



Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless (TICH) Meeting Transcript*

***10:30 a.m.
September 23, 2026***

***Marriott Westchase, Richmond Room
2900 Briarpark Dr, Houston, TX 77042***

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Council Members: Scott Charbonneau, Chair
Sherri Cogbill, TDCJ
Hector Ortiz, DFPS
Brooke Boston, TDHCA
Rosy Falcon, TDHCA
Marqus Butler, TJJD
Chelsea Martin, TVC
Kelly Davis, TWC
Brittany Hinton, HHSC
Claire Irwin, HHSC
Blade Berkman, DSHS

Advisory Members: Fedora Galasso, TNOYS
Lauren Rose, TNOYS
Ann-Charlotte Profit, TNOYS
Darilynn Cardona-Beiler, MMHPI
Eric Samuels, THN
David Long, TSAHC
Michael Wilt, TSAHC
Lizette Beltran, TCFV
Molly Thibodeaux, TCFV

Staff Support: Jeremy Stremmer, TDH

1 **00:00:02 Scott Charbonneau**

2 Well, I'd like to welcome you here to the Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless

3 September 23, 2026, meeting here at the Texas Homeless Network event.

4 **00:00:16 Scott Charbonneau**

5 Thank you for the patience as well as we are working through technical difficulties, we're

6 doing our best to make it all work and that's just the way it works sometimes what we'd

7 like to do is start off by doing quick introductions if you can give your name and the

8 organization you represent specifically, we do need to have that for the council members.

9 **00:00:40 Scott Charbonneau**

10 For time's sake why don't we just, if you don't mind, let's just do start with the council

11 members and then if there's some time we can talk about other organizations that are

12 present so if you're part of the council itself please.

13 **00:00:52 Scott Charbonneau**

14 We'll go around the room first give your name and organization you represent.

15 **00:00:58 Brooke Boston**

16 Brooke Boston I'm the deputy executive director of the Texas Department of Housing and

17 Community Affairs.

18 **00:01:06 Brittany Hinton**

19 Brittany Hinton with HHSC I usually attend virtually so it's always a pleasure when I can be

20 in person. I'm with the behavioral health strategy innovation team newly formed.

21 **00:01:25 Kristen Harris**

22 My name is Kristen Harris I'm with the Department of Family and Protective Services I just

23 joined the council taking Hector Ortiz's place as he recently retired from the agency so

24 thank you for having me.

25 **00:01:51 Scott Charbonneau**

26 Are there any members on the phone, Council members?

27 **00:01:56 Tiffany Price**

28 Yes, this is Tiffany Tiffany price.

29 **00:02:00 Tiffany Price**

1 The office of Aging Services Coordination from Texas Health and Human Services this is my
2 first meeting.

3 **00:02:06 Jeremy Stremmer**

4 Yes, you're replacing Claire correct?

5 **00:02:09 Tiffany Price**

6 Yes.

7 **00:02:12 Marqus Butler**

8 And this is our Marqus Butler with the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

9 **00:02:19 Rosy Falcon**

10 And Rosy Falcon with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

11 **00:02:27 Kelly Davis**

12 I think you already have me but Kelly Davis with TWC.

13 **00:02:34 Ileana Sandoval**

14 And Ileana on the line with TDHCA.

15 **00:02:40 Blade Berkman**

16 This Blade Berkman with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

17 **00:02:54 Chelsea Martin**

18 Chelsea Martin with the Texas Veterans Commission we cover the state together Shamika
19 Williams as well thank you.

20 **00:03:05 Scott Charbonneau**

21 All right well that's great glad to have everybody here let me go ahead and we'll have a
22 chance to talk further later on the discussion when we have other topics that you brought
23 up so.

24 **00:03:18 Scott Charbonneau**

25 I just I'm looking forward to hearing from everybody I'm just gonna say it's my privilege.

26 **00:03:23 Scott Charbonneau**

27 My name is Scott charbonneau I serve as the Chair of the TICH.

1 **00:03:28 Scott Charbonneau**

2 I work at cornerstone assistance network and have the privilege of visiting my second

3 meeting with you guys so it's exciting to be here and I'm excited to learn more.

4 **00:03:38 Scott Charbonneau**

5 First order of business I'm sorry we do have a quorum present based on those that are here

6 first order of business is approval of the minutes from the June 3, 2026, meeting.

7 **00:03:52 Scott Charbonneau**

8 Do we have a motion to approve those minutes?

9 **00:03:55 Chelsea Martin**

10 So moved.

11 **00:03:55 Brooke Boston**

12 Second.

13 **00:03:58 Scott Charbonneau**

14 OK all those in favor.

15 **00:04:03 Scott Charbonneau**

16 Any opposed?

17 **00:04:13 Scott Charbonneau**

18 Very good those minutes have been approved now we're going to quickly jump over to the

19 homeless feasibility study for some presentation by the University of Houston the council

20 is going to get an abbreviated version of this here this morning with a fuller discussion

21 scheduled for this afternoon for those who are interested in learning more.

22 **00:04:33 Scott Charbonneau**

23 With that I'm going to hand it off to.

24 **00:04:34 Scott Charbonneau**

25 Dr .Ben King

26 **00:04:37 Dr. Ben King**

27 Sure.

1 **00:04:42 Eric Samuels**

2 Just FYI in about 15 minutes I have to leave to minor keynote so when I leave it's no
3 reflection of your presentation.

4 **00:05:05 Dr. Ben King**

5 Leave whenever you need.

6 **00:05:12 Dr. Ben King**

7 No that's fine I think good we've got a couple of copies coming around this is an
8 abbreviated version.

9 **00:05:19 Dr. Ben King**

10 As somebody mentioned to cover an exciting opportunity and we're deeply grateful for the
11 opportunity to work with TDHCA on this on this study it was funded initially by a Rider from
12 the last legislature commissioning a study of the feasibility of housing the wording of the
13 entire project was very broad which I think gave you know the team at TDHCA a lot of room
14 to kind of discuss with us and with other people about what we should cover what we need
15 to capture in a study that goes back to the Texas Legislature about feasibility of housing
16 models after a lot of discussion kind of narrowed the focus down to what we have the
17 opportunity to study with the data we have available.

18 **00:06:19 Dr. Ben King**

19 The Homeless Data Sharing network that you've heard about and then leveraging that so
20 it's not to be reductive due to the data limitations by introducing other data points
21 including things like stakeholder interviews and surveys that have gone out that are
22 actually still ongoing so.

23 **00:06:38 Dr. Ben King**

24 The study we're going to present today is also still a work in progress so if you hear anything
25 and want to react to it this is all part of the data collection now because we're we're still
26 particularly in the final phase.

27 **00:06:52 Dr. Ben King**

28 Meaning creation around the data but we've got some really exciting results that I won't
29 delay too much further because David is actually going to finish the presentation.

30 **00:07:04 Dr. Ben King**

1 I did make some notes to make sure that I capture what I wanted to say. Yes, I think one of
2 the most important things that we were able to do is advance the idea of metrics around
3 outcomes when the initial step of establishing housing feasibility.

4 **00:07:22 Dr. Ben King**

5 Housing is feasible right that's the first assumption we can clear then it becomes what
6 factors improve those outcomes and quickly you might follow up that question what are
7 the outcomes.

8 **00:07:35 Dr. Ben King**

9 That we should be measuring right? There's been a long time focus in the housing sphere
10 around process measures placements.

11 **00:07:43 Dr. Ben King**

12 But not necessarily focusing because the data systems themselves are not really designed
13 to reflect outcomes like stabilization like returns to homelessness recursive iterative
14 entries things like that we were able to partner with the data sharing network to redo some
15 of that structure by recreating the entire sequential or relational database the team in the
16 corner has been struggling for a whole year on some really advanced data analytics to
17 create.

18 **00:08:19 Dr. Ben King**

19 New metrics basically on what housing success looks like and then summarize project
20 level.

21 **00:08:25 Dr. Ben King**

22 Understanding and I think as odd as that sounds that's probably the most novel as a simple
23 idea that's probably the most novel thing we have to share today is the idea of looking at
24 what factors geographically, politically, within jurisdictions temporally that influence.

25 **00:08:55 Dr. Ben King**

26 I'm just going to provide a little bit more context of that and then really carefully I want to
27 just outline so you understand where we're going the three stages one was this secondary
28 analysis using four years of the data sharing network followed up with or actually really
29 intermingling with key stakeholder interviews we've done a lot of work.

30 **00:09:15 Dr. Ben King**

1 Using both recommendations from TDHCA as well as our own experts identified in the field
2 to understand what successful programs look like particularly within housing and within
3 stabilization pathways towards you know stability or long term outcomes as understanding
4 and then finally in the field right now is a survey that we've sent out.

5 **00:09:41 Dr. Ben King**

6 To hundreds of housing programs through the coc any coc funded housing partners asking
7 them to provide input about what kinds of programs or services.

8 **00:09:55 Dr. Ben King**

9 They provide and we're identifying certain programs to follow up with interviews in that
10 case as well and then last actually is just over the summer when we realized that the
11 financial inputs weren't really available through coc data we've started abstracting all of
12 the form 990s for all of the organizations that we studied.

13 **00:10:21 Dr. Ben King**

14 Something like that to introduce more financial structure and cost understanding into our
15 modeling of system outcomes so really appreciate any feedback you have when you get
16 into the results I'm going to let David take over.

17 **00:10:45 David Palmer**

18 I can talk a little bit more about our data now so in partnership with the Texas Homeless
19 Data Sharing Network we received data from 2022 to 2025 which.

20 **00:11:24 David Palmer**

21 This is permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing at least
22 one enrollment during our study period and so we had 851 of those projects and about
23 71% of exits with a known destination to permanent housing and about 11% of those were
24 not.

25 **00:11:46 David Palmer**

26 And so a big portion of this project is attention to geography type so looking at urban
27 suburban and rural areas and we have you know generated some maps and more to come
28 but maps of these QHP 's across Texas vary by region and POC.

29 **00:12:09 Dr. Ben King**

30 You can see examples of that all the first and the 3rd slide.

31 **00:12:14 Dr. Ben King**

1 Different projects like different types of layout.

2 **00:12:18 David Palmer**

3 Yeah and of course like you're going to see clustering of these QPS in like the Texas triangle
4 or like in the Irving areas and so questions that you might think about from that are.

5 **00:12:39 David Palmer**

6 Gaps what's the service density looking like and are people able to sustain their housing
7 within this local context and so this all kind of gets back into our primary question of what
8 is making or what makes housing sustainable in a particular.

9 **00:12:57 David Palmer**

10 And so looking back at.

11 **00:12:59 David Palmer**

12 HMIS is essential for us in understanding our homelessness response system because
13 we're able to describe project participation enrollments and exit service engagement and
14 those geographic distributions but there are some experiences that are less visible in HMIS
15 so for instance.

16 **00:13:20 David Palmer**

17 Different confidential pathways for domestic violence survivors.

18 **00:13:26 David Palmer**

19 In those informal housing arrangements as well as local housing market data and so that
20 necessitates our primary data collection phase and survey data getting that project
21 validation from our coc and stakeholder engagement with better experts in the community
22 and so.

23 **00:13:45 David Palmer**

24 Hopefully in our final report we want to synthesize those methods and identify those
25 patterns and get that local perspective so we can have a better idea of what's feasible
26 what's still needed and inform policy.

27 **00:14:01 David Palmer**

28 Going into some of our early findings from our primary data first we're seeing that of course
29 our housing model serve different functions so PSH, TH they vary substantially by their

1 population serve their service instance city those enrollment patterns and so there isn't a
2 one-size-fits-all solution for housing because.

3 **00:14:23 David Palmer**

4 Every individual their needs vary, next we see that stabilization requires more than just
5 their healthy placement so we are interested in longitudinal metrics like retention or earns
6 the homelessness and that ongoing access to service supports and so that will help us to
7 understand it.

8 **00:14:44 David Palmer**

9 Housing is able to last.

10 **00:14:47 David Palmer**

11 And lastly, we're interested in services and local capacity are very crucial and shaping
12 feasibility so looking at that residential infrastructure the staffing social capital and flexible
13 funds they all outlined what.

14 **00:15:07 David Palmer**

15 Can be sustained locally by a housing project and so those bindings are helping us to
16 shape policy recommendations for our final report.

17 **00:15:27 Dr. Ben King**

18 Just to summarize because there's a lot of numbers there's.

19 **00:15:32 Dr. Ben King**

20 An appendix with 60 different regression tables and all kinds of things within this the bulk of
21 what the study finds is not going to be surprising to the experts in this room which is that
22 longer subsidy provides larger return on stabilization and increased supportive services.

23 **00:15:53 Dr. Ben King**

24 As far as we can capture those which is limited to this extent as I mentioned we're doing
25 extra steps to try to better capture what this this volume looks like.

26 **00:16:04 Dr. Ben King**

27 Maybe excitement from the the the first part that those also seem to introduce increased
28 stabilization and reduced returns to homelessness modeling those separately and
29 modeling them by client and by encounter has really introduced a lot of variability.

30 **00:16:24 Dr. Ben King**

1 And what the question is being answered.

2 **00:16:26 Dr. Ben King**

3 So we're learning a lot.

4 **00:16:28 Dr. Ben King**

5 As we interview with the follow up client and stakeholders as well this idea that
6 understanding creating metrics around client level outcomes which are shared across the
7 organizations as opposed to encounter level outcomes and how those might predict
8 stabilization versus returns to homelessness which of course are not mutually exclusive.

9 **00:16:51 Dr. Ben King**

10 Right, you can actually have multiple returns before stabilization occurs at the client level.

11 **00:16:57 Dr. Ben King**

12 Right, so modeling all of those separately is really introduced an interesting new layer of
13 variability one of the going to.

14 **00:17:03 Dr. Ben King**

15 We're recommending in addition to policy a set of policy measures is a set of metrics for if
16 the state were to be involved with the increasing or introducing housing support.

17 **00:17:17 Dr. Ben King**

18 What those measures might be in a more comprehensive way beyond just number of
19 replacements and we're really encouraged that what we see is exactly what we know is the
20 greater.

21 **00:17:29 Dr. Ben King**

22 Housing duration the greater stabilization of outcomes you see that's the high level take
23 away I want people to recall beyond that we're really interested in and would love to take
24 meetings especially with TICH board members if anyone has things that they'd like to see
25 as far as policy inputs.

26 **00:17:51 Dr. Ben King**

27 That need to be paired with recommendations for investment in housing and and some
28 wrap around support services what are their policy context might need.

29 **00:18:00 Dr. Ben King**

1 And then finally we didn't say this and so I just want to put a big stamp on there are a lot of
2 limitations to our study approach a lot of unknowns we have had great partnership with
3 TCFV.

4 **00:18:12 Dr. Ben King**

5 But we don't have their data in this in the tables that we were able to analyze we do we are
6 able to characterize their data and they share aggregate reports from their records that we
7 can pair in our descriptive analysis of the housing structure but obviously they can't share
8 an individual level project data the way others can and understandably so DV is left out of
9 this analysis largely, youth programs are very unique and we tried to clean into a lot of
10 capture in the qualitative work to inform recommendations around youth housing
11 initiatives but but those programs are really too underrepresented for us to understand.

12 **00:18:56 Dr. Ben King**

13 And then of course the VA operates on a very different scale as well and we've talked to a
14 few people including Jack Sai from UTSA center on homelessness amongst better there we
15 go on informing exactly what the successes of that program has been obviously something
16 to role model if anything is the success of the VA and there's other examples but many
17 blind spots.

18 **00:19:30 Dr. Ben King**

19 You have to acknowledge that as people think about and then finally there will be data
20 shared at the end of this and I want to be really clear we're not talking about client level
21 data project level data used for this analysis that's completely de identified at the COC org
22 and project.

23 **00:19:50 Dr. Ben King**

24 Cool will be shared as part of the partnership with TDHCA but no more.

25 **00:20:02 Dr. Ben King**

26 Any questions?

27 **00:20:07 Unidentified Speaker**

28 So as far as when you're looking at numbers as people exiting rapid rehousing and these
29 different programs if they're just going into housing you're showing them as successfully
30 housed because I know like there's not really any tracking as to.

31 **00:20:21 Unidentified Speaker**

1 During that 6 months a year afterwards like I currently have a housing program that does
2 not have security funding that I bring in a lot of people in all of those programs.

3 **00:20:32 Unidentified Speaker**

4 And you know it's challenging to continue to keep them stabilized and so just because
5 they're signing a lease does not mean they're successfully housed.

6 **00:20:42 Dr. Ben King**

7 Yeah, and stabilization especially means different things from different program
8 corrections right under PSH can exit to permanent housing right on its own on their own but
9 also just.

10 **00:21:00 Dr. Ben King**

11 Who is considered a positive exit in that context so there's yeah there's a lot of examples
12 and certainly that's another blind spot because there are lots of programs hopefully that
13 exited from the last program in our data set as a successful housing placement right so
14 that if we would have been exited and we would know.

15 **00:21:20 Dr. Ben King**

16 That they didn't return to homelessness, does that make sense servicing numbers yeah.

17 **00:21:24 Unidentified Speaker**

18 How do you know that the charges because they did go?

19 **00:21:30 Dr. Ben King**

20 Yeah, that's true which is not perfect either we've been using the phrase good enough for
21 government work ironically.

22 **00:21:38 Brittany Hinton**

23 How much data did you guys reach out to like through HHSC and the programs that we
24 partner with like DHA on or?

25 **00:21:49 Brittany Hinton**

26 Any funding that's being provided or like the CCHD 's?

27 **00:21:53 Dr. Ben King**

28 Yes well.

29 **00:21:55 Dr. Ben King**

1 So not that one but in the other cases particularly ESG programming and others so as
2 programs also receive additional supports we've been trying to find where those we can
3 track other sources of support many of those I think all of those programs already are in the
4 COC as well.

5 **00:22:15 Dr. Ben King**

6 With that additional support from the state is important to document because that leads to
7 improved outcomes to the painting.

8 **00:22:17 Brittany Hinton**

9 Thank You.

10 **00:22:20 Brittany Hinton**

11 All right I'm thinking about like aging population, ID population those poor occurring
12 diagnosis in the services provided to them through like.

13 **00:22:30 Brittany Hinton**

14 Facilities and things.

15 **00:22:32 Dr. Ben King**

16 Some nursing facility would have already been exited as positive but we wouldn't have an
17 outcome of their exit in the nursing facility it would only show stabilization.

18 **00:22:41 Brittany Hinton**

19 Right so that's where you're saying fly the feasibility that's another area is like as far as
20 secondary that you would be looking into I'm definitely interested in this it kind of goes
21 along with kind of where I'm I'm transitioning like I said with some newly formed
22 department so.

23 **00:22:46 Dr. Ben King**

24 That's a great point yeah.

25 **00:22:58 Brittany Hinton**

26 Yeah, I definitely want to have more further conversation.

27 **00:23:02 Dr. Ben King**

28 I think that's one of a great example.

29 **00:23:04 Dr. Ben King**

1 The policies just adjacent to what our recommendations will touch on but it's key for
2 achieving those exits to permanent housing especially for older clients like you said.

3 **00:23:12 Brittany Hinton**

4 Right.

5 **00:23:17 Dr. Ben King**

6 The nursing facilities are one of the best you know easiest ways to then remove from the
7 CoC funding agencies but yet stabilize some.

8 **00:23:34 Eric Samuels**

9 I have to ask this question can we get a sneak peek of the policies that you recommend or
10 the.

11 **00:23:40 Dr. Ben King**

12 Just for you yes yeah we we're working on those and circulating them with partners
13 including the stakeholders that provided input on the first place to make sure that we that
14 we accurately reflected their comments so we're going to let them your team is one of
15 them.

16 **00:23:41 Eric Samuels**

17 OK.

18 **00:24:20 Scott Charbonneau**

19 Any other questions?

20 **00:24:23 Scott Charbonneau**

21 It's always a challenge you do with their project right yeah it's it's the gaps in data but it's
22 also the definitions just.

23 **00:24:30 Scott Charbonneau**

24 Are we using consistent definitions and application?

25 **00:24:33 Dr. Ben King**

26 And the variability around capture has been one of the things that's been hardest that is a
27 originally we were planning on using some of the tables like referrals and service
28 enrollments within HMIS and turns out those are used very differently across different
29 systems so.

1 **00:24:50 Dr. Ben King**

2 And we threw that out that's really where the survey came from essentially.

3 **00:24:54 Scott Charbonneau**

4 So is that maybe. The follow up question then is that one of the recommendations we

5 actually have been better clarity around definitions?

6 **00:25:01 Dr. Ben King**

7 Yeah data quality is going to be in there that's going to be one of the least exciting

8 recommendations that's definitely harder.

9 **00:25:04 Scott Charbonneau**

10 Yeah.

11 **00:25:10 Dr. Ben King**

12 The role for you know TDHCA and hopefully monitoring and improving the capture in order

13 to create metrics with you know with their partners.

14 **00:25:24 Scott Charbonneau**

15 Not necessarily the most fun part was it's the basis of it.

16 **00:25:26 Dr. Ben King**

17 No but but that's yeah I think that's the only way we can create those those models

18 ongoing.

19 **00:25:35 Scott Charbonneau**

20 I will just say on behalf of.

21 **00:25:39 Scott Charbonneau**

22 My behalf as well as the council behalf thank you guys for for different work and beginning.

23 **00:25:54 Scott Charbonneau**

24 All right with that let's go ahead and turn our conversation to the CoC agencies.

25 **00:26:01 Scott Charbonneau**

26 It just updates from you guys what do you see what are the initiatives you're you're up to

27 just one kind of.

1 **00:26:08 Scott Charbonneau**

2 Open the floor.

3 **00:26:09 Scott Charbonneau**

4 As you were making comments just introduce yourself if you've got others in.

5 **00:26:13 Scott Charbonneau**

6 The room with you it would be helpful to know who's in the in the room and then yeah just

7 share what's what's everyone.

8 **00:26:22 Scott Charbonneau**

9 Who wants to go first?

10 **00:26:34 Jeremy Stremmler**

11 Yeah, I will say this is an opportunity you know obviously not all CoC members across

12 CoC's are regularly in a room together so you know in the past it's kind of just an

13 opportunity if anybody in any particular CoC across the state is running into particular

14 issues that they want to discuss with other CoC members or?

15 **00:27:01 Jeremy Stremmler**

16 Anything related to initiatives that your organization or CC might be doing we'd all be glad

17 to hear it because as I said we don't always all get to be in a room together to discuss those

18 types of topics of course no one wants to say anything that's fine too no one's going to

19 make you but just an opportunity.

20 **00:27:30 Unidentified Speaker**

21 I'll talk, my organization is really small and we don't work directly with housing but my

22 organization is called fresh projects and we serve the unhoused directly on the street so

23 we're a street outreach organization so I'm interested in talking with anyone that might

24 have some information on how to house individuals that are on the street we work directly

25 meeting weekly providing food and resources. To connect people off the street whether it

26 be mental health services, housing resources, VA resources, and all the things in between

27 but we believe that it starts with getting to know who they are so leading them with food so

28 a lot of people on the streets but we're in Houston I know people are from all over so we're

29 located in the downtown area so a lot of the unhoused in the downtown area are very

30 familiar with our organization because we see them every Monday for the past 5 years so

31 there's been a lot of changes in the city I'm sure y'all are aware which kind of display.

1 **00:28:29 Speaker 17**

2 This is a homeless sometimes their house sometimes there's a super shelter sometimes
3 there's not but if you guys have any information to help people. Give me a holler.

4 **00:28:44 Brittany Hinton**

5 I guess I can kind of put a pitch in I don't know how valuable it would be but one of the
6 programs that I assist with is.

7 **00:28:55 Brittany Hinton**

8 Has openings for individuals that are leaving state hospitals as well as a step down
9 programs that's something that I think has kind of been a Gray area for a lot of individuals
10 not knowing if you.

11 **00:29:10 Brittany Hinton**

12 Still be considered on the waiting list well for this project which is project access which is
13 the pilot that speaks to specifically individuals leaving state hospitals you know in the
14 mental health behavioral health sector and so there are new vouchers.

15 **00:29:30 Brittany Hinton**

16 That we were awarded through TDHCA received 10 new vouchers for the pilot and so I'm
17 pretty much like the contract in order to refer.

18 **00:29:41 Brittany Hinton**

19 For for that program and again those vouchers are able to be processed with the referrals
20 so not really a long wait time I would say that so if anybody has any individuals or know of
21 any programs that may didn't know you know because they are step down programs or
22 something like that there are.

23 **00:30:02 Brittany Hinton**

24 Few vouchers available and these are like Section 8 vouchers where they go wherever
25 property is willing to accept them across Texas.

26 **00:30:16 Kerri**

27 Hi I'm Kerri I'm the executive director of Denton affordable housing corporation we're
28 currently. Part of obviously a big Metroplex right outside of Dallas - Fort Worth we're
29 developing our first 9% LIHTC permanent supportive housing development with 84
30 permanent supportive housing units is very challenging as.

1 **00:30:44 Kerri**

2 We get our legs under us to be able to do any type of like you know get property based out
3 or is there anything like that which is what makes these projects successful if you look at
4 these projects in Austin even for projects in Houston they all have vouchers on them and
5 so to be able to support these individuals with the mental health concerns the addiction
6 concerns.

7 **00:31:04 Kerri**

8 They need more than a rapid rehousing program like people come into our housing every
9 day because we have housing from 20 years ago when they did affordable housing very
10 differently and so we have scattered site and so you know we have rapid rehousing and all
11 those programs that come in and need supports.

12 **00:31:20 Kerri**

13 The state doesn't pay my case managers, I pay them to try to keep these people house as
14 long as possible sometimes we're successful and sometimes we're not but those vouchers
15 are desperately needed and you know they their needed for more than just Dallas and Fort
16 Worth and Houston and Austin.

17 **00:31:41 Kerri**

18 And that's really where we struggle you know we still have because as we all know this is a
19 population that doesn't stay in one zip code or in one spot, they travel the Metroplex we
20 still have the same population in Dallas and Fort Worth has but we don't have the financial
21 support.

22 **00:32:00 Kerri**

23 And so it's very difficult for the middle city to get.

24 **00:32:13 Brittany Hinton**

25 Have you have you applied to be CBHC?

26 **00:32:17 Kerri**

27 I don't know what those letters stand for.

28 **00:32:18 Brittany Hinton**

29 So I'm sorry. We have so many acronyms and then now I'm trying to figure out what it is.

30 **00:32:24 Brittany Hinton**

1 It is certified behavioral health clinic.

2 **00:32:29 Brittany Hinton**

3 So you pretty much do application through HHSC to become a certified clinic that
4 administers mental health and substance use services and it opens you up to be able to
5 receive funding for those programs the application is now open it was closed for a long
6 time because.

7 **00:32:51 Brittany Hinton**

8 It's been open I think it opened this fiscal year to where clinics can apply for that
9 certification to be able to receive funding and a lot of areas.

10 **00:33:04 Kerri**

11 You see what qualifications clinic I've tried because we are in a community partner with
12 HFS and we've tried to apply because there's some new.

13 **00:33:15 Kerri**

14 Supportive housing funding that you'll have but it says that you have to access the CD
15 money which is the state which goes towards utilities and so every time I inquire I'm told I
16 don't qualify.

17 **00:33:28 Brittany Hinton**

18 And more than likely because you need to get that CBHC.

19 **00:33:38 Omar**

20 My name is Omar sisay I've worked for the arsenal you know in Houston managed the path
21 programming project for assistance in transition and homelessness also manage the
22 homeless salaries training requirement operation stable was said about social which
23 program.

24 **00:33:56 Omar**

25 But you know I've seen as a condition on the ground and not managing this program is not
26 sufficient housing we. You know especially for path we.

27 **00:34:12 Omar**

28 And I know that the eligible individual have to do you know homeless becoming homeless
29 and you know.

30 **00:34:38 Omar**

1 We stayed on the wait list for about 6 months and what you may be thinking either back out
2 on the street in general or operation I want to go to the shelter you know or get put in rapidly
3 housing for years and depending on who that individual is they may not even go through
4 that which.

5 **00:34:58 Omar**

6 I know so I'm here you know so just advocate we need more housing.

7 **00:35:21 Kerri**

8 Yeah, I think the supportive housing is key I mean that's where we see the biggest
9 difference here we also have the broken system where.

10 **00:35:29 Kerri**

11 You know grading somebody whether they move into a house off of their income but then
12 the rent is set by the fair market rent and I mean we have seniors who can't afford 30% AMI
13 and and you know they just barely qualify for it or have seniors at \$100.00 over and they.

14 **00:35:45 Kerri**

15 Not even qualified for everybody and they couldn't afford to 30% even if they did qualify for
16 it so it's just it's it's very challenging you know as we continue to see rents go up and I know
17 right now we're seeing them a dip but that's not going to last and we all know that the state
18 taxes have grown and we're going to see where it's going back up and begin I would say
19 within 12 to 24 months and all we're doing his work pushing our seniors in the streets.

20 **00:36:15 Shamika**

21 My name is Shamika and I'm a consultant advocate I work alongside with Eric and with the
22 National Alliance to end Homelessness and So what everybody is saying is what we've
23 seen forever but the problem is that we you know I'm looking emailing right now with.

24 **00:36:36 Shamika**

25 The National Alliance to End Homelessness like we're looking at funding being cut So what
26 what we have to decide what do we have to do different how do we come together and be a
27 voice.

28 **00:36:46 Shamika**

29 Because I don't know I'm assuming that y'all funding is on hold or it's cut or you know yeah,
30 you know.

31 **00:36:53 Shamika**

1 We at the Alliance we won the lawsuit but then they filed an appeal and they won that so
2 now funds are frozen again you know some people are still waiting for funds from 2025 you
3 know. So, what you're saying is you know I just left a shelter working at a shelter in June and
4 here in Houston and that that's what we worked with.

5 **00:37:14 Shamika**

6 Path and all those things but it's more housing but how do we get there and I and it's time
7 for you know this is something we talked about at the conference that we did in July in DC
8 that we have to stop working in silos and you have to come together and that that's the
9 bottom line.

10 **00:37:35 Shamika**

11 But we we can't the silos happen and I'm you you're my heart is with you we can't work
12 independently because this is getting out of control not gonna get better unless we all set
13 up we have to stop working in silos and work together so I'm willing to get with anybody
14 work with anybody.

15 **00:38:02 Kerri**

16 Well and I think that that's key because, so a lot of funding and I know when the room a lot
17 of people in the room your funding has been cut yeah where in housing it has been
18 increased quite a bit.

19 **00:38:14 Kerri**

20 The affordable housing share because they increased the low-income housing tax credit
21 and so. The way the program works right now is it incentivize for profit developers to
22 develop affordable housing however they're putting corporate landlords in place that are
23 checking a box for supportive services and not actually providing the services that are
24 needed for these people and they're being put those.

25 **00:38:42 Kerri**

26 Because their corporations, they're pushing for the bottom dollar and so the landlords that
27 are in there is all about what's the next profit or how do you get the most money. So when
28 it's ran like that then it it's not supporting the people to sign support is the problem.

29 **00:38:58 Shamika**

30 Problem yeah that's what we're fighting against but what I'm saying is that we have to come
31 together so that means that we have to I don't I know some people's organizations you may
32 not be able to whatever but we have to educate our representatives.

1 Those are the things that we have to start doing and we have to start working together
2 because that they are the administration is painting this picture and what you just
3 explained is what's really going on.

4 **00:39:40 Kerri**

5 And use those developer fees to go into supportive services to support. The community in it
6 and that's what I'm. So that whenever funding gets cut in one area if we're all coming in and
7 braiding our finances and working together so when money shifts no matter it is supports
8 the population.

9 **00:39:58 Scott Charbonneau**

10 This is one of the benefits of being in a conference when we're talking about the issues of
11 the day right so I would encourage us to continue to talk through that and it sounds like
12 there might be some more conversation there with everybody else.

13 **00:40:11 Scott Charbonneau**

14 It's fine I want to make sure that you guys have a chance to talk and bring up these issues
15 we also need to make sure we get through the agenda for today so I'm going to take us to
16 our next here actually Eric less so.

17 **00:40:22 Jeremy Stremier**

18 Yeah, so I think we'll probably see that one we're at a THN conference, so I think you'll hear
19 THN updates at some point if you're going to be here for the next couple of days.

20 **00:40:25 Scott Charbonneau**

21 That's right.

22 **00:40:30 Scott Charbonneau**

23 Alright so with that let me just open it up for any agency any member agencies here in the
24 room that would like to give an update on.

25 **00:40:38 Scott Charbonneau**

26 What's going on in?

27 **00:40:39 Scott Charbonneau**

28 Your world specifically Brooke I think you might.

29 **00:40:42 Scott Charbonneau**

1 Have something to offer?

2 **00:40:43 Jeremy Stremmler**

3 And I have some updates from Rosie and Naomi as well.

4 **00:40:46 Scott Charbonneau**

5 So, if you have something I'll let you go first otherwise then you and Jeremy.

6 **00:40:50 Brooke Boston**

7 Umm I just mentioned we recently.

8 **00:40:55 Brooke Boston**

9 Taking on a the FYI voucher program Foster Youth to Independence so that's for kids aging
10 out who would be at risk for homelessness and.

11 **00:41:07 Brooke Boston**

12 We have a referral process that comes from the Department of Family Protective Services
13 they tell us when a a youth is going to be coming out and at risk and would be eligible for a
14 voucher we then.

15 **00:41:20 Brooke Boston**

16 Get the voucher from HUD and are helping them and this is actually kind of a a plug for an
17 Employment Opportunity we have.

18 **00:41:30 Brooke Boston**

19 The to be to be sure that the youth who are operative voucher from tdhca actually you get
20 the help you know finding a unit signing their first lease you know figuring out how to
21 furnishings like I mean there's just so much and that's hard to move and do all that.

22 **00:41:50 Brooke Boston**

23 When you're stable adult much less you know a youth coming out of the system so.

24 **00:41:57 Brooke Boston**

25 We are looking for a housing navigator position so it's not posted up right now it will be
26 probably in the next 2-3 weeks I think so just to plug both for the program to share
27 information about this cool initiative we're doing but also.

28 **00:42:18 Brittany Hinton**

1 Is it is it virtual or do they need to be in Austin area or a specific area?

2 **00:42:24 Brooke Boston**

3 They don't have to be in Austin it will be virtual but it also has a good bit of travel.

4 **00:42:30 Brittany Hinton**

5 OK.

6 **00:42:30 Brooke Boston**

7 Because what we're envisioning is that the navigator would actually potentially go
8 wherever the client is and potentially take them around look good properties if that's
9 what's needed wouldn't be the case all the time but we want to be sure that if someone
10 who's OK travel but headquarters is not Austin.

11 **00:42:53 Jeremy Stremmler**

12 OK I have a couple of updates from some of our staff members.

13 **00:42:59 Brooke Boston**

14 I'm with the Texas Department of Housing and community affairs.

15 **00:43:04 Jeremy Stremmler**

16 So, I have a couple of updates first related to our ESG program the 2026 program year
17 Emergency Solutions Grants award cycle so for 2026 Texas received \$10,260,262 in ESG
18 funding from HUD with roughly \$9.8 Million available for award.

19 **00:43:31 Jeremy Stremmler**

20 And through the funding cycle we have awarded that \$9.8 Million to 51 organizations
21 across the state there was significant demand for the funding through the through the
22 regional competition received 82 applications requesting a total of roughly \$9.1 Million
23 great majority of the funding stayed within the continuums of cares.

24 **00:43:51 Jeremy Stremmler**

25 In terms of organizations that were being funded 35 to 51 subrecipients will provide rental
26 assistance 32 will provide emergency shelter services and we're funding 12 victim service
27 providers and 4 organizations that primarily serve youth and young adults those categories
28 of course overlap since many of the organizations provide more than one type of service.

29 **00:44:14 Jeremy Stremmler**

1 And then looking at expected outcomes, the organizations receiving awards projected 62%
2 of participants will exit to permanent housing during the program year so that of course is
3 also roughly in line with what Ben talked about as outcomes with that 71%.

4 **00:44:33 Jeremy Stremmler**

5 Moving into to permanent stable housing so our sub recipients also project similar
6 outcomes as well.

7 **00:44:43 Jeremy Stremmler**

8 But that was for our ESG funding and then related to an update for our HOME-ARP funding
9 which is the HOME American rescue plan funding which of course is a temporary source of
10 funding and all program funds into 3 different program activities through the rental
11 development activity.

12 **00:45:03 Jeremy Stremmler**

13 We awarded approximately \$45 and a half Million to 12 developments 10 of which are
14 currently open and accepting tenants, tenants include HOME-ARP qualified populations
15 such as persons experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations.

16 **00:45:18 Jeremy Stremmler**

17 Second and third program activities are nonprofit capacity building and operating funding
18 which is supporting nonprofits that are undertaking non congregate shelter development
19 non-congregate shelter is of course emergency shelter that provides private units or rooms
20 instead of large sleeping areas with multiple people. HOME-ARP has awarded one non
21 congregate shelter award in Austin.

22 **00:45:38 Jeremy Stremmler**

23 Of 325 units for approximately \$48 million, two other applications for non congregate
24 shelter for approximately \$15.2 million combined have been received and are currently
25 under review by the program area and that would allocate all the funds for our HOME-ARP
26 program.

27 **00:46:12 Jeremy Stremmler**

28 In addition, for other updates with the things that people were talking about you know
29 TDHCA does operate, there's a customer service representative if you have clients that are
30 looking for resources. Primarily the resources we have available to provide to people, of
31 course, are our sub recipients that we have funded.

32 **00:46:27 Jeremy Stremmler**

1 In in local areas but you know we you know you can contact our general e-mail address at
2 info@tdhca.texas.gov.

3 **00:46:37 Jeremy Stremmler**

4 We you know also have a 1-800 number which I do not have in front of me but it's on our
5 website at tdhca.texas.gov that of course both Service providers can contact us to figure
6 out what resources and NOFAs that might be available opportunities to administer TDHCA
7 funds things of that nature we've got and then also a plug overall for related to our Low
8 Income Housing Tax Credit program. The QAP right now is out for public comment which is
9 what governs the low income housing tax credit program and how it operates and how it
10 works.

11 **00:47:25 Jeremy Stremmler**

12 But a plug overall you know that is for this next year 's competition but the opportunity to
13 provide comment and be involved in how those rules are created starts you know early in
14 the year every year so I encourage you to join the TDHCA listserves information about
15 round tables.

16 **00:47:45 Jeremy Stremmler**

17 Related to QAP topics will go out. Our multifamily staff are always open to hearing from
18 people on changes that are suggested from you know not only advocates but also
19 organizations that are creating housing through the program and so there's a long process
20 for that getting solidified and the rules being changed and being made and I encourage you
21 to participate as early as possible in that process.

22 **00:48:21 Jeremy Stremmler**

23 Not only so that you know changes you're looking for might potentially be made but also I
24 I've found that it fosters a much deeper understanding of how the program works and the
25 ends and outs and you know I've been to a number of our own round tables over the years
26 and discover new things that I realized I didn't know about the program.

27 **00:48:45 Jeremy Stremmler**

28 As well so it's it's also educational opportunity when you participate throughout the whole
29 process so that's all the updates from TDHCA unless anybody has any questions for us.

30 **00:49:00 Scott Charbonneau**

31 Questions or other updates.

32 **00:49:03 Chelsea Martin**

1 Chelsea Martin here with Texas Veterans Commission we work at the veteran's mental
2 health department for homeless veterans here the only 2 program managers for the whole
3 state 254 county.

4 **00:49:26 Chelsea Martin**

5 So currently right now at the Texas Veterans Commission we are launching a new portal for
6 veterans, Texas veteran access that's going to be on September the 25th so veterans can
7 have better access to services that TVC provides as far as we have a health advocacy
8 department.

9 **00:49:54 Chelsea Martin**

10 The women's veteran program we also have the entrepreneurial program that's helping
11 veterans start their own business and have to come out of pocket or it's starting out LLC's
12 and of course our department this is Phase 2 of the launch.

13 **00:50:13 Chelsea Martin**

14 So veterans won't have to you know when veterans reach out they often have to start from
15 scratch each time they reach our 4 TVC services so we want to stop that process so.

16 **00:50:30 Chelsea Martin**

17 Once again as September the 25th also with DVMH that's our Department of Veterans of
18 mental health department we have programs within our department that people are not
19 aware of we have of course those homeless veteran program we are on a micro level
20 meaning like we gather all the resources throughout the whole state for veterans and
21 nationwide once we get those resources to make sure veterans are not without those.

22 **00:51:01 Chelsea Martin**

23 Resources they need to keep their stabilization in housing employment and so forth we
24 also have our military peer network programs and then DVMH they help veterans have
25 peers to help them navigate to locate those resources we also have our suicide prevention
26 department.

27 **00:51:22 Chelsea Martin**

28 Also our justice involved veterans department especially veterans who are dealing with
29 incarceration.

30 **00:51:29 Chelsea Martin**

1 Go forth and we all work together to make sure those veterans are going in the right
2 directions especially the ones who are getting ready to enter into homelessness or at risk
3 for homelessness and we have our learning development department.

4 **00:51:49 Chelsea Martin**

5 That actually provide like see used for social workers who are needing those and free
6 training so we have that available and we just want to make sure we provide those updates
7 you guys stay in contact with us if you run into veterans who are needing those services.

8 **00:52:08 Chelsea Martin**

9 And we also have the broadest definition of veterans so we're no matter what the discharge
10 is we would still be able to help.

11 **00:52:27 Stacey Lastovica**

12 I am the Vice president of property management for New Hope housing. I am here in
13 Houston.

14 **00:52:36 Stacey Lastovica**

15 We've got over 600 project-based vouchers across our communities.

16 **00:52:43 Stacey Lastovica**

17 A good percentage of those are dedicated to certain programs but we do have our that
18 other percentage that we can.

19 **00:52:54 Stacey Lastovica**

20 Just being referred to us we do have case management on site we that's usually provided
21 through visa programs that place people in our buildings but we do have our own resident
22 services folks that are on site daily at each building and then we also employ a few case
23 managers ourselves that we can dispatch as as needed.

24 **00:53:23 Stacey Lastovica**

25 And we have we also have what we call self-pay Units New Hope does and self subsidize
26 so that you're not paying the \$1092 or something you actually pay closer to \$600 and our
27 SRO's is all meals needed.

28 **00:53:50 Armando**

29 Yes, hi my name is Armando restart I'm from El Paso.

30 **00:54:06 Armando**

1 Every time we pay property taxes there's like sparing amount for the hospital.

2 **00:54:13 Armando**

3 I would love to see.

4 **00:54:16 Armando**

5 Only 1%.

6 **00:54:18 Armando**

7 There goes exclusively to housing production.

8 **00:54:25 Armando**

9 For El Paso I got a figure here \$3,280,400 just pay 1% based on the number of properties
10 that make taxes.

11 **00:54:44 Armando**

12 That's my point we have to work I believe at the local the local. Locally at all and demand
13 professional.

14 **00:55:07 Scott Charbonneau**

15 Any other updates specifically from members?

16 **00:55:10 Kristen Harris**

17 Yeah, I'll give an update so again my.

18 **00:55:13 Kristen Harris**

19 Name is Kristen Harris I'm.

20 **00:55:14 Kristen Harris**

21 With the department of family and Protective Services and is it Brooke yeah OK Brooke at
22 first I want to say thank you for everything that you are doing to advance the foster youth to
23 independence housing.

24 **00:55:25 Kristen Harris**

25 And the partnership that we have with you guys I know you all work very closely with our
26 youth housing specialist Jim Courier and I just want to say that from the department's
27 perspective we have really focused.

28 **00:55:39 Kristen Harris**

1 In the past several years but we're taking a very strategic focus on.

2 **00:55:44 Kristen Harris**

3 On advancing and strengthening our continuum our housing continuum for youth who are
4 in care but are preparing to transition out of care and then also of course for the young
5 people who have already transitioned out of care and are perhaps eligible for or are.

6 **00:56:00 Kristen Harris**

7 Eligible for the FYI housing voucher program so I'll share a little bit about what we're doing
8 to advance the continuum for youth who are still in care mainly we have you probably have
9 heard of it we have the supervised independent living housing program for young adults
10 who opt to remain in extended foster care it is a voluntary.

11 **00:56:21 Kristen Harris**

12 Program young young adults can choose to stay in extended foster care primarily for the
13 purposes of getting continued support through the management services through the
14 agency and also to fund their housing after they turn 18 most of the population is eligible
15 up to age 21 we have a small population of young people who could stay until they're 22
16 years old and extended foster care but our goal right now for our young people who are
17 opting to remain an extended foster care it's really just to continue to strengthen our
18 supervised independent living program.

19 **00:56:57 Kristen Harris**

20 We know that there are some programs who have struggled in the past with funding issues
21 with being able to continue to provide adequate services for youth in their program
22 primarily because there's not a whole lot of funding for these programs and so we're
23 looking at that we're looking at how we can continue to support.

24 **00:57:18 Kristen Harris**

25 People who are interested in providing supervised independent living for these young
26 people while they remain an extended foster care and then as young people transition out
27 of foster care will.

28 **00:57:29 Kristen Harris**

29 Ideally the goal would be for a young person to take advantage of extended foster care if
30 that's you know what they feel is appropriate for them because they do get continued
31 housing support up until age 21 or 22 but then as they transition out of extended foster
32 care they can access the foster youth to independence housing voucher.

1 **00:57:49 Kristen Harris**

2 And so, we're really trying we're doing a lot of work in educating young people for the
3 awareness of these 2 programs and really making sure that they understand what these 2
4 programs are.

5 **00:58:00 Kristen Harris**

6 And what they have to offer we've received a lot of feedback from young people that they're
7 not interested in supervised independent living because they don't want to be supervised
8 24/7 but that's actually not what supervised independent living is there's not on site 24/7
9 supervision and so the name is a little bit of a misnomer there's a lot of misinformation.

10 **00:58:21 Kristen Harris**

11 Out there for young people about this and other programs that they're eligible for and so
12 again we're just really working to make sure that.

13 **00:58:28 Kristen Harris**

14 That we're you know rebranding remarketing addressing those falsities about the programs
15 and helping to make sure that the word is out with regards to the foster youth to
16 independence housing voucher it is growing this is an exciting time for foster.

17 **00:58:48 Kristen Harris**

18 It's to independence nationally there's national momentum for the program.

19 **00:58:52 Kristen Harris**

20 And they're HUD has released recent guidelines that is going to make it easier for young
21 people to access housing vouchers and it also is going to make it easier for our public
22 housing authorities to to get more vouchers to get more young people housed I will be
23 honest if there's not.

24 **00:59:14 Kristen Harris**

25 Currently a whole lot of funding that looks like it's going to be associated with it and I hear
26 the concerns that you were mentioning about how how do we pay for support services or
27 how do we pay for staff providing these support services and that's still something that
28 we're thinking on trying to address one thing regarding that is that our agency is what's
29 probably most state agencies now have released our legislative appropriations requests
30 I'm excited to share with this group that in our legislative appropriation request the
31 department is requesting state funds specifically for support services to accompany the
32 vouchers.

1 **00:59:53 Kristen Harris**

2 Because one requirement of the voucher is that these are offered support services they
3 don't have to participate in support services that support services must be offered to them
4 and that expenses at the state or the local community the federal government houses the
5 voucher they don't have the support.

6 **01:00:13 Kristen Harris**

7 Services and so historically in Texas we've been kind of piece mealing those support
8 services together with our local community partners and quite honestly not always doing a
9 great job at it but I know that you've spoken to the fact that support services are so
10 crucially important to sustaining helping young people or the homeless population to
11 sustain housing long term.

12 **01:00:38 Kristen Harris**

13 And so, we really need to figure out a way to fully fund those support services and we're
14 hoping to receive support in this legislative session for that.

15 **01:00:47 Kristen Harris**

16 So that's one thing that we're working on again thank you to Texas Department of Housing
17 and Community Affairs I'm so excited to hear that you are working on expanding your
18 workforce of specifically to help us to continue to grow this program in Texas I'm kind of
19 talking fast so I may have already said it.

20 **01:01:08 Kristen Harris**

21 But just to share exactly how much is coming into Texas related to the FYI housing voucher
22 housing voucher program right now Texas is receiving over 40% of the national funding for
23 FYI housing vouchers that's how fast FYI housing program is growing in the state of Texas.

24 **01:01:32 Kristen Harris**

25 Texas really is leading the nation when it comes to having eligible people access FYI
26 housing vouchers you know doing it perfect we're kind of building the plane while we're
27 flying it.

28 **01:01:47 Kristen Harris**

29 But we're figuring it out and we're really trying to you know just make sure that every young
30 person who is eligible for an FYI voucher at least knows that the program exists because I
31 feel like that's half of the battle a lot of people still haven't heard about it if you all need
32 more information about it I'm happy to share.

1 **01:02:06 Kristen Harris**

2 Anything that I have because again I think really just building awareness but also while

3 we're building awareness right built continuing to build capacity because it's even more

4 people come to know about it I'm sure there are going to be more people applying for it and

5 we need to make sure that we're ready so that's our goal right now.

6 **01:02:25 Kristen Harris**

7 So thank you.

8 **01:02:29 Unidentified Speaker**

9 It's just a follow up question on set and I work with the is the is the request part of your

10 base budget or an exceptional item.

11 **01:02:39 Kristen Harris**

12 It's an exceptional item, yes.

13 **01:02:44 Unidentified Speaker**

14 Perfect, thank you.

15 **01:02:45 Unidentified Speaker**

16 Is there a timeline on the vouchers?

17 **01:02:48 Kristen Harris**

18 Are you talking about the eligibility?

19 **01:02:56 Tiffany Price**

20 Means AGI fostered here before there's a 2 year limit vouchers and I'm.

21 **01:03:00 Kristen Harris**

22 So for the FYI voucher a young person can access about they can apply for the voucher any

23 time before age 25 and the requirement is just that they have had spent some time in foster

24 care and so DFPS has to verify eligibility but the the requirement isn't specific as to having

25 aged out of foster care right now honestly we can confirm eligibility if they spent a week a

26 day in foster care whether they were 5 years old or 16 years old because the statute

27 doesn't limit that to having aged out of foster care but they need to apply before age 25 if

28 they can get in their their foot in the door before age 25 the voucher is good for up to 3 years

29 of the possibility of a 3 year extension.

1 **01:03:55 Scott Charbonneau**

2 Great information thank you.

3 **01:03:58 Scott Charbonneau**

4 Any other updates from agencies?

5 **01:04:05 Scott Charbonneau**

6 All right I feel like we've had some public comments but we can have if there's files that
7 needs to or like to say something or ask you a question feel free this is your chance to do
8 so.

9 **01:04:15 Unidentified Speaker**

10 I wanted to make another plug so I shared it to you guys with my nonprofit is and that we
11 serve and how is community but I hear that you guys are talking a lot about the people you
12 are serving and I can see that there is a desire to help those that are experiencing
13 homelessness my private job I'm a licensed clinical social worker and I provide therapy
14 specifically to people that y'all serve the homeless the unhoused.

15 **01:04:42 Unidentified Speaker**

16 So as y'all are working hard to help provide them resources they also are having their own
17 mental health struggles and I would provide them therapy so I take Medicaid I take
18 Medicare I also do free services through the nonprofit as well because being a veteran and
19 then experiencing homelessness.

20 **01:05:01 Unidentified Speaker**

21 Being elderly experiencing homelessness aging out of foster care experiencing
22 homelessness it takes a toll on your mental health and sometimes medication most times
23 medication is not enough I believe medication only does 30 to 40% everything else your
24 willpower and kind of talking through trauma informed care cognitive behavioral therapy all
25 the things in Texas I'm licensed so if you want to get your people to mental health services I
26 am happy to provide either through insurance or through sliding scale or pro bono.

27 **01:05:50 Ngoc Nguyen**

28 Yes, also a plug my name is Ngoc and I am a Houston organizer of Texans for housing we
29 are a state level advocacy organization we're tuning into these conversations today
30 throughout this conference.

31 **01:06:07 Ngoc Nguyen**

1 And we we mainly focus on policies and removing barriers in policy that make it harder to
2 build more homes and we advocate for more housing affordability and more types of
3 housing that means building more accessory dwelling units or too much easier to build
4 more types of housing if there is any pieces of knowledge or any types of housing that.

5 **01:07:07 Scott Charbonneau**

6 All right with that I'm going to call in to adjourn I thank you guys for your comments for your
7 time for your interest and involvement and I hope you have a wonderful rest of your week.