

# Continuum of Care (CoC) Board of Directors Meeting

## Fort Worth/ Arlington/ Tarrant County (TX-601)

May 24, 2021 at 1:00pm  
Virtual

I) <b>Call to Order</b>	Montgomery, Chair
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II) <b>Reports and Discussion</b>	
A) Tarrant County Homeless Coalition (210524-239)	King, Lauren
(a) Executive Director Report	
(i) Public Facing Dashboards	
(ii) System Reset	
(iii) Committees on Hiatus	
(iv) CoC NOFA	
B) Standing Committees	
1) CoC Board Executive Committee (no report)	Montgomery
2) Allocations Committee (no report)	King, Leah
3) CoC Governance Committee (210524-240)	Broussard
4) HMIS Governance Committee (210524-241)	Hogg
5) Housing Committee (no report)	n/a
6) Improvement, Coordination, and Training (210524-242)	Browne
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III) <b>Board Action Items</b>	Montgomery
A) Approval of CoC Board Meeting Minutes from March 22, 2021 (210524-243)	
B) Approval of proposed CoC Membership Policy (210524-244)	
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IV) <b>Request for Future Agenda Items</b>	Montgomery
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V) <b>Public Comment</b> (Remarks will be limited to 3 minutes. Time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair.)	Montgomery
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VI) <b>Adjournment</b>	Montgomery
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*CoC Board Membership will meet July 26th @ 1:00pm*

*The Fort Worth/ Arlington/ Tarrant County Continuum of Care (also known by its HUD designation, "TX-601") serves as the planning and coordinating body for the efforts to prevent and end homelessness in Tarrant and Parker Counties. Meetings may be recorded. General Membership and Continuum of Care (CoC) Board meetings are open to the public. CoC Board Members are selected annually in accordance with the CoC Charter and after a public call for nominations. The Tarrant County Homeless Coalition (TCHC) serves as the Lead Agency, Collaborative Applicant, and HMIS Administrator for TX-601. More information is available at [www.AHomeWithHope.org](http://www.AHomeWithHope.org).*

# Executive Director Report

CoC Board Meeting

May 24, 2021

# Systems Overview

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- Recent Relief Act providing significant funding for both rental assistance and capital to build
  - Partners collaborating to make things happen
  - Working closely with municipalities to maximize available funding
- Continue to respond to rising evictions
  - Outreach to those who have previously been homeless
- Providers looking at how to safely increase capacity
- Emergency shelters continue to have capacity

# COVID-19 Update

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- Shelters and other service providers continue screening protocol
- No significant outbreaks
- Shelters remain at reduced capacity due to social distancing
- Homeless Coalition overseeing COVID+ isolation shelter
- Vaccines available and accessible to population
- Shelters were excluded from recent CDC guidance on masking for vaccinated people

# Strategic Goal Highlights

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1. Street outreach coordinator hired to coordinate outreach teams
2. Public facing dashboards launched
3. Implemented landlord incentives
4. Membership policy presented at Board meeting
5. System reset possible due to new funding

# On the Horizon

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- System reset- we can make it happen!
- Improved street outreach coordination
- Focus on securing more physical units to utilize all rental assistance available
- Membership: formal vetting of agencies

## May 2021 Governance Committee Report

### Schedule

Quarterly First Thursday of second month at 8:30AM

<i>Last</i>	<i>Next</i>
May 18, 2021 Virtual	August 5, 2021 Virtual

### Report

The Governance Committee met to discuss the CoC membership policy and strategy around board members. A CoC Membership Policy is being established to create a vetting process for community organizations who want to be an official member of the CoC. Membership is a designation unique to agencies, municipalities and school districts providing services to people experiencing homelessness within Tarrant and Parker counties. Becoming a member of the CoC certifies that an organization aligns with CoC Strategic goals and meets set minimum standards. Membership to the CoC also entitles entities to access to the Homeless Management Information System. The Membership Policy is included in the Board packet.

The Committee also began discussion regarding positions expiring at the end of 2021. There was continued discussion around efforts to be more strategic about committee membership and inviting stakeholders to be on Board committees, who might then roll onto the Board in various positions. Equity and creating a board reflective of the population will be a focus for these efforts. The positions discussed are listed below.

- Independent School District, Director of Special Programs or designee: currently Tori Sisk, Arlington ISD
- Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County, Executive Director or designee: currently Shannon Spriggs
- US Department of Veteran's Affairs, Director or designee: currently Artie Williams
- Representative of Affordable Housing Industry, appointed by Leadership Council: currently Gage Yager
- Business Leader, appointed by Membership Council: currently Eddie Broussard (I overlooked this one!!)
- Currently or formerly homeless person, appointed by Membership Council: currently James Tapscott
- Law Enforcement, appointed by Tarrant County Sherriff and Police Chiefs of Fort Worth and Arlington: currently Amy Ladd for FWPD

### Key Takeaways

Membership policy was passed to establish minimum standards for agencies.

### Recommendations to CoC Board

Committee recommends approval of the CoC Membership Policy as presented.

## May 2021 HMIS Committee Report

### Schedule

Bi-monthly, Third Thursday of the month at 11:00AM

<i>Last</i>	<i>Next</i>
April 20, 2021 Virtual	June 15, 2021 Virtual

### Report

The HMIS Committee has moved to meeting bi-monthly and met in April.

Committee discussion included:

1. HMIS Policies & Procedures accepted by HUD. Last change made was a change to the charter, which was approved in March board meeting.
2. Pass/Fail Data Quality Report is in use. Homeless Coalition staff is reaching out to partners and meeting about data quality and how to get data cleaned up in HMIS.
3. HMIS Survey
  - Reviewed HMIS survey (included in meeting materials)
  - Green River seems to be preferred over ETO.
  - Plan to revisit HMIS fees in next meeting; fees have not been raised in 5 years. Cost of ETO goes up a minimum of 3% each year and Green River has an additional annual cost.
4. HIC/PIT due May 15<sup>th</sup>
5. Additional Updates
  - New Front Facing Dashboards should be released in about a week.
  - In May will be working GIS mapping.
  - ETO will become mobile friendly in the field this summer.
  - New scheduling feature will release in June. This will allow you link your outlook calendar to your ETO calendar.

### Key Takeaways

Continue to work on new features in ETO to make it more user friendly and ultimately improve data.

### Recommendations to CoC Board

None at this time.

## May 2021 ICT Committee Report

### Schedule

Quarterly First Monday at noon

<i>Last</i>	<i>Next</i>
May 17, 2021 Virtual	June 21, 2021 Hybrid

### Report

The ICT Committee met in April and May. The Committee has been repopulated, with each CoC member organization designating one voting member for their agency. Others are welcome to join the meeting, but only designated members can vote on policy change presented to the board. (Reminder)

#### April discussion:

- Continued discussion on Move On strategy; agencies working on identifying clients who can move on from PSH and would be successful without case management
- Housing assessment workgroup has been formed and started working in May; group is looking a how we could implement a different assessment, replacing ViSPDAT.
- Street Outreach Coordinator hired.
- Shannon Barnes presented on new technical assistance available to partner agencies.

#### May discussion:

- Reviewed system reset possibilities and how things need to move in the system. Homeless Coalition is working on specific instructions and more information on how people and money need to move within our system.
- Went over Emergency Housing Vouchers now available, including how to prioritize various populations within the CoC. Updated group on conversations between CoC and Housing Authorities.
- Move on Strategy continues- this has given us a jump start on Emergency Housing Vouchers, as we were preparing the system prior to announcement.
- Housing Assessment workgroup continues to meet to find or design a new housing assessment that will better help case managers determine what type of housing is needed for different client situations.
- Asked committee members to think about what CoC could stop doing while we work to reset system so it can be “all hands on deck” for change
- Showed committee TCHC front facing dashboards on website, available to public.

### Key Takeaways

Incredible opportunity has presented itself with the latest relief act. Homeless Coalition will be keeping committee updated on what this looks like and how we will accomplish this.

### Recommendations to CoC Board

None at this time.

## Continuum of Care (CoC) Board of Directors Meeting

*Fort Worth/ Arlington/ Tarrant County (TX 601)*

March 22, 2021 at 1:00pm  
Virtual

### I) Call to Order

Montgomery, Chair

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### II) Reports and Discussion

#### A) Tarrant County Homeless Coalition (210322-227)

King, Lauren

##### (a) Executive Director Report

##### (i) System successes and overview

###### **System Successes**

- The redesign worked; System reduced the time to be housed by **21 days**,
- Continued to add new properties willing to house people exiting homelessness.
- COVID cases remain low among population

###### **Systems Overview**

- Number of people entering homelessness gradually increasing each month in 2021
- System preparation for potential increase in newly homeless
- Technical Assistance will be launched to agencies around diversion first to help offset potential inflow
- Providers looking at how to safely increase capacity
- Cold weather had significant impact on the population and providers

##### (ii) COVID-19 update

- Shelters and other service providers continue screening protocol
- No significant outbreaks
- Shelters remain at reduced capacity due to social distancing
- Homeless Coalition overseeing COVID+ isolation shelter
- Vaccine CDC and HUD for guidance on increasing capacity
- Moving into preparedness for future crises

##### (iii) Strategic Goal highlights

1. Refocused all population committees on USICH benchmarks
2. Public facing dashboards launching on Wednesday
3. Expanded Landlord Engagement: hired Arlington Coordinator
4. Membership policy being developed to vet agencies
5. Completed funding maps and 2021 projections

## (iv) Equity work

- **TCU completed equity study on PSH programs**  
Determined that race was a factor in entering homelessness, income earned and veteran status. No demographic factor was a predictor of housing retention.
- **Homeless Coalition has been working with Heartland Foundation to dig into equity data**  
Determining our “Desired Racial Equity Outcome”. Identifying building blocks to be addressed.
- **Targeted efforts to be launched later this spring/summer**

## (v) State of the Homeless preview

- **Point In Time Count conducted differently this year**  
Two week time period, no volunteers
- **42% decrease**  
2020: 2,028 people  
2021: 1,234 people
- **Also saw a significant decrease in overall number served**  
2020: 11,485  
2021: 8,570
- **State of the Homeless address will focus on future and expectations**  
Launching podcast and public dashboards

## (vi) On the Horizon

- Homeless prevention and system preparation for evictions
- Improved street outreach coordination
- Focus on equity with the CoC
- Continued alignment on family homelessness
- Data sharing initiatives
- Dashboards: public facing, data quality, scoreboards
- Membership: formal vetting of agencies

## B) Standing Committees

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1) CoC Board Executive Committee (no report)  | Montgomery |
| 2) Allocations Committee (210322-228)   | Dunn       |
| – The Performance Workgroup has recommended a scorecard and ranking policy for the 2021 CoC NOFA to the Board.  |            |
| – The Allocations Committee is reviewing estimated need and available resources in 2021.  |            |
| 3) CoC Governance Committee (210322-229)  | Broussard  |
| – Charter changes are necessary to keep our CoC in compliance with HUD guidelines.  |            |
| – Committee recommends approval of the CoC Board Charter Changes as presented.  |            |
| 4) HMIS Governance Committee (210322-230)   | Hogg       |
| – Charter changes are necessary to keep our CoC in compliance with HUD guidelines.  |            |
| – Revised HMIS policies are due to HUD end of March.  |            |
| 5) Housing Committee (no report)  |            |
| 6) Improvement, Coordination, and Training (210321-231)   | n/a        |
| – Bridge Housing Workgroup determined best policy for CoC and is moving forward for formal CoC Board approval.  | Browne     |
| – Committee was excited about looking at other tools to determine vulnerability and housing prioritization, as many issues with VISPDAT have been noted across the country. |            |
| – Committee recommends approval of the CoC Bridge Housing Policy.   |            |

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**III) Board Action Items**

Montgomery

- A) Approval of CoC Board Meeting Minutes from January 25, 2021 (200322-232)
- Motioned: E. Broussard
  - Second: J. Tapscott
  - All in favor
  - Motion passed.
- B) Approval of proposed CoC Charter Change (200322-233)
- Motioned: Judge B. Carr
  - Second: R. Micahlove
  - All in favor:
  - Motion passed.
- C) Approval of proposed CoC Bridge Housing policy (200322-234)
- Motioned: Judge B. Carr
  - Second: E. Broussard
  - All in favor.
  - Motion passed.
- D) Approval of proposed 2021 Ranking Policy (200322-235)

- Motioned: Dr. V. Farrar-Myers
  - Second: J. Tapscott
  - All in favor.
  - Motion passed:
- E) Approval of proposed 2021 CoC Project Scorecard (200322-236)
- Motioned: D. Browne
  - Second: Dr. V. Farrar-Myers
  - All in favor.
  - Motion passed.
- F) Resolution of Support for Veteran Subcommittee priorities (200322-237)
- Motioned: Leah King
  - Second: B. Johnson
  - All in favor.
  - Motion passed.
- G) Resolution of Support for Youth Subcommittee priorities (200322-238)
- Motioned: A. Williams
  - Second: Leah King
  - All in favor.
  - Motioned passed.

IV) <b>Request for Future Agenda Items</b> None at this time	Montgomery
V) <b>Public Comment</b> (Remarks will be limited to 3 minutes. Time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair.) None at this time	Montgomery
VI) <b>Adjournment</b>	Montgomery

*CoC Board Membership will meet May 24<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm*

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*Applicant, and HMIS Administrator for TX-601.*

*More information is available at [www.AHomeWithHope.org](http://www.AHomeWithHope.org).*

## Continuum of Care Membership Policy

The Continuum of Care (CoC) is an organized system serving TX-601, including the entire geographic area of Tarrant and Parker Counties. The CoC is committed to the shared vision of *a vibrant community where everyone has a place to call home and the resources to live their best life*. That vision is achieved through the CoC's mission to *cultivate and create partnerships to collectively impact effective and efficient community solutions for those experiencing homelessness*.

Membership to the CoC is a designation unique to agencies, municipalities and school districts providing services to people experiencing homelessness within Tarrant and Parker counties. Becoming a member of the CoC certifies that an organization aligns with the following goals:

- Promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;
- Support efforts to quickly re-house individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, which minimizes trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness;
- Promote access to and effective use of mainstream programs; and
- Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to determine which agencies are eligible for membership to the CoC. Membership to the CoC also entitles entities to access to the Homeless Management Information System.

## CoC Membership Criteria

To become an approved member of the CoC an organization must meet the following criteria:

- Be one of three types of entities:
  - A legally established nonprofit, including 501c3 status
  - A municipality in Tarrant or Parker County
  - A school district in Tarrant or Parker County
- Provide essential services to people experiencing homelessness including:
  - Homeless Prevention
  - Homeless Diversion
  - Emergency Shelter
  - Street Outreach
  - Rapid Exit
  - Rapid Rehousing
  - Transitional Housing
  - Permanent Supportive Housing
  - Other Permanent Housing for people exiting homelessness
- Entities must also submit the following information to the Lead Agency for review
  - Mission statement
  - Year founded
  - Board of directors information, including number of directors and roles
  - Most recent 990
    - If 990 is not available, most recent audited financial statements

- Homeless services budget
- Number of people served in the previous year
  - Demographics of population served
- Area served within the CoC

Based on system needs, Provisional membership may be considered at the recommendation of the Governance Committee.

## CoC Membership Fees

Homeless Services Budget	Annual Membership Fees
< \$249,000	\$150
\$250,000- \$499,999	\$375
\$500,000- \$999,999	\$750
\$1,000,000- \$2,999,999	\$1,000
\$3,000,000- \$4,999,999	\$1,500
\$5,000,000 and over	\$2,000

## CoC Membership Onboarding

Following approval for CoC membership, all entities are required to complete CoC onboarding including:

- CoC101
- HMIS
- CoC Compliance
- Boot Camp (annually)