TICH

Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless
Quarterly Meeting –January 29, 2019
DRAFT Meeting Minutes

A transcript from the electronic recording of the meeting may be found here:
http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/tich/meetings.htm

Members present:

#	Member Agency	Representative	Attendance (Yes/No)
1	Office of the Governor appointee, Cornerstone Network (TICH Chair)	Mike Doyle	Yes
2	Office of the Lt. Governor	*vacant*	n/a
3	Office of the Speaker of the House	*vacant*	n/a
4	Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)	Veronica Neville	Yes- by phone
5	HHSC	Helen Eisert	Yes
6	HHSC	Claire Irwin	Yes
7	Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)	Sherri Cogbill	absent
8	Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)	Valinda Bolton	Yes
9	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Housing Finance representative (TDHCA)	Brooke Boston	Yes
10	TDHCA, Community Affairs representative	Naomi Cantu	Yes
11	Texas Education Agency (TEA)	Cal Lopez	Yes
12	Texas Department of Juvenile Justice (TJJD)	Marqus Butler	Yes
13	Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)	Joe Ramirez	Yes- Yolanda Moten as proxy via telephone
14	Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)	D.J. Bingler	Yes

Advisory Members present:

#	Advisory Member Organization	Representative	Attendance (Yes/No)
1	Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS)	Christine Gendron	Yes
2	Austin Travis County Integral Care	Darilynn Cardona-Beiler	No
3	Private Citizen	Dennis M. Scholl	Yes
4	Texas Homeless Network (THN)	Eric Samuels	Yes
5	Texas Education Homeless Office (THEO)	Jeanne Stamp	Yes
6	Education Service Center Region 10	Jana Burns	No
7	Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC)	David Long	Yes
8	Texas Council on Family Violence	Mona Muro	No
9	Texas Council on Family Violence	Molly Voyles	Yes – by phone

Other attendees: Megan Moore and Keegan Shepherd (THN), Michael Wilt (TSAHC), Gwen Snyder (THN), Ken Martin (THEO), Alena Morgan (TDHCA), Elizabeth Yevich (TDHCA).

Administrative support: Kali Adams (TDHCA)

I. Welcome and Introductions
Mike Doyle called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. After all attendees introduced themselves, it was confirmed that a quorum was present.

II. Remarks from Chair
Mike Doyle welcomed and thanked all present for making it in despite parking being difficult because of session.

III. Approval of draft minutes from the September 26, 2018 TICH Meeting
Mike Doyle introduced the draft minutes from the September 26, 2018, TICH meeting. Brooke Boston moved to approve and Naomi Cantu seconded. There were no comments and members voted aye unanimously to approve the minutes.

IV. Updates from TICH Committees
Brooke Boston provided an update on the Performance Data Committee. Since the last quarterly TICH meeting, the former Chair of the Performance Data Committee, Cate Tracz, has accepted a new position within TDHCA and will no longer be with the HRC division which historically has provided administrative support to the TICH. Ms. Boston proposed that the TICH wait to fill that committee chair until Cate's former position has been filled within HRC. Mr. Doyle agreed that when the new staff is hired and assumes the duties of TICH administrative support that person will also assume the position of Chair of the Performance Data Committee.

Eric Samuels gave an update on the Annual Report Committee. The 2017 Report was finalized at the last TICH quarterly meeting on September 26, 2018. Mr. Samuels asked for volunteers to work with him on the Annual Report Committee. Dennis Scholl and Michael Wilt volunteered to join the committee. This committee will aim to have the Annual Report completed before the third quarter TICH meeting.

Brooke Boston reported on the Nominating Committee. The TICH annually nominates a Chair. It was agreed that nominating a Vice Chair would also be a good idea. Kali Adams sent out an email prior to the meeting accepting nominations for Chair and/or Vice Chair; no nominations were received.

V. Election of TICH Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson (Voting Item)
Brooke Boston opened up the floor for nominations for Chair. Naomi Cantu nominated Mike Doyle. Mike Doyle agreed to serve as Chair. Brooke Boston made a motion to nominate Mike Doyle as Chair. Mike Doyle entertained a motion to nominate Mike Doyle as Chair. There were no comments and members voted aye unanimously.

Brooke Boston opened up the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Mike Doyle asked if a Vice Chair from TDHCA would be a conflict. Members did not have the answer. David Long asked if the Vice Chair had to be a member of the TICH, Brooke Boston believed that a Vice Chair would need to be a TICH member. David Long suggested Eric Samuels, there was discussion regarding his eligibility to serve as Vice Chair as he does not serve as a member. In addition, there was discussion that there might be a conflict as TICH funds support some THN activities. Mike Doyle stated he will look into the specificities of eligibility for Vice Chair.

VI. Updates from Member Agencies
Gwen Snyder provided an overview on TWC's child care program, particularly the provision of child care to families that are experiencing homelessness. In October 2016, TWC released new Child Care rules to align with changes resulting from the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG Act) of 2014. Families experiencing homelessness became a part of TWC's second priority group and receive priority ahead of the general population when applying for child care services. As of December 2018 the program was serving 2,049 children that were homeless. While the general population served by this program must meet certain work requirements, those who identify as homeless automatically receive three months child care before needing to meet the work requirement. The child care program is operated out of 28 local Workforce Boards across the state, and families apply at their local Workforce Solutions office. Despite having populations with families experiencing homelessness, some areas are not serving this population through the program. TICH members discussed how outreach and increased communication among organizations might be able to improve the utilization of this program.

Cal Lopez provided updates on TEA. TEA recently underwent a minor reorganization. The Department of Special Populations and the Division of Highly Mobile and At-Risk Students are now housed under Deputy Commissioner Martin Winchester. TEA is launching the Texas Education Telecommunication Network (TETN), which will be used for the highly mobile and at-risk student programs division to help build

capacity with educational service centers across the state. So far with the legislative session TEA has received five bills that would impact homeless education. The bill numbers follow: House Bill 99; HB 692, and HB 811; and Senate Bill 311 and SB 424. TEA will be releasing an updated McKinney-Vento Homeless education poster in February that all school districts will be required to post. Additionally, TEA posted the 2019-20 Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth Technical Assistance, Professional Development and Support grant, applications for this grant are due March 26, 2019.

Naomi Cantu provided updates on TDHCA administered homelessness and poverty prevention programs: the Ending Homelessness Fund (EHF), Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG), and the Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP). Approximately $130,000 received since the inception of the EH Fund will be distributed at a later time. In December 2018, the Department adopted rules governing applications for grants from EHF and the issuance of those grants. The new rule establishes uses of the EH Fund to be any eligible activity under the ESG or HHSP programs. The final TAC rule for ESG will be adopted in February. There are nine HHSP contracts in process.

Helen Eisert provided updates on the Health Community Collaborative (HCC) program. HHSC provides funds to contractors around the state to provide housing services, criminal justice employment services, mental health and substance use services. Additionally, $3 million unused funds from the Mental Health Block Grant will be reallocated for supportive housing rental assistance that will be distributed to local mental health authorities.

VII. Update on the TNOYS Youth Homelessness Workgroup
Christine Gendron provided an update on the Statewide Workgroup on Youth Homelessness, which is separate from the TICH but collaborates with many TICH member agencies and advisory members and is coordinated through TNOYS, THEO and Texas Appleseed. The group is considering changing its name to Statewide Collaborative on Youth Homelessness. The group has held two meetings to date, the next meeting will be held March 28, 2019 in collaboration with the Austin Youth Homelessness Demonstration grant project leadership council meeting.

VIII. Updates from THN
Eric Samuels announced Homelessness Awareness Day, which will be April 4, 2019.

Megan Moore provided an update on the progress of the VISTA Volunteer Project on §2306.905(7) for each of the project cities to improve coordination between local workforce boards, workforce centers, and local homeless crisis response systems. THN has three project openings for state offices or non-profits interested in having a VISTA project to build capacity.

Keegan Shepherd provided an update on their Data Warehouse Project. THN is working with Amazon Web Services (AWS) on the Data Warehouse Project. THN is currently working towards finalizing a data sharing agreement between several Continuums of Care (CoC) in order to get a proof of concept started that will serve as the foundation for the data sharing network among all 11 CoCs.

IX. Public Comment

Dennis shared that he would be interested in talking with TICH participants regarding addressing rural veteran mental health and homelessness.

Christine Gendron reported that the TNOYS 36th Annual Conference on Services to Youth and Families will take place from the last week of June and they are currently looking for presenters.

X. Closing comments
The next TICH meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2019 and will be held at TWC.

XI. Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.