TEXAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE NEWS
October 2023

Announcements

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

Year-in-Review Video on THN's Website

See what the TX BoS CoC accomplished over the past year by watching the new "Year-in-Review" video! We know working together is key, so thank you to all our partners around the CoC.

Public Comment Periods are Now Open!

Public Comment Period for the CoC Governance Charter Is Open

The annual review of the CoC Governance Charter was held at the CoC General Membership Meeting on 9/27. One significant change to the Charter is being proposed: allowing the CoC Board, acting on behalf of the CoC, to approve proposed changes to the Charter. General Members would still have the opportunity to give input through the public comment process, and the CoC Board would continue to consider all comments submitted during public comment periods. This change would simplify the process for approving proposed changes to the Charter.

Comments on that proposed change and on any other part of the Charter may be given in writing via the [Public Comment Portal](). For accessibility needs, contact Mary Stahlke at [mary@thn.org]() or 512-861-2180.

Public Comment Period for the Coordinated Entry Written Standards Is Open

The Texas Balance of State CoC seeks public comment on proposed Coordinated Entry Written Standards changes. **The public comment period closes on October 24, 2023 at 11:59 pm.**

For information on how to submit a public comment: [https://www.thn.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Public-Comment-CE-WS-Info.pdf](). For accessibility needs, contact Kyra Henderson at [kyra@thn.org]() or 512-861-2192.

Voting has Begun in the CoC Board Election

The voting period for the TX BoS CoC Board election opened on 9/27 and will close on 10/11. Anyone who lives and/or works in the [CoC's geographic area]() is considered to be a general member of the CoC and may vote in the election.

See information about the candidates on **THN's website**.

Please share this information with other people in the BoS CoC so they can vote, too!

Click Here to Access the Ballot

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) Informational Session

Join the Texas SOAR State Team and TX BoS CoC Staff from 2:00-3:30pm on October 19th for a virtual SOAR Informational Session. SOAR is designed to expedite access to Social Security disability benefits for individuals who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and who have serious mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorders or other physical disabilities. Attendees will learn more about how utilizing the SOAR critical components has increased SSI/SSDI approval rates to 65% and the training options available for community providers.

Click here to register for the SOAR Informational Session on October 19th

Click here to learn more about SOAR National Outcomes

Funding & Other Opportunities

HUD Publishes $13.5 Million SHOP NOFA on Grants.gov

The Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) awards grant funds to eligible national and regional nonprofit organizations and consortia to purchase home sites and develop or improve the infrastructure needed to set the stage for sweat equity and volunteer-based homeownership programs for low-income persons and families. Through this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), HUD is making $13,500,000 of FY 2023 SHOP Program grant funds available to national and regional nonprofit organizations.

View the NOFA on Grants.gov

Closing Date for Applications: December 4, 2023

For more information, contact HUD's Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development – 877-787-2526 or rhed@hud.gov.

The Rural Gateway provides technical assistance, trainings, and peer learning and resource sharing to support rural housing and economic development.

Important Dates

*No General Meeting in October

Community Investment Committee Meeting
October 20, 2023, 1:15 PM
*Closed Meeting

June Texas BoS Board Meeting
October 25, 2023, 2:00 PM
*Closed Meeting

SOAR Informational Session
Oct 19, 2023 02:00 PM
Please join the Texas SOAR State Team and TX BoS CoC staff to learn more about how utilizing the SOAR critical components has increased SSI/SSDI approval rates to 65%, the training options available for community providers, and why this work is important to the TX BoS CoC. Follow the below link to learn more about SOAR National Outcomes:
Who Should Attend: General BoS Membership, All CoC Program Recipients, All ESG Program Recipients
Click Here to Register

FY23 CoC Application Process Feedback Session
Oct 27, 2023, 10:00 AM
Join TX BoS CoC staff from 10-11 a.m. on October 27th for a virtual FY23 CoC Application Process Feedback Session. Both New and Renewal CoC Program Applicants alike are invited to participate and share their experience about the application process - from the initial training webinar to navigating the CoC's online application platform, scoring, communication, and all parts in between, please join us for this Feedback Session to help us learn how we can improve our processes.
Who Should Attend: FY23 CoC Program Applicants
Click Here to Register

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

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What's Happening Across the TX BoS CoC?

North
Red River Valley Homeless Coalition To Meet (Lamar County)

South
Victoria takes action to address homelessness amid population growth (Victoria County)

East

[Homeless Tyler veteran speaks on experience on the streets, help received from CampV](#) (Smith County)
[Beaumont City Council sets aside $250K for possible homeless encampments project](#) (Jefferson County)

West

[More homelessness in Abilene? Advocates say no & explain why you may see more in public](#) (Taylor County)

Central

[Killeen homeless shelter may close for good](#) (Bell County)
[Killeen moving forward with Homeless and Mental Health Strategic Plan](#) (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

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)

important to preventing and ending 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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