



## What Homeless Education Liaisons Need to Know about the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC)

### What is a Continuum of Care (CoC)?

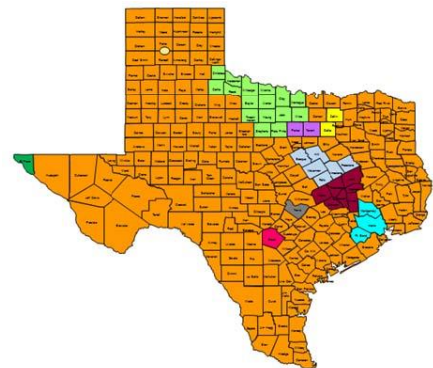
A CoC is a group of people, agencies, and other stakeholders organized to prevent and end homelessness in a specific geographic area. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires CoCs to facilitate a planning process through which agencies that are at the forefront of eliminating homelessness work together in strategic and coordinated ways to achieve goals. CoCs carry out responsibilities mandated by HUD's CoC Program and outlined in the CoC Interim Rule, *24 CFR Part 578*, such as coordinating housing and services and ensuring access, quality, and effectiveness.

### Overarching Goals of the CoC (from the HEARTH Act Amendment to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)

- Increase the number of people exiting homelessness
- Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness
- Reduce the length of time someone is in a homeless situation
- Increase employment and income for persons who are in homeless situations

### Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC)

While the term "CoC" is primarily used to refer to a planning process, it also has a geographic component. There are 11 CoCs in the state of Texas, each with different leadership. The TX BoS CoC consists of all the counties in Texas that are not included in other CoCs, or the "balance" of counties (seen in orange in the map at right). The TX BoS CoC is the largest CoC, encompassing 215 of Texas' 254 counties. Texas Homeless Network (THN) is its lead agency.



### TX BoS CoC Governance Structure

- The CoC is led by a CoC Board – people from around the CoC with varying expertise. They are selected through an annual election process.
- The CoC is guided by the Chairs of Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) located in the CoC.
- LHCs lead their local communities' or regions' efforts to address homelessness. This is the best group to get involved with to be part of local initiatives and to make connections with providers in your area.



### **THN's Role as the TX BoS CoC Lead Agency**

THN assists the CoC Board, Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs), communities, and other stakeholders within the BoS CoC to fulfill the CoC's responsibilities.

### **Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs)**

LHCs are smaller planning groups that cover one county or multiple counties within the larger TX BoS CoC. They work on a local level to address homelessness in their communities. LHCs are comprised of homeless service providers, other social services, the faith community, local leaders, healthcare, businesses, and other individuals and organizations interested in ending homelessness in their area. They carry out a Point-in-Time count and housing inventory, as well as create and operate a housing crisis response system. Some LHCs engage in special initiatives such as ending Veteran homelessness or creating a Coordinated Entry process.

### **Role of Homeless Education Liaisons**

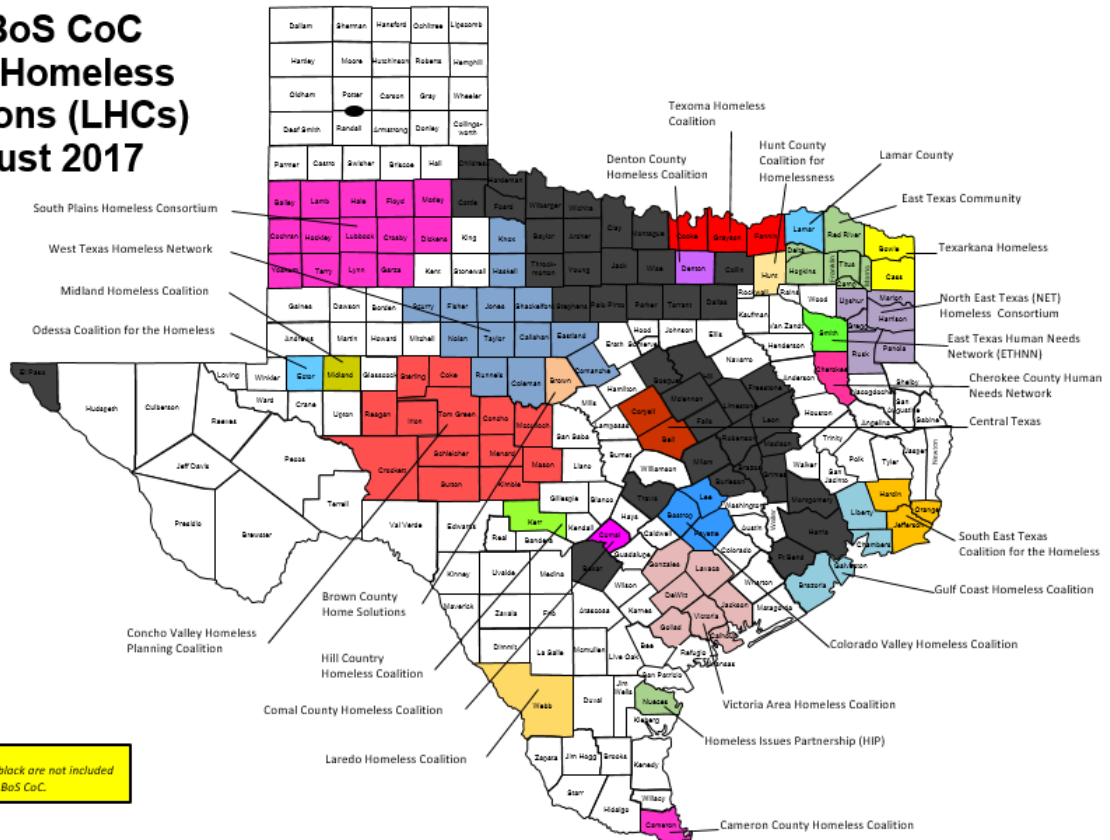
To ensure that the educational needs of homeless children and youth are met, it is imperative to have the support and knowledge of local Homeless Education Liaisons incorporated into the community planning process led by THN and the LHCs. Partnering with the CoC and LHCs can help Education Liaisons form connections with service agencies in their area that can provide support to those families that approach schools with housing needs. Other benefits to Education Liaisons include:

- Representing the educational needs of homeless families and students
- Learning about housing and other community service provider resources in the area
- Participating in needs assessments, service gaps identification, and service planning
- Participating in collaborations for grants or other funding to bring needed services to the community
- Understanding how other federal, state, and local programs serving homeless families and children are accessed and structured, and about their functions and existing collaborations
- Identifying critical partnerships and building important collaborative relationships
- Participating in advocacy activities
- Meeting the ESSA requirement for LEAs to collaborate with local housing agencies, shelters and service providers

Education Liaisons and other community members who are interested in preventing and ending homelessness can get involved in their Local Homeless Coalitions to participate in community planning. (See page 3 for a map of LHCs and page 4 for LHC contact information.) Learn more about the TX BoS CoC by visiting [www.thn.org](http://www.thn.org).

LHC Map

**TX BoS CoC  
Local Homeless  
Coalitions (LHCs)  
August 2017**



Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) in the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX Bos CoC)  
August 18, 2017

#	Name	Counties	LHC Contact	E-mail	Phone	Website
1	Brown County Home Solutions, Inc. (BCHS)	Brown	Angelia L. Bostick	connect@bchstx.org	325-998-2425	<a href="http://bchstx.org">Bchstx.org</a>
2	Cameron County Homeless Coalition	Cameron	Felicia Torres	feeli_coalition@yahoo.com	956-289-7000	
3	Central Texas Homeless Coalition	Bell and Coryell	Amanda Tindell Kim Foutz	amanda.tindell@cccmhmr.org kim.foutz500@gmail.com		<a href="http://www.facebook.com/Central-Texas-Homeless-Alliance-274351215959519/">www.facebook.com/Central-Texas-Homeless-Alliance-274351215959519/</a> <a href="http://www.ethn.org/cherokee.html">http://www.ethn.org/cherokee.html</a>
4	Cherokee County Human Needs Network	Cherokee	David Peters	dpeters@shelteringarmscoalition.com	903-571-1790	
5	Colorado Valley Homeless Coalition	Bastrop, Fayette, and Lee	Beth Rollingson	beth@advocacyoutreach.org	512-321-7760 or 512-281-4180	
6	Comal County Homeless Coalition	Comal	Stacey Minor Emilia Kirner Kristin Butler Jana Grohman Jennifer Nieto	StaceyMinor@pgnb.org ekirner@safoodbank.org Kristin.Butler@comalisd.org jgrohman@abcsa.org jnieto@hilcountry.org	830-214-0024 210-431-8481 830-221-2178 210-547-3021 830-792-3300	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/comalhomelesscoalition/">www.facebook.com/comalhomelesscoalition/</a>
7	Concho Valley Homeless Planning Coalition (CVHPC)	Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, and Tom Green	Robert (Bob) Salas	robert.salas@cosatx.us	325-655-0824	<a href="http://www.cvhpc.org">www.cvhpc.org</a>
8	Denton County Homeless Coalition (DCHC)	Denton	Mark Bethune Jessica Peters Jordan McCartney	mbethune@cvaag.org jessica@journeydream.com jordamm@dentonmhm.org	325-653-2411 469-470-2382 940-381-5000	<a href="http://www.endhomelessnessdenton.com">www.endhomelessnessdenton.com</a>
9	East Texas Community Coalition (ETCC)	Camp, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus	Holly Bates	hollybates@safe-agency.com	903-572-0973	
10	East Texas Human Needs Network (ETHNN)	Smith	Andrea Wilson	andrea_wilson@pathhelps.org	903-597-7284 ext. 180	<a href="http://www.ethnn.org">www.ethnn.org</a>
11	Gulf Coast Homeless Coalition (GCHC)	Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, and Liberty	Indus McDuff	indus.mcduff@us.salvationarmy.org	(903) 592-4361	
12	Hill Country Homeless Coalition	Kerr	The Rev. Edward Lawson	watersollifem@yahoo.com	409-497-2138	
13	Homeless Issues Partnership, Inc. (HIP)	Nueces	Gary Powers Jesse Elizondo	gpowers@familyadvocates.org jesse@hip-cc.org	830-323-0023 361-728-4615	<a href="http://www.homelessissuespartnership.com/">http://www.homelessissuespartnership.com/</a>
14	Hunt County Coalition for Homelessness	Hunt	Carla Nix April Carl	carla_nix@geusnet.com acar@atcog.org	903-456-9026 903-255-3573	
15	Lamar County Homelessness Coalition (LCHC)	Lamar	Melinda Malone Tanteta Scott	melinda.malone@lamarcountyuuw.org tscott.newhope@suddenlinkmail.com	903-784-6642 903-783-0353	<a href="http://www.lamarcohc.org">www.lamarcohc.org</a>
16	Laredo Homeless Coalition	Webb	Dawn Manor Mike Smith Mary Gaona	dmanor.newhope@suddenlinkmail.com masmith33@yahoo.com mary@bethanyhouseofarado.org	work 903-783-0853 cell 903-495-8970 956-718-2070 956-722-4152	<a href="http://www.laredohomelesscoalition.org">www.laredohomelesscoalition.org</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/midlandhomelesscoalition">https://www.facebook.com/midlandhomelesscoalition</a>
17	Midland Homeless Coalition	Midland	Linda Hamblin	lhamblin@mfh.org	432-689-3411	
18	North East Texas Homeless Consortium (NET)	Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Rusk, and Upshur	Cheteva Marshall	cmarshall@longviewtexas.gov	903-237-1238	<a href="http://www.northeasttexashomelessconsortium.com">www.northeasttexashomelessconsortium.com</a>
19	Odessa Coalition for the Homeless	Ector	Erika Chavez Thomas	homelesslinks@gmail.com	432-582-0099	<a href="https://links.communitvos.org/cms/node/56">https://links.communitvos.org/cms/node/56</a> <a href="http://www.spconsortium.org">www.spconsortium.org</a>
20	South Plains Homeless Consortium (SPHC)	Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Hale, Hockley, Floyd, Garza, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum	Chad Wheeler	sphprps@gmail.com	806-319-5140	
21	Southeast Texas Coalition for the Homeless	Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange	Pam Lewis P.K. Moore	plewis@setrpc.org pkmoore1@sbcglobal.net	409-899-8444 x 7506 409-832-7976	<a href="http://www.SETRPC.org">www.SETRPC.org</a> <a href="http://www.bkhhc.org">www.bkhhc.org</a>
22	Texarkana Homeless Coalition	Bowie, Cass	David Orr	david.orr@txkusa.org	903-798-3903	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/Texoma-Homeless-Coalition-12227826767468">www.facebook.com/Texoma-Homeless-Coalition-12227826767468</a>
23	Texoma Homeless Coalition	Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson	Stephanie Chandler	texomahomelesscoalition@gmail.com	903-357-2013	
24	Victoria Area Homeless Coalition (VAHC)	Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria	Lisa Griffin	endpovertyvahc@gmail.com	361-575-7842	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/vahctx">www.facebook.com/vahctx</a>
25	West Texas Homeless Network (WTHN)	Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Rannels, and Taylor	John Cooper	john@abilenehopehaven.org	325-677-4673	<a href="http://wthn.communitvos.org/cms/node/10">http://wthn.communitvos.org/cms/node/10</a>