

# Transcript

February 18, 2025, 4:31PM

□ **Jeremy Stremmler** started transcription

**JS** **Jeremy Stremmler** 0:03

You will see that the meeting is now recording.

We are going to. So we're gonna record the meeting.

It will record both video and create a transcript. We will not be using the video just for everyone's, you know, Peace of Mind, so don't worry about that.

But if we of course will use the transcript as we always do.

For for our meetings, just a couple reminders to keep yourself on mute if you are not speaking, just so we can keep any background noise.

To a minimum, you have control of your mute and unmute. So if you would like to speak please feel free to do so.

You can also use the raise your hand feature at the top of teams.

Nathan is also on here with us. If somebody writes something in the chat and we happen to not see it for some reason, you know, Nathan might interject to, you know, let us know someone wrote something in the chat that they want to address. But otherwise.

For the most part, you know we'll, we'll treat this as, you know, a meeting like we would normally have in person 116 for free to raise your hand, ask questions and everything. But just be cognizant of being on mute. If you are not speaking to reduce any.

Background noise.

That's my spiel.

So Mike?

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 1:22

OK.

Well, it is our annual meeting and as per legislation we are required to elect a chairperson for 2025.

So, are there any nominations that you would bring forth?

**NC Naomi Cantu** 1:38

This is Naomi Cantu, and I would renominate or nominate Mike Doyle.

**MD Mike Doyle** 1:46

Thank you.

Are there others?

Hearing none, I guess we can vote on that and we'll pass it by acclamation.

But all in favor of allowing me the privilege of serving another year, say I.

**BB Brooke Boston** 2:02

Aye, opposed.

**D Davis, Kelly** 2:03

Hi.

**MD Mike Doyle** 2:03

Same sign.

**MB Marqus Butler** 2:04

I.

**MD Mike Doyle** 2:06

And thank you for the opportunity. I'd love to do this.

Now that we've done that, let's go into legislative agenda and I think, Matthew, you're going to give us some legislative agenda. Updates are are you not?

**ES Eric Samuels** 2:19

Can I reach out again?

Yeah.

**ML Matthew Lovitt** 2:23

That is correct.

I'm here to give an update on the legislative session.

Is this an order? I don't have the agenda in front of me.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 2:32

Yes, the legislative updates are agenda item number 5.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 2:32

OK, perfect.

Oh, perfect. OK.

Let me share my screen cuz I did produce a PowerPoint to for us to walk through this morning just for ease.

Which will I, I believe, be distributed after the meeting as well.

So you guys can have all this information on hand should you wish to access it in the future.

All right.

So you should be seeing my PowerPoints thumbs up if that is the case.

Thumbs down if that is not the case, thumbs up OK.

I'm getting some nods and a thumb. OK, I appreciate that.

**JS** **Jeremy Stremmler** 3:01

Yeah, we see it.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 3:04

Alright, so good morning everyone.

My name is for those of you who haven't, who I haven't met. My name is Matthew Lovett.

I am the senior legislative affairs advisor here at TDHCA.

Thank you for the opportunity of being here this morning and I look forward to providing a brief update on the 89th legislative session as it stands so far.

Slides today.

I'm going to provide a quick overview of where we are with the 89th session.

What's happened to date and what we can expect in the near future?

I will also highlight a few bills that relate to homelessness, and we'll then close by fielding any questions that you may have to the extent that I'm able, of course.

So jumping right in, starting with the 89th session, a few key dates for everyone to keep in mind as we proceed through session.

Is that first the 89th session began on Tuesday, January 14th.

I imagine that most, if not all of you are already aware of this, but just in case there are a few holdouts.

Session is has started and is about a month in. At this point in time.

That being said, the 1st 30 days of session are reserved for consideration of topics that the governor has tabbed as emergency items.

This year, the governor Abbott identified property tax relief, water infrastructure investment, teacher pay raises workforce career training, which typically refers to the trade.

So electrical, plumbing, welding, et cetera.

School vouchers, or education savings account, depending upon your phrasing, bail reform, text and Texas Cyber command or cybersecurity as the state's priorities.

So committees can begin deliberation or begin deliberation on. These can begin.

Excuse me of non deliberation of non-emergency.

Starting on February 13th, which was of course last week, and the Senate has already done so.

The house. I'll get to that here in a second. But spoiler alert, they have not started.

Two important things that happen on March 14th, 1st March 14th is a bill filing deadline for new or general bills.

These are the bills that the legislators just generally file relating to either local issues or statewide issues that concern them.

There are bills on certain emergency or local measures that can be introduced after March 14th, so if in the event that bills are filed after March 14th.

Never fear.

Likely they are an emergency item or a local issue.

March 14th also marks the beginning of when House and Senate, House and Senate can begin voting on legislation that does not concern the governor's emergency items.

So any of the bills that I will be discussing later on in this presentation, those can begin being discussed on the floor of the House and Senate after the March 14th deadline. Because you'll recall that homelessness was not an emergency item for Governor Abbott.

This session at least.

June 2nd is the last day of session, the governor's signing deadline for legislation passed during the 8th and 9th is June 22nd and most enacted legislation will take effect on September 1st.

All right, concerning the House and Senate leadership, starting with the House, you may have heard there was a bit of drama around the speakership.

There was a strong contingent of Republicans who wanted Representative David Koch of Mansfield to be the speaker, replacing Representative Dave Phelan of Beaumont.

However, allies of Speaker Phelan's with a not insignificant amount of support from Democrats, were able to elect representative Dustin Burrows of Lubbock to the speakership, more or less guaranteeing a degree of continuity. And how.

House will be led in the 89th session continuous with the 88th session, I should say. We'll see how this plays out because there was a degree of animosity between the speaker and Lieutenant governor and the governor last session.

In previous sessions, when Speaker Phelan was in in in the speakership.

Maybe that early indications are that it would be a less hostility between those various parties for the 89th session, but that could of course always change.

As the session proceeds.

That being said, the speaker is not the end all. Be all of policy making.

In fact, most of the actual substantive work happens at the committee level.

There have been a few committee changes announced in recent weeks that I should notify you guys about. Importantly in the House TDHC, as former Oversight committee urban affairs was combined with county affairs to produce the new Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, which is again our new.

Oversight committee.

Representative Cecil Bell of Magnolia, or Montgomery County, and Representative Aaron Sweeney of San Marcus or Hayes County are the chair and vice chair.

Respectively.

On the Senate side, the only significant change in the committee structure relevant to TDHCA is it downsizing in the membership of TDHC as Oversight Committee, which is Senate local government from 9 members to seven members.

Senator Senators Paul Betancourt of Houston and Mays Middleton of Galveston are the chair and vice chair, respectively.

Right. And this is the last slide concerning just general updates around the session.

But with respect to TDHCA, our engagement with the legislature has been fairly limited to this point and has been.

Only included engagement with the Senate Finance Committee concerning the general appropriations asks for what we've requested of the legislature for our 26th

27 budget.

Our executive Director, Mr. Bobby Wilkinson, sat before the Senate Finance Committee last week.

And it was, for all intents and purposes, extremely seamless. There were no questions, which is always a good thing, which means that when we don't have a target on our backs for any particular reason or there are no like.

Passion issues, I suppose, for lack of better terms that that we may need to navigate as a session proceeds.

On the House side, tentatively we are scheduled to present before the Article 7 Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee.

Next Monday, which is February 24th.

Committee membership or subcommittee membership for that Article 7 Subcommittee has not been announced, but we do anticipate that it will be announced before the end of this week.

So we'll we are presenting at the legislative appropriations request to the House Appropriations Committee next Monday, which is the important piece of take away information there.

Alright. And now proceeding on to, I guess the main event of my presentation builds that concern homelessness and these are the not these aren't necessarily I think these are actually all the bills that would speak to homelessness as least as they relate to the Texas Department of Housing.

And Community affairs and programs that would potentially fall under our purview. There are there are 10 total that I've brought forward to that I'm bringing forward today. So the first five are these are shown on your screen and again I will distribute these slides or provide these slides to Jeremy after this call. So they can be distributed to the.

Membership afterwards.

But HB636 directs TDHCA to establish a statewide homeless data sharing network and to collaborate with the Texas Homeless Network and Medical care insurance industries on collecting and sharing data with the intent of improving access to real time data on homelessness across.

The state HB714 and its companion, SB337, introduces the Texas tenant readiness and Landlord incentive Pilot program aimed at assisting individuals and families facing homelessness or housing instability in Texas.

The program will be established by TD HCA, which will conduct with, excuse me,

contract with local governmental entities including county and city housing authorities and nonprofit organizations.

Assistance will specifically cater to individuals and families who are currently. Homeless fleeing from domestic violence or other threats or at high risk of housing instability due to past homelessness or disabilities.

HB1173 expands list of eligible cities who can be part of the state funded homeless housing and services program or hhsp by lowering the population floor to 250,000. I believe current population floors of 275 thousand right now.

Cities currently served by HHSP include Arlington, Austin Corpus, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, Plano and San Antonio.

And if the floor were to be lowered, newly eligible cities would include Lubbock, Laredo and Irving.

HB26 2016 by Busey establishes the Housing Texas Fund designated to enhance affordable housing initiatives and support for those experiencing homelessness, and this one's kind of interesting because it it allocates percentages of these funds to particular causes or strategies.

So 90% of the funds will be for grants to nonprofit developers.

To create multi family housing, 9% would be to non profits that provide housing support services for people experiencing homelessness like currently experiencing homelessness and the remaining 1% would be for non profits to prevent to serve people in in with the intent of preventing homelessness.

The last one on your screen.

House Bill 2142 mandates that TDHCA conduct a study on feasibility of various models aimed at addressing homelessness in Texas, with a particular emphasis on quote small dwelling units, which I believe means tiny homes.



**Mike Doyle** 12:19

How many units, Matthew?



**Matthew Lovitt** 12:22

I'm sorry. How many units?



**Mike Doyle** 12:24

Did you say that it, which I believe applies to small housing units of how many?

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 12:30

Oh, there, there is no number.

It's it's HP2142 is is a study on the use of tiny homes to address issues related to yes, yes Sir.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 12:35

OK.

Tiny homes, OK.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 12:42

All right.

The last set of bills begins with HB2426, which creates a work group including TDHCA to study possible use of surplus government property and potential funding sources for A2 House homeless veterans. 2742 by Cole requires TD.

HCA to draft guidelines and monitor the homeless, shelters and funds to implement equitable operations.

Policies ensuring all individuals can access services without discrimination, and some of these required actions include is eliminating discriminatory practices regarding admission into the shelters, providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services, and ensuring all individuals have equal access to basic amenities like safe sleeping, accommodations and restrooms.

HB2746 by campus creates a pilot program up to TBHC as discretion to operate that would be funded by text donations and fund local homelessness services programs.

So more or less, let me rephrase that one. HB27 Six creates a a text donation program that will provide funding to DT.

DHCA to use to.

Address issues related to homelessness.

HB 2808 by Representative rose, codifies the youth and Young Adult Homelessness program at TD.

HCA, which actually already exists in writer for writer 16, excuse me. And last but not least, a speed 399 by Senator Sparks, mandates a biennial audit audit of state agency homelessness services, including THC, of course, to evaluate efficiency and efficacy of services offered.

Assessing multiple outcome metrics related to the well-being of people experiencing



homelessness.

And making recommendations for program improvement.

Alright, that concludes all the bills that I pulled out for this particular recap.

I'm happy to take any questions and I will do my best to provide answers whether they relate to specific bills or to just the general legislature. If you guys have them.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 14:48

Thank you, Matthew.

Any questions for Matthew on those bills?

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 14:54

I have one.

So Matthew, the bill that targets youth with Hhsp, does that just raise the age of the youth?

Is that what it does?

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 15:04

Are you referring to this Roseville HB 2808?

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 15:08

Yes, that's.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 15:10

I don't think it changes anything that's not already included in writer 16.

It just codifying whether it's already being what already happening in Riyadh 16, so it can't be taken away in future sessions for example.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 15:16

OK.

No. OK.

OK. That makes sense.

I was wondering what the difference was, yeah.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 15:24

Or as easily taken away, it still could be taken away for sure, but as easily taken away.

**MD Mike Doyle** 15:28  
Matthew in that in that same bill, is there any?

**AV Abigail Versyp** 15:29  
This.

**MD Mike Doyle** 15:34  
Mention.  
Of certainly there's youth, but youth aging out of foster care.

**AV Abigail Versyp** 15:37  
Yeah.

**ML Matthew Lovitt** 15:40  
You know, I don't recall off the top of my head if there is a particular emphasis on a particular demographic or sub population in that youth and young adult population, but I can certainly look to see if that is that is noted and I will follow up.  
Afterwards.

**MD Mike Doyle** 15:56  
Thank you, Matthew. I appreciate it.

**AV Abigail Versyp** 15:57  
This is Abby.

**ES Eric Samuels** 15:58  
And.

**AV Abigail Versyp** 15:58  
I'm the director of single family and homeless programs and this bill does Eric. It does change that the age in the rider is 18 to 24 and the age in this bill is 18 to 26.  
So if the rider continues to say 18 to 24, when it change anything, but if the riders updated to align with this bill, it would raise the age to 26.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 16:22  
OK.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 16:23  
I.  
I thought that might be it.  
I wrote Michael about it.  
I think that's.  
I think that's great, yeah.  
And and I think there is a bill that would provide or is going to look into you  
transitioning out of foster care.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 16:33  
Thank you for that, Clover.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 16:39  
It's either a study or a bill that would fund housing.  
I don't remember exactly, but I know there is something related to that.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 16:46  
Mm hmm.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 16:46  
I bet if teenagers on here, they know.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 16:50  
I'm sure. I'm sure we're following it.  
And Eric, can I can get you that build number?  
I just can't honestly navigate all that right now at the moment.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 16:57  
Mm hmm.  
Any other questions from Matthew?  
OK.

Thank you, Matthew. Great job.

Now we're going to the consultation for the state of Texas consolidated plan and I believe Jeremy's going to do that for us.

**ML** **Matthew Lovitt** 17:08  
Course.

**JS** **Jeremy Stremmler** 17:17  
Yes, similar to.

The I guess we hadn't had a meeting since. Since this has popped up previously, but similar to previous years.

We of course this year are doing the five year consolidated plan.

For the state of Texas for 2025 to 2029.

This of course, includes all the governing it's a governing document for all of our HUD programs.

Plus, in Htf National Housing trust fund.

And it is the document that overseas and kind of lays out how we will operate those funds, the activities we will provide and programs we fund with that funding from HUD.

And it is an opportunity for.

Anyone on this call or if you know of others who would want to just provide feedback on what you know you think is working well in those activities and programs that we are currently operating or things that you feel might need?

To change or be updated in those programs, it's the opportunity to tell us we do not have a draft document yet.

This is just based on how the pro you know what you know, the program's currently operating or looking back at the previous five year or even one year action plans.

Any changes or suggestions you have about those programs and how they are set up is opportunity to provide that feedback so that our program staff can look at it and potentially incorporate that into our.

Draft document, which we hope to have a draft here in the next couple months to put out for public comment, which of course will go out via all of our lists and everyone will have an opportunity to look at.

When that is out, but if anyone has any suggestions or questions now, be happy to answer them. If not, you can always.

Send me an e-mail with your questions or suggestions and I can make sure that the appropriate program staff.

Can get a look at that and potentially incorporate any suggestions into edits for the next document.

But the the new five year period starts this coming September and yeah we we hope to have a draft out in the next month or two and.

When a final budget is passed in Congress, we will have the final version to put out, so look forward to that.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 19:57

Any questions for Jeremy?

Thank you, Jeremy.

**JS** **Jeremy Stremmler** 20:03

No problem.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 20:04

And then I think we have some updates from Rosie and Naomi and Kate.

Rosie, you wanna go first?

1st.

**RF** **Rosy Falcon** 20:13

Sure. Thank you.

I have two brief updates for today.

So first.

We have two new programs that the department is in the process of implementing this year.

Our first one is the rapid unsheltered Survivor housing program, or Rush, program.

When the President declares a major disaster under the Robert T Stafford Disaster, Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

HUD often provides relief through regulatory waivers that allow the use of ESG funds in the affected areas. This past summer, however, HUD introduced a new disaster relief initiative called the ESG Rush program.

This program is funded by recaptured funds from unspent homeless assistance grants, including both ESG and COC funding.

The department received an allocation of one point, \$1,885,000.

To assist individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in the disaster affected areas, this funding is intended to fill gaps that are not covered by the federal disaster relief programs and ESG funds can be used for short term disaster response needs and also supports other eligible activ.

Under the regular ESG programs, so that would cover St. outreach, emergency shelter, homeless prevention.

Rapid rehousing.

And of course, Hmis Umm, and administrative activities, the eligible service areas are limited to those identified by FEMA for individual assistance under a major disaster declaration. And in this case, 52 counties across five of our 11 Co Cs are included. These funds are being distributed to 18 of the current 2024 ESG sub recipients who are already providing services in these areas.

And so our Texas declaration was done in May of 2024.

We did receive this money in October of 2024, so we are in the process of contracting all the eligible entities did accept these funds to help. We did request for our board to waive one of our Texas administrative rules. That rule is.

Prohibits the use of ESG annual funding for any construction or rehab activities.

Because the disasters could have affected shelters and other offices, we do.

We do feel this funds would be best used if we allow for that exemption to happen, so for our ESG rush funds rehab in response to any damage from these declared disasters would be eligible.

And then our second program, I think we I introduced this program a while back and so now it is it is getting started.

It's our youth and young adult homeless program and this second program was created during the regular session of the 88th Texas Legislature.

It was through Bill, Senate Bill 30, so it was the supplemental appropriations bill that allocated \$1,000,000 in general revenue for the department to develop and implement a program.

Aimed at supporting homelessness services for youth and young adults, this program, though it is specifically for Fort Bend County and so the goal of this program is to provide housing and critical services in Fort Bend County for individuals aged 24 years of age or younger to help.

Prevent homelessness?

Our board recently awarded 800 thousand of those \$1,000,000 to two organizations.

These organizations are stemmed from Houston and Fort Worth, so building up the community, which is located in Houston, is branching out to perform a or plans to use the funds for a transitional housing and wrap around services for homeless youth.

Their target audience will be youth aging out of foster care, but of course anybody that is 24 years of age or younger, that is homeless or at risk of homeless in Fort Bend County would.

Qualify for their services.

This as well and our second organization is resources inspiring, success and empowerment or rise.

They are from Fort Worth.

They're also branching out to Fort Ben to provide a rapid rehousing program in for for our homeless youth.

And those were my two brief updates for almost programs.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 25:00

Questions for Rosie?

Rosie, I've got a question for you.

**RF** **Rosy Falcon** 25:07

Sure.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 25:08

Can you elaborate a little bit on the disaster affected areas in the rush program?

I I I think you said 52 counties in existing Cocs qualified, but eighteen had already been doing the work.

I'm just trying to get a handle on where these counties are.

**RF** **Rosy Falcon** 25:27

Sure. So the majority of them are going to be in the balances state.

So we do have the Dallas, the Texas 600.

So Dallas County, Irving, they have Dallas County.

That is one of the eligible counties and then in Wichita Falls we have Montague and then in Ford Bend or the 700 CSC, we've got four bend count, Harris County and Montgomery.

The rest are coming from the balances state, and they do stretch from.

Houston area the.

Galveston kind of Pasadena area, all of that.

So it's Austin Bowie, Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, liberty. What I can do is I can send a copy in a few minutes on the chat that has the the areas that are covered in there. The only the only area we are not able or we are not serving at.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 26:16

That'd be great.

**RF** **Rosy Falcon** 26:21

The moment is falls County.

We did not have.

Any current ESG sub recipient providing services there?

So the 18 come from the 50 that we funded in the last application cycle.

So these are organizations that are either a continuing award recipient or somebody that.

Got a 2024 award through the competitive applications that provide ESG annual services.

So what we did is because they are ready and they're already providing certain some of these.

It says 2 ESG eligible recipients.

We contacted them to see if they would be willing to take this additional allocation for a specific county, and it's open to any service that is eligible, not only what they were funded for.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 27:13

Cool.

**RF** **Rosy Falcon** 27:13

Anybody that is currently an ESG sub, an ESG eligible participant wouldn't have to go through recertification.

They would automatically be eligible if they were residing in one of the counties for the disaster area.

So this was the most efficient way we could think of to get the money out there.





**Mike Doyle** 27:31

Great. Good news. Thank you.



**Rosy Falcon** 27:35

And let me drop that.



**Mike Doyle** 27:35

OK.

Any other questions for Rosie?

All right, Naomi, you're on the podium.



**Naomi Cantu** 27:42

Yep. Thank you.

Alright. And Rosie, Congrats on on getting some more apps and all that good stuff app out.

That sounds wonderful.

I have two handouts I'm gonna put in here.

One is our just a regular handout, which I will also share as I go through, and the other is.

Trying to work this so they came.

When I presented.

And so I have to drop it in.

Hold on one SEC.

It doesn't want to drop.

There it goes.

And then the other is our open notice of funding and availability or nofa.

All right. So Hallmark, one time funding 133 million and our focus is homeless and at risk populations and on other vulnerable populations, our rental side is still going strong and we're we're happy for that. That's about.

56 million about and then we have.

An open nofa. And I'm gonna talk about that a little bit for the shelter side.

All right, I have a brief handout.

For a pre presentation I should say.

That we have a non profit capacity building and operating cost assistance nofa for

non congregate shelter applicants.

It's very long name, but what it is is we are working to support nonprofits that will then apply for non congregate shelter.

I'll tell you how much we have.

We have 750,000 in our nonprofit capacity building and operating funds.

So it's going to support nonprofits.

That are going to undertake non congregate shelter development within 12 months of or sorry within nine months of award.

The eligible entities are private non profits as listed in the notes and I'll get there in a second and locations again are listed in the Nofa and we'll go there in a second. So as competitive competitively awarded, I dropped the NOFA in your chat. But here is also.

A link to the nofa if you need it.

Because it's a handout.

So if you have it later.

So the eligible non profits would demonstrate the need for a non congregate shelter by having by meeting this criteria and this is criteria that's listed in our nofa and I'll go there now.

So here's our notepad.

And it has more, a lot more information, right?

On who's eligible and the activities and the competitively awarded, I'm scrolling down right now to our attachment a or sorry Appendix A.

So we have identified areas that are eligible to apply for.

Non NCO non non profit capacity building operating with areas that have a high cost of housing.

Or increase in housing costs so that's greater than 30% AMI.

Sorry, greater than 30% increase between 2021 to 2025.

So these are all the counties that had that increase?

And then we also had areas with one bedroom and fair market rents in 2025 that are greater than \$1000, which is in a certain top percentage of this. The rents in the state.

So an organization we need to be in these areas in both.

Of these charts, in order to be able to apply to receive non profit pasadilla operating funds and then.

Later apply for non non congregate shelter.

So this is.

The list of areas that are eligible to apply non profits in those areas and then we also have an intent to apply.

Which lets us know that you do want to apply for this funding source, and you do.

You are located in the areas.

Where we specify and then we can send you an application.

So I'm not gonna go over the the specificity on this slide because I just went over it on the nofa, but it's demonstrating having need for non congregate shelter by meeting this this criteria.

And then we have.

One ineligible area, which is areas that have already received a non profit capacity building operating fund which right now is Austin Round Rock MSA.

So organizations within Austin Round Rock MSA are not eligible because we already have an award in that location.

So what is?

What are we funding?

What? How are we supporting? We are working to expand or improve an organization, so it will be.

To undertake the non congregate shelter activity and again the nonprofit would need to have have an application in where non congregate shelter within nine months of the non profit capacity building operating award.

And we are supporting general operating costs. So it's not something that can be associated with the final cost objective or a particular award.

But general cost to support the non profit.

What we cannot pay for is application preparation, so please be aware that this is not funding that's seed funding or pre development funding. We can't pay for your soft costs, your hard costs, any of that.

We're supporting the organization as it's going to apply, but there are gonna be some some costs associated associated with the MCS application that won't be eligible under the NCO.

And then one other thing that I wanted to point out is that NCO and NCSO capacity building, operating and non congregate shelter cannot pay for operating of a shelter.

This is like our big exclamation point for our program, so we cannot pay for services, overhead, staffing, insurance, nothing related to operating a shelter.

So again, we can pay for general.

General cost to support the non profit, but if that's associated with the shelter we

can.

OK, for that. And if you apply for shelter development funds, you need to be able to show that you're going to have operating funds to be able to operate that shelter for 10 to 15 years, depending on that federal use period.

Alright, so we're looking for a minimum of \$100,000 for non profit capacity building operating.

50 in each category.

Maximum is the full amount that we have available.

And I do wanna point out I'm sorry, just keep scrolling too much.

That we do have preferences.

We have preference for areas that are located or serving Pasadena, Odessa or Brian, and the reason we have that is because we received reallocated.

Funds for home art from those areas.

So HUD got the funds from home art that were allocated to these areas and gave it to to the state.

So we are releasing it with a preference for those areas.

And you can.

Or you are nonprofits interested in that preference.

Can either apply for the full amount or just the amount that.

That was reallocated proportionally to Texas.

So that's why there's different amounts here.

So you can request the maximum award amount of this.

But then you can't.

Then, if you're not the highest scoring with the without the preference, then you it will be reduced. If it's not the highest application because it's going to be limited to the proportional amount.

So again, they're able to go after the full amount, but if they they're not the highest scoring without the preference, then they're gonna get a proportional amount. If they're the second highest.

The minimum is \$2,000,000 for the NCS. The contract term is up to 36 months.

So we're thinking ahead to nine months after the NCO award \$2,000,000 for the non Carnage shelter contract term up to 36 months.

Maximum amount. This is how much we have leftover.

Currently for a non conglomer.

We do want to know.

We ask, in our invitation, to apply, so I'm going to go back to our.

So here we do.

Ask what the estimated amount is so that we know that we're not going to over commit our non congregate shelter funds if we award non profit operating costs.

So it's a, it's a balancing act here.

And again, there is a preference for Pasadena, Odessa, and Brian, and they can apply for the full amount. But if it's not the highest scored application, it will be reduced.

To this amount.

Depending on the the application.

Rankings.

So we do have a lot more information about NCO and how to apply and NCS and everything on Thursday.

So in two days at 1:00.

Pm and here is the link to get to the to there. This is our no and then this is the link for the calendar schedule and it's 1:00 PM and you can register for our webinar.

So we have.

And then this is where the the nofa is located as well on our website.

So I went over a lot of information right, because we have a nofa out, there's a lot going on in on this side of our program.

Any questions?

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 38:33

Questions for Naomi.

That's a lot of information.

I forgot the first part of it.

That was a great presentation. Thanks, Naomi.

**NC** **Naomi Cantu** 38:44

Sure, no problem.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 38:46

OK.

Kate, you're up.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 38:48  
Hi, good morning.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 38:50  
Good morning.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 38:51  
I am Kate trace.  
Think I've met a lot of folks on this call.  
I'm currently the director of the Housing Stability Services program at TDHCA.  
Jeremy, I can do me to share the handout. Would that be good?

**JS** **Jeremy Stremler** 39:09  
Yeah, whatever your preference is.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 39:11  
OK.  
Yeah. Let me just get the right screen up.  
I have just a quick kinda 2 pager.  
Cause I've got some numbers and some outcomes and success. Am I frozen here?  
Think I've frozen.

**JS** **Jeremy Stremler** 39:32  
There you go. Now it's up.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 39:33  
There he goes.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 39:34  
OK.  
Maybe I'm just my computer's a little slow here.  
OK.  
So the housing Stability Services program.  
This is a program that the department has been administering for the last four years

as part of our pandemic COVID response program.

So I've come a couple of times over the last four years and presented kind of our ramp up once we were ramped up and going.

And now we're kind of, we're approaching our our close out.

Phase for the program. So I wanted to give an update to this group.

So it's a grant program for sub recipients and local communities and non profits with a whole array of housing stability support services.

So this program is a subset of the emergency Rental Assistance program.

The state was awarded \$2 billion, more than \$2 billion for emergency rental assistance.

This program is a carve out a small portion of those funds that could be used for anything around rental assistance or utility assistance payments to support households.

To maintain stability due to or during the pandemic.

So although we are out of.

Our declared public health emergency portion. These funds are still available.

So you know we're we're not currently in, you know, the depth of the the pandemic, but we're still operating this program as we as we wrap down.

So like I said, we started in May of 2021.

And then over the last four years.

We've been operating this program.

We have to complete everything by September 30th of 2025, so we're coming up towards the end.

This fall, so like I said, this was.

Appropriated funding for for the pandemic.

So consolidated Appropriations Act and then ARPA gave us our two chunks.

We used the state's allocation of those larger funds. We took 63 million.

For the first chunk, and that went to 28 sub recipients, they operated for a year and all of those contracts have closed and we're still currently operating our second chunk of funds.

We've dedicated 157 million towards the operation of the 2nd chunk of housing stability services. So over the last couple of years we've contracted with 47 sub recipients.

23 of those are still going there, still spending down their funds.

Have a list here that shows which organizations are still going. If you needed to

connect or reach out to them.

So overall, we have about \$26 million left.

And based on the projections of our sub recipient spending, we're on track to be fully and completely spent by September.

So that that'll be a great success when we get there.

So over the last couple of years, I've got some quick accomplishments.

And quick numbers here.

To date, since May of 2021, we've served over 125,000 households. Eligibility for this program is up to 80% AMI, but that you can see the majority of our households are at that 30% or below level.

We have, you know, of our, you know, dozens of sub recipients, a lot of them, the majority of them are specifically homeless.

Business prevention and homelessness services providers. We also fund some legal services, legal aids that help with the eviction prevention portion.

So a lot of our households that fall into the middle to upper portion of our income eligibility are those legal aid, assisted eviction diversion households.

So I'm really proud of the program over the last couple of years to serve.

Such a great, you know, number of eligible households.

To really make it through the pandemic.

I've got a couple bullets here of, you know, some other successes through the program.

For three state fiscal years, we partnered.

I see Blake has logged off, but we partnered with the Texas Veterans Commission to support some of their staff there in their veterans Mental Health Department, and they were able to connect to over 2400 homeless or at risk.

Veterans households to services.

So that was a really great partnership between TD, HCA and the Veterans Commission.

**GM** **Gary Medina** 44:29

And we thank you.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 44:31

Oh, yes. Hi. Yeah, that was.

It was a wonderful program.



It was so successful that I know TBC leadership was able to kind of, you know, prove the, you know, the importance of that program. And they were able to maintain and and get funding through the last legislative session to maintain those those activities going forward.

Forward. So that was a great success.

**GM** **Gary Medina** 44:53

That's true.

I'm I'm the replacement for that, yeah.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 44:56

Yay, welcome.

I'm so thrilled that this, you know this portion of those funds is now going to have a long tail and a really great outcome. So that's great.

**GM** **Gary Medina** 45:06

We appreciate it, Matt. We do.

**CT** **Cate Tracz** 45:08

Awesome. Another great partnership was with the Texas homeless network. Eric and his team really helped to ramp up.

We partnered to administer the emergency housing vouchers to the balance of state COC.

So we we partnered with Texas Homeless Network.

We provided funding so that they could administer these emergency housing vouchers.

They were also eligible to use some additional funding.

For households that were receiving these vouchers to also receive some additional stability services if they needed help with applications or transportation or child care, those types of things were also eligible to get that household, you know, securely housed with that voucher.

So that was almost 400 households that were touched by those dollars in a very short period of time.

So another success and good partnership with the Texas Homeless network.

Thank you, Eric and your team.

You guys are awesome.

Yeah. And then finally, just another highlight that I wanted to mention to this group was our partnership with the Texas Access to Justice Foundation.

So from the beginning, we partnered with this this group that is kind of the lead.

The lead agency for legal aid services in Texas.

So they took the funds that we provided to them.

Right now there are over \$43,000,000 in funds that they've administered from the department and they've been able to sub award those funds to 10 legal aid services with almost statewide coverage.

So if someone is facing eviction or needs other legal services around housing stability, you know, fleeing domestic violence or, you know, housing fair housing issues.

Discrimination issues to support that house to become stably housed.

With legal assistance.

That that partnership has been really wonderful to I've got here to date.

We've served more than 46,000 households that have been able to receive legal services within those households that you know, they can have a, you know, a myriad of different housing related issues.

So it's it's been really helpful to have you know, multiple individuals within the household to.

Have all of their legal services kind of shored up, so this organization is still receiving funding.

So legal services around housing related issues are still available to be supported from this program.

And then just down on the next page.

I created a list of our sub recipients that currently have funding.

Let me see if I can make this small enough to fit in here.

And if you wanted to link up with these.

Organizations. Or if you wanted to refer someone.

To these organizations.

We can get you in touch with them.

You know, they're published on our website.

I've got a couple of links down here. You can search through the TDHC as help for Texans portal to connect with the the currently operating contracts in your area.

Our program web pages here if you want to see who else received funding, who's

still operating as we ramp down now through September and then our contact. Here you can always contact me directly, but we've ramped down to myself and two other staff to close out this program and we all check this e-mail every day. So this is this is a person at this HSS contact information so. You would love that contact list. Absolutely, Gary. I will make a note to send that to you right after that. Right after this meeting. So this will also be sent out as a handout. It's not as beautiful and fancy as the the PowerPoint presentations. But I think it it shows a lot of the good work that we've done for the housing Stability services program over the last four years, which has been a great success for the department. And you know for the whole program. So any questions?

**MD Mike Doyle** 49:29

OK.

Thank you, Kate.

**CT Cate Tracz** 49:31

OK.

**MD Mike Doyle** 49:31

I have a.

Just a general overall question for everybody. I guess it's to you, Jeremy, will all of this information be sent to us so that we can review it more closely.

As situations arise.

**JS Jeremy Stremmler** 49:46

Yes, of course.

After the meeting.

Everyone on the meeting today is a member or advisory member, so yes, I I will send out all of the meeting materials in an e-mail a little shortly after after the meeting today and then of course, as usual, within the next about week they'll all be also posted.

On the Titch page of the TD HCA website as well.



**Mike Doyle** 50:13

Very good.

Thank you.

OK.

It looks like.

Nobody sent any or had any indication of update, but does anybody have any agency updates that they'd like to share with us?

Yes.

OK, Eric.

You got an update, it looks like.



**Eric Samuels** 50:37

I don't have much, but I I have a little bit.

We just just an FYI, educational purposes, our homelessness awareness days, March 12th.

Thanks for going over those bills that they they actually mirror a lot of the bills we're following already.

Just a few things about continuum of care work. We're continuing with our continuum of care modernization, which is really just a fancy word for saying we're looking at splitting the balance of state up.

In the two different cocs.

To essentially to, to be able to be eligible to receive more planning funding from HUD.

So we might.

I don't know how it'll be split up, but it might be a north and a ASA balance of state.

But we would still work with both Co CS and it should operate essentially the same.

And a few other updates. Lubbock actually is Lubbock and Lubbock County. They're pulling out of the balance of state.

We're going to try to make a run at being their own COC again.

And that has become official as of a couple weeks ago.

Via HUD, Hud's announcement just to the two communities, it's not been widely announced it, but they are.

They don't think they may have a number now and I forgot what it is, but I'll send it out to folks to dhca.

So you know that because you'll need to know that for, you know, grant allocation purposes.

And then just two other things.

Just know that we're working with El Paso on their continuum of care.

Leadership. And there's been some, there's been some confusion, some.

Debate about who should be leading the COC there.

So we're trying to step in and help where we can right now. As it stands, there will not be any funding.

For that lead agency, the El Paso Coalition for the Homeless, which Mike, I know you're very familiar with over the years.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 52:45

Mm hmm.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 52:47

So we're hoping that we can help them continue and we're working with HUD to see if we can get that funding reinstated, but it's all up in the air right now.

So that again is something we will keep tddca updated on.

And then the last thing I want to say and then we maybe get into Anya's.

Update I noticed there was a lot of good work with the Texas access to justice if that ever wants to be studied in the future, we could make our data sharing network available.

We were working with a Harvard access to justice project where they were doing as they were doing similar things, and they're seeing if what they did in terms of eviction, diversion and protections.

Paid off.

So they're seeing if anyone any of the households they served fill in the homelessness.

Since they delivered that education.

So you know, we could do that in the future.

Test the effectiveness.

And that's all I have.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 53:49

Got a question for you, Eric.

Any you mentioned data sharing any progress with Wichita Falls or San Antonio or Austin about join the sharing the data network?

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 54:03

Well, Austin is Austin's sharing with us.

San Antonio we we had made some progress, but unfortunately the person that was really helping us with that, the CEO of Haven for hope, Kim Jeffries, is leaving. They'll be getting an interim CEO. So hopefully I can meet that person.

We can continue that work, but Wichita Falls.

They they're just, they don't have the capacity.

I don't know that.

I don't know when we're going to be able to get them on, but I'm still hopeful for San Antonio.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 54:32

OK. I mean.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 54:33

But we still have 9 and 11 still Cs.

Well, I guess 9 of 12 soon.

Yeah, that's where we stand.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 54:40

So when Anya gives her report, and I assume that she's going to give a report and we see numbers, the homeless counts for Texas.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 54:45

Mm hmm.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 54:50

If San Antonio's not included, should we increase those by?

A educated guess percentage wise and 10 percent 5%. How do we legitimately say this is the number of homeless in Texas?

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 55:07

Right. So.

We in in some of my policymaker education materials, I have used their point in time count in Wichita Falls point in time count which is still not sufficient really. But I've added that to our annual count and then try to estimate as best I could.

The counts from the projects that don't contribute data to HMIS.

Which in the balance of state, that's quite a few programs.

So that's how I try to get about to that number.

It's still an under count.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 55:45

Yeah. OK.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 55:46

Yeah.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 55:46

Just curious.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 55:47

I can share that with the group too, if you just have it.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 55:49

Yeah, I'd love to see that.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 55:51

Yeah. OK.

Yeah, I'll share that.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 55:53

OK.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 55:55

Thank you.

**AT** **Anja Taylor** 55:58

I guess I'm up.

I'm happy to step in.

Good morning everyone for those.



**Mike Doyle** 56:04

Hi, Anya.



**Anja Taylor** 56:06

Who I have not yet met. My name is Anya Taylor and I serve as the project manager for the Texas homeless Data Sharing Network.

And we like to attend these meetings on behalf of the Texas homeless Data Sharing Network and share a report on homelessness in Texas.

I am actually going to drop a link in the chat.

Back to our data dashboard. I think most on this call are familiar with our data dashboard, but in case you aren't this dashboard lives live on the Thn website and it is a great resource for you to have and share with those who may benefit from the data.

That we publish on our data dashboard.

I am going to share my screen so that you can see our data dashboard which has been updated for 2024.

So as we mentioned right now for this project, we are working with nine of 11 taxes continuums of care. So all of the cocs with the exception of San Antonio.

And Wichita Falls?

However, right now we have about 93% coverage area across the state and this is where that data is being pulled from. So in 2024 of the 9 cocs that we partner with on this project, we were able to identify 57,600.

And 85 individuals who accessed services.

Within the homeless response system.

Across those nine cocs, again, this is an undercount of the unhoused population as we do not collect data from Wichita Falls or San Antonio.

In addition, we are limited in our data set and that we can only capture clients who access services at an HMIS participating agency.

So the agency has to be using HMIS.

Even with those limitations, though, this is the most accurate number that shows us the scope of homelessness in Texas.



So it's beneficial in our advocacy work, of course in our for research and analysis purposes.

And so this is the snapshot of 2024 kind of in comparison to 20.

23 so the year prior.

I believe there was around 63,000 individuals who were captured in that report.

So there's about a 5000 client.

Difference between the two years, however, relatively overall across those nine cocs that remain the same?

Our data dashboard I'll just finally end with, you know, this is pulled from a report, a state level homelessness report that we generate.

In our data, dash are in our data warehouse.

We are collecting data from these participating cocs at least quarterly.

Some cocs like Tarrin County and Dallas, we get their data more so every 24 hours roughly.

But this is the kind of information you'll see on our data dashboard. This chart here shows you the number of people.

Experiencing homelessness in Texas throughout all housing programs in 2024 and then if you Scroll down a little bit, we have data that shows the number of people entering the homeless response system who are first time homeless in 2024 and then the number of people.

Who are exiting to a permanent housing destination?

You know further down this is gonna take a little while to populate it seems.

But there are some interactive graphs that will show you a breakdown of the demographics. Some of the demographics of the UN House population that you can view quarter to quarter there we go.

So it breaks it down for the entire population veterans and then by household type.

Of course, racial composition and then the types of households and chronicity status for those that we have, we are collecting data on.

Most likely by the time we meet next, we will have produced a report, a further.

Examining the 2024 state of homelessness in Texas.

So we'll be sure to send that out once that is published and publicly available.

Other than that, I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.



Honey, I just got one question. If asked is homelessness up or down between 23 and 24?

**AT** **Anja Taylor** 1:01:39

I think we have.

So I mentioned from 2023 to 2024 in terms of the data that we are capturing in our data warehouse, there's about a 5000 client deduction in the overall population.

However, we were able to pinpoint that to a specific project.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 1:01:51

OK.

**AT** **Anja Taylor** 1:01:59

Located near the border that's operating in the balance of state.

So I would say overall the.

The number of individuals experiencing homelessness across the state of Texas has remained roughly the same.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 1:02:15

OK.

**AT** **Anja Taylor** 1:02:21

We're gonna in our report, there's gonna be more details shared on those types of questions, Mike, including.

Year to year comparison for the number of individuals housed, I believe in comparison from 2023 to 2024 across all Co CS overall there was more people housed in 2024 than in 2023. So we'll look at into those data points as.

Well, to assess trends.

Across those falling into homelessness and then of course exiting to a permanent housing destination.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 1:02:58

Appreciate that. And if you have any, if you're just one day, find yourself amazingly with nothing to do.

I'd love some talking points.

Just bullet points, three or four when I'm in at the session during the year when asked.

That's the kind of questions I get.

Is it up or down? Are the programs working and so I just a couple bullet points would be great to be able to say and this is verified by the Texas Homeless Network's data sharing.

System I just a couple of those would be neat to have.

**AT** **Anja Taylor** 1:03:32

That's a good point, Mike.

I know Eric's always answering those questions and his advocacy and legislative work, so I will get with him to make sure we have a consistent statement and then follow up with some talking points that should be helpful.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 1:03:47

Yeah, we'll definitely get that to you, Mike, and then try to explain to where it's easy for you to explain it to legislators.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 1:03:48

Very good.

Thank you.

As you imagine, legislators aren't gonna sit there and listen to a report for very long. They just wanna know the bottom line and I'd love to be able to share it with them.

**ES** **Eric Samuels** 1:04:02

Right.

We'll get that to you.

**MD** **Mike Doyle** 1:04:06

Appreciate it.

OK.

I don't see anything else on our agenda, so.

Are there any other questions or comments?

**FG** **Fedora Galasso (TNOYS)** 1:04:21

Hey everyone, this is Fedora.

I had tried to come off of mute way back when when we were talking about the presentations on or the bills and everything like that. And Eric mentioned tino's so.

Yes, we are tracking.

And working on that youth homelessness program writer.

Just to expand that funding and then also tracking.

All kind of legislation as it relates to youth exiting foster care or other systems involved youth and their needs and doing some specific work on housing as it relates to supervised independent living and transitional living programs for youth aging out of foster care and.

Definitely have been tracking everything and.

Testifying on the budget and those things like that.

Also, just wanted to quickly share.

For tinoi's we, you know, had our day at the Capitol with our youth homeless services providers.

And we have some upcoming things such as our annual conference.

And our day of action for youth.

So.

Those are just a couple of things I wanted to share and I think that's about it. Thanks everyone.

**MD Mike Doyle** 1:05:56

Thanks fedora.

Anything else?

Well, I want to once again thank you for allowing me to serve another year as chair.

I enjoy the heck out of this.

I've been doing this for 34 years now, so it takes a long time for no man like me to learn anything but at the same time I appreciate your your confidence and if there be nothing else, have an early lunch and great rest of your your winter.

I hope it's over the next couple of days.

But we'll, I'll, I'll call us adjourned.

Thank you.

**SC Sherri Cogbill** 1:06:29

Thanks Mike.

**NC Naomi Cantu** 1:06:30  
Thank you, Mike.

**MD Mike Doyle** 1:06:30  
Bye bye.

**BB Brooke Boston** 1:06:31  
Thank you. Bye.

**I Irwin, Claire (HHSC)** 1:06:31  
Thank you.

**ES Eric Samuels** 1:06:33  
Bye.

□ **Jeremy Stremler** stopped transcription