



TEXAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE NEWS

January 2024

Announcements



2024 PIT Count



Join us for the Annual
Point-in-Time Count



January 25th, 2024

TEXAS BALANCE OF STATE
CONTINUUM OF CARE

The 2024 Balance of State CoC Point-In-Time count will be occurring on January 25th, 2024. For more information please contact ava@thn.org

Lived Experience Committee (LEC) Recruiting



THN, as the lead agency for the TX BoS CoC, is recruiting individuals who have experienced homelessness to serve on a committee. This committee will provide THN staff with valuable input on homeless services within the CoC.

Purpose: The committee will spearhead the CoC's efforts to get input from people with lived experience of homelessness (PLE). The feedback provided by committee members will be based on their personal experience interacting with homeless services within [TX BoS CoC communities](#). Committee members and staff will also develop input processes and reach out to other PLE.

Requirements for participation:

1. Has experienced homelessness
2. Lives and/or works within the [geographic boundaries of the TX BoS CoC](#)

Important Considerations:

The LEC meets monthly by video call, and meetings last about 1.5 hours each. Members who wish to receive compensation for participating in meetings will receive \$40 per meeting.

Interested individuals should fill out the [Interest Form](#). Questions may be directed to mary@thn.org.

Medicaid Renewals & Homelessness



After a 3-year pause, Medicaid is back to requiring people to renew their coverage every year. Medicaid provides health care coverage to low-income households. From July 2023 to September 2024, it is estimated that at least 15 million current Medicaid members will lose coverage, including almost 7 million members who may still be eligible. *People experiencing homelessness are more at risk of losing coverage, as Medicaid members receive their renewal packets at their last known mailing address.* Most people experiencing homelessness may not have a mailing address or their mailing address has changed in the past three years. Without an updated mailing address, they may not realize they need to renew - and risk losing access to this critical health care resource.

Homebase is pleased to share that they have created [resources](#) - including a [toolkit](#), [executive summary](#), and forthcoming toolkit in Spanish - to help people experiencing homelessness maintain their coverage. The toolkit equips service providers, people experiencing homelessness, Medicaid experts and partners, and communities to keep current Medicaid members covered. The tool provides background on Medicaid and the renewal process, an overview of how the process impacts people experiencing homelessness, tips and steps that homeless service providers can take to help clients maintain coverage, ways to learn more about the policy landscape in a particular state, and guidance for people experiencing homelessness on how to navigate the renewal process.

We encourage you to share this resource widely with relevant partners, including Local Homeless Coalitions, advocates, homeless service providers, health care partners and application assisters, legal aid services, lived experience advisory groups and more.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Homebase at MedicaidRenewals@homebaseccc.org with any questions, comments, ideas, or concerns.

Funding & Other Opportunities

Expanding Access to Service Coordination: Two Models of Braiding Funding

The Housing and Services Resource Center (HSRC) is hosting a webinar that will feature two models for braiding funding streams across sectors to maximize the use of existing resources and broaden access to service coordination in a sustainable way. Presenters will discuss program structure, funding and braiding process, partnerships, and outcomes. Webinar participants from disability and aging networks and in health, homelessness, and housing organizations will gain ideas for adapting these models to extend access to service coordination throughout their communities

Date & Time: Jan 31, 2024 01:00 PM

[Click Here to Find out More and Register](#)

Zoning Reforms That Improve Access to Housing for All: Evidence and Lessons for Advocates

To address housing shortages and housing affordability crises, state and local governments are increasingly looking to zoning code reform to enable housing types beyond single-family homes to be built in their communities. But how much do these policies alone improve access to housing for all, and what else do policymakers need to consider to create sustained and significant positive change in our housing markets? Join the Urban Institute and guests as we discuss how states and localities have embraced zoning reform, the evidence supporting the effectiveness of upzoning, and other policies that should be paired with zoning reform to achieve racial equity and social mobility through housing. The event will feature a dialogue among researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates about the main barriers to passing and enacting zoning and other types of pro-housing reforms and strategies to overcome them. Our speakers will draw from their expertise and knowledge about places like Oregon; Seattle, Washington; Chicago, Illinois; Austin, Texas; and Charlottesville and Alexandria, Virginia.

Monday, February 5, 2024, 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST

[Click Here to Register](#)

Important Dates

***No General Meeting in January**

January Texas BoS Board Meeting

January 24, 2024, 2:00 PM

*Closed Meeting

February Texas BoS Executive Board Meeting

February 1, 2024, 2:00 PM

*Closed Meeting

Our webinar platform is Zoom, please make sure you are using the most up to date software from Zoom's [Download Center](#)

What's Happening Across the TX BoS CoC?

North

[Texarkana Homeless Coalition hosts a Bridge City Annual Fundraiser](#) (Bowie County)

South

[Protesters call out CCRTA on anti-homeless bench feature Wednesday](#) (Nueces County)

East

[RRV Homeless Coalition Conducting Survey](#) (Titus County)

[One Love Longview assists homeless man into apartment](#) (Gregg County)

[Longview Public Library collects donations for homeless resource bags](#) (Gregg County)

West

[Lubbock participating in 2024 Homeless Count](#) (Lubbock County)

Central

[Hays County to count homeless population, 2023 found 180 without homes](#) (Hays County)

[Killeen homeless camps cleaned up, then reappear](#) (Bell County)

These articles were gathered from Google Alerts and emails sent directly to us. If you have articles about your community's efforts to prevent and end homelessness that you want to be highlighted in our next newsletter, please email the articles to txboscoc@thn.org.

Member Feedback

In our efforts to stay transparent and up to date with our members, we are creating this anonymous feedback form for members of the TX BoS CoC to provide any input they want the TX BoS CoC staff and Board to know about.

Provide Your Feedback Here

Join Us

Anyone who works or lives in the CoC's geographic area, and all housing and homeless services projects in the CoC's geographic area, are considered to be members of the CoC. The CoC has an open invitation process, so members may join at any time.

THN invites members to participate in the CoC's activities. Learn more on the [email list](#), the [website](#), and social media. CoC General Meeting minutes and recordings are posted on THN's website, in the ["Join Us" page](#). Presentations by and conversations between CoC members and staff on relevant topics keep members informed and updated.

Share this email with anyone you think may be interested!

CoC General Meeting Schedule

Stay informed about CoC happenings by participating in the bi-monthly webinars. Each meeting will feature a topic that is important to preventing and ending

CoC Program Funding

If you are a representative of an agency that is interested in applying for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

homelessness. See the [Join Us page](#) for dates, topics, and registration links

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program funding, please contact txboscoc@thn.org.



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