



TEXAS HOMELESS NETWORK

2016-17 TX BoS CoC Board Members

Descriptions

Seat 1-- Person with lived experience, 2015-17:

- **Hanna Adams-** Hanna Adams serves as Executive Director with Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. (CTO) and oversees various grants to assist low-income people and communities in breaking the cycle of poverty in a seven-county service area. She joined CTO in 1998 as a case manager. She is now a Nationally Certified Results Oriented Management and Accountability Trainer, a founding board member for Brown County Home Solutions, and a Conference Chair for the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies. Hanna is proud to be part of an organization that has assisted in transitioning 250 people out of poverty over the last 5 years. Hanna's real life experience gives her the ability to make program and procedural decisions that are in the best interest of the people she serves.
 - *Counties represented: Brown*

Seat 2 – Homeless Veterans, 2015-17:

- **Bobby Ehrig-** Bobby Ehrig is a Program Manager of Veterans Services (South Texas Region 1) with Family Endeavors. He brings 5 years of experience working with Veterans and homelessness, and is a combat-wounded veteran of 17 years. Bobby has also been a member of the state Veteran's advisory board for 2 years, and has championed the passing of two state laws supporting severely injured Veterans in 2011 and 2013. He is now helping to develop 3 LHCs in rural south Texas as he continues to manage homeless assistance programs serving Veteran and families in 23 counties of south Texas. Bobby states that he would "like to continue helping to build collaborations and develop strategic planning that can create far reaching solutions to homeless programs and issues" and believes that "by teamwork we can tackle and succeed at overcoming any obstacles that prevent the homeless from being productive members of society."
 - *Counties represented: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, DeWitt, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, La Salle, Lavaca, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Wilson, Zavala*

Seat 3 – Chronically homeless persons, 2016-17:

- **Chad Wheeler-** Chad Wheeler is the Executive Director and minister of Carpenter's Church in Lubbock. He is a homeless community developer with nine years of experience leading a faith-based community organization serving people experiencing chronic homelessness. Chad led the development of the first Housing First project targeting chronically homeless individuals in Lubbock. He has a passion for Housing First, creative development, community organization, and collaborative poverty alleviation. Specializing in organizational management and holistic

strategies for ending homelessness, Chad wants to serve on the CoC Board to learn more about the Texas Balance of State and to help support the growth and development of lasting strategies for preventing and ending homelessness in the TX BoS communities. He currently serves as the President of the South Plains Homeless Consortium.

- *Counties represented: Lubbock*

Seat 4 – Homeless families, 2016-18

- **Jesse Elizondo-** Jesse Elizondo is the Social Services Director of The Salvation Army of Corpus Christi. He has been working with homeless families for 8 years. Salvation Army is the only agency in Corpus Christi to house intact families and single fathers, keeping households together as they come. The Salvation Army has been an ESG recipient since its creation, and Jesse has directly supervised and implemented policies to ensure program compliance. He believes that homeless individuals and families deserve great customer service, and has an eye for eliminating policies and procedures that don't make sense. He wants to serve on the Board to continue assisting others and to continue working with a great group of individuals who share his passion of helping the homeless. Jesse has already completed one term of service on the TX BoS CoC Board and has served as the Chair of the Homeless Issues Partnership Inc. for 5 years.

- *Counties represented: Nueces*

Seat 5 – Homeless youth, 2016-17

- **Elaine Brandon-** Elaine Brandon is the Program Services Administrator at Connections Individual and Family Services, Inc. in New Braunfels. Her organization provides services and emergency shelter to at-risk youth in 18 counties. She is starting her 8th year with the agency and has worked with the Comal County Homeless Coalition off and on during her tenure. She has experience working with the Emergency Solutions Grant and is a Licensed Professional Counselor, working with youth and families since 1995. She continues to work closely with youth and staff working with youth. She wants to serve on the CoC Board to be part of the solution.

- *Counties represented: Comal*

Seat 6 – Victim services, 2016-18

- **Holly Bates-** Holly Bates is the Housing Director for Shelter Agencies for Families in East Texas (SAFE-T) in Mount Pleasant. She has supervised staff under 2 CoC Program grants and the Emergency Solutions Grant. Holly has served on various boards and has organized an Angel Tree program for three large counties. She wants to serve on the CoC Board to be part of changing history for services to homeless victims, and to end homelessness. Holly serves as the Chair of the East Texas Community Coalition.

- *Counties represented: Camp, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, Titus*

Seat 7 – Mental/behavioral health, 2016-17

- **Randall Webster-** Randall Webster is the Program Supervisor of the East Texas Veterans Resource Center in Longview. Over the past three years, he has specialized in rapidly re-housing chronically homeless persons. The East Texas Veterans Resource Center is an arm of Longview's Local Mental Health Authority, Community Healthcore. Randall has worked with people with mental health conditions for 6 years and has written grants and managed programs with the intent of ending veteran homelessness in North East Texas. He wants to serve on the CoC Board so he can learn more about best practices and the new opportunities for ending homelessness, as he is very passionate about having a positive impact on homelessness. He currently serves as the president of the North East Texas Homeless Consortium and as a committee chair of the Texarkana Homeless Coalition.
 - *Counties represented: Bowie, Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Rusk, Upshur*

Seat 8 – Health/medical, 2016-18

- **Rebecca Brune-** Rebecca Brune is the Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning & Growth of Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas in San Antonio. She has more than 20 years of experience creating innovative, evidence-based, community-wide, regional, and national initiatives in the areas of social service delivery, community development, health care and economic sustainability. Rebecca oversees faith-based organizations' strategic planning process, philanthropic investments, federal grants and public policy initiatives. She has expertise in designing, implementing and managing programs that address the intersection between healthcare, housing, and workforce development as a means to address the root causes of homelessness. She wants to serve on the CoC Board to create a space at the table for the community voice, which adds authenticity and elevates equity to shape change. She further believes that her service on this board will add two perspectives - that of a faith-based organization and of a community funder. She served on the Institute of Medicine's Healthcare, Homeless, and Housing Advisory Committee from 2014-2015.
 - *Counties represented: 74 counties across the state of Texas (mostly South Texas)*

Seat 9 – Local government, 2016-17

- **Julia Lash-** Julia Lash is the Social Services Coordinator at the City of Brownsville. She cares about the health and safety of vulnerable populations that have a difficult time reaching out for assistance, and therefore experience homelessness. She wants to be able to promote awareness to the community that homelessness has a solution. Julia would like to serve on the CoC Board to be a voice for those who are unable to speak for themselves, and have continuity for our ever-changing policies. She has already completed one term of service on the TX BoS CoC Board.
 - *Counties represented: Cameron*

Seat 10 – Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Recipient, 2016-18

- **William Reagan-** William Reagan is the Executive Director of Loaves and Fishes of the Rio Grande Valley in Harlingen. Loaves and Fishes has received the Emergency Solutions Grant for many years in collaboration with the Family Crisis Center and La Posada Providencia. His organization runs 6 programs that help to address both the causes and consequences of poverty. William is also an ordained clergyman, and teaches in the community in addition to his responsibilities at Loaves and Fishes. He wants to serve on the CoC Board to ensure representation of the Rio Grande Valley and to get to know state partners better.
 - *Counties represented: Cameron*

Seat 11 – Public Housing Agency, 2016-17

- **Nikki Brennan-** Nikki Brennan is the Executive Director of the Georgetown Housing Authority. She has been in the housing professional field for over 30 years, working for the Georgetown Housing Authority for 13 years, and in affordable housing for 18 years. Nikki serves on several boards and commissions: Executive Board for Williamson Burnet County Opportunities (WBCO), Boys and Girls Club, Executive Board Member for Texas NAHRO, Texas NAHRO committees CR&D, Scholarship Foundation, Member Services, Small Agency Task Force. She believes she has the heart and business sense, and strong will to learn how to end homelessness. She wants to serve on the CoC Board to work with a group of professionals, support ending homelessness, share information, increase collaboration and build new relationships.
 - *Counties represented: Williamson*

Seat 12 – Law enforcement/criminal justice, 2016-18

No nominations received for Seat 12; the CoC will continue to seek nominations

Seat 13 – Business, 2016-17

- **Stephanie Chandler-** Stephanie Chandler is the Director of Strategic Initiatives at the Texoma Community Center in Sherman. She received her Master's in Education at the University of Texas, and a Master's in Business Administration from Texas Women's University. Stephanie's interest in ending homelessness is drawn from her childhood experience of family homelessness from 1980-2000. She has 10 years of experience in Executive Management, and 15 years of experience in Supervisory Management for various organizations serving young people. She serves as the chair of the Texoma Homeless Coalition.
 - *Counties represented: Cooke, Fannin, Grayson*

Seat 14 – Faith community or faith-based organization, 2016-18

- **Kim Ogilvie-** Kim Ogilvie is the Director of Social Services at The Salvation Army Headquarters in Dallas. Her work with the Salvation Army began as a service provider in a large shelter providing domestic violence services, emergency shelter, Grant Per Diem program for Veterans, re-entry services, and substance abuse treatment. Her organization is represented in most areas in Texas and has received federal funds for many years. She has extensive experience fostering community partnerships during times when there was very little collaboration. Kim wants to serve on the CoC Board to assist with guidance and collaboration in areas that have gaps in service and cooperation. She formerly served on the Texas Homeless Network Board of Directors, holding the position of Board President for over 4 years.
 - *Counties represented: all 254 counties comprising the state of Texas*

Seat 15 – Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless (TICH) or State government agency, 2016-17

- **Molly Voyles-** Molly Voyles is the Public Policy Manager at the Texas Council on Family Violence in Austin. Through her experience, she has seen how effective collaboration and coordination can assist all members of the homeless community. She has worked in the field of domestic violence for nearly 25 years, including 10 in public policy and 10 in HUD funded domestic violence programs, and throughout that time has seen survivors of family violence routinely say that access to housing and supportive services rank as their top unmet need. Molly is aware of the federal priority to end family homelessness by 2020 and has seen that statistics show the vast majority of families experiencing homelessness have experienced domestic violence. She wants to serve on the CoC board to lend insight and support on domestic violence as the Board addresses that priority and to support the broader mission of the CoC. She has served on the Texas Interagency Council on Homelessness (TICH) for a number of years and is also the lead on the comparable database for victim service providers in Texas.
 - *Counties represented: all 254 counties comprising the state of Texas*