payments. See meeting transcript for additional details.

3. Update on Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program

Spencer Duran, TDHCA Section 811 Program Director, presented an update on the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) program. The program is currently housing 436 households, 2,300 individuals are currently on the waiting list and the program has assisted 551 households overall. Currently have 88 properties that are actively housing people. Still waiting on award notification and funding from the Section 811 2019 NOFA. This 2019 grant agreement is expected to provide another \$7 million for the program.

4. Update on HHSCC Projects

Jeremy Stremmer, TDHCA HRC Administrator, provided an update on two HHSCC projects. First, through research more data was located for the service-enriched housing (SEH) database project; Jeremy will be working with this data seeing how best to represent the information. Second, he noted that everyone should have been receiving monthly emails he was sending on TDHCA items out for public comment following each board meeting. Should members not be receiving these emails they should contact Jeremy.

5. Legislative Update

Elizabeth Yevich, TDHCA HRC Director, provided updates on HB 1225. The Bill was heard on March 30th in the House Human Services Committee. The bill was left pending in committee and there is a committee substitute for the bill. See meeting transcript for additional details.

6. New member Presentation

Diana Delaunay presented an overview of her work at Texas Regional Bank. This includes financial education classes for the Texas Regional Bank service area. For more information, please see meeting materials posted on TDHCA HHSCC webpage.

7. Public Comment

Marilyn Hartman, advocate for National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), inquired if there were any current or expected relief programs that may be able to help fund a step-down program for people with serious mental illness that have been in the state hospitals for more than a year. Additional discussion ensued about potential funding fits for the program. See meeting transcript for additional details.

8. General Updates/Next Steps/Staff Assignment(s)

Bobby noted that the next HHSCC Quarterly Meeting will take place July 21st *and that all other HHSCC meeting dates for SFY 2021 were noted at the bottom of the April 14, 2021 Meeting Agenda. * *The July 21st meeting date has since been moved to July 29th*

Mike Goodwin, Multifamily housing developer representative, asked if TDHCA had heard any word on the new proposed Infrastructure bill in the U.S. Congress. He was concerned that one of the key points of the housing piece was putting new low-income multifamily properties in

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affluent neighborhoods. He provided reference for these concerns, please see meeting transcript for additional details.

Suzanne Barnard, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), plugged the Community Development Fund. Applications are due next month, wanted everyone to know it was not going to be highly competitive and that a housing project could be very competitive in receiving an award.

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM. Bobby Wilkinson Adjourned the meeting.