LHC Requirements

Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) Requirements

Approved by the CoC Board 5-24-2017

Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) are the lead local workgroups responsible for managing community planning, coordination, and evaluation to ensure that the system of homeless services and housing ends people's homelessness rapidly and permanently.

In order to be LHCs of the TX BoS CoC, homeless coalitions must meet the minimum requirements identified by the CoC Board:

LHC Chairs -- LHC Chairs serve as liaisons to the CoC and are required to attend CoC General Meetings or have a designated representative to attend in their place.

Meetings -- LHCs must hold meetings at least quarterly throughout the year. LHCs must take attendance, keep minutes of meetings, and submit attendance lists and minutes to the CoC Lead Agency (THN) in a timely manner.

Planning -- The LHC must plan and coordinate a housing and service system that incorporates TX BoS CoC goals and is specific to local needs.

Data and Performance -- The LHC must ensure that all projects required to use the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) are using HMIS. Those projects currently include ones that receive funding from the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA), Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHY), and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF).

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and Housing Inventory -- The LHC must assign a Point-In-Time (PIT) Count lead person and conduct an annual PIT Count, including a Housing Inventory update, using the TX BoS CoC-approved process.

LHC Requirements

PIT Count

- Create a PIT Count steering committee

- Attend all THN PIT trainings, and inform THN of any changes in PIT count lead person within 24 business hours

- Recruit and train volunteers

- Conduct the count on the designated day, as annually determined by the TX BoS CoC

- Submit data to THN

Housing Inventory update

- Participate with THN to update the inventory

- Submit data to THN

Coordinated Entry (CE) –

LHCs that cover communities that have Continuum of Care (CoC) Program-funded projects and/or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program-funded projects must ensure that their communities develop a CE process because those projects are required to use it. While HUD mandates that the agencies receiving certain funding sources participate in Coordinated Entry, homelessness cannot be ended by these providers alone. It takes all providers in the housing crisis response system, regardless of their funding source, to end homelessness. Therefore, all communities are encouraged to develop a Coordinated Entry process.

The LHC must vote to approve a CE Planning Entity (CEPE) to manage the local Coordinated Entry process implementation. Examples of CE planning entities are LHCs, committees of LHCs, United Ways, and Mayor's Task Forces.

The LHC will include CE as an agenda item to be discussed at every regularly-scheduled LHC meeting.