

TX BoS Modernization

Fall CoC Meeting

September 11, 2024

Technical Assistance Team



Ashley Barker Tolman (she/her)



Katie Peterson (she/her)



Alexa Timmreck (she/her)

Tell us a little about you!

www.mentimeter.com

Code 5957 2044



Goal for today

Understand the what and why for modernization, including:

- the need for added capacity,
- the possibility of using a CoC split as a means of adding capacity,
- getting direction from those in attendance, and
- identifying next steps to move toward final decision-making and implementation.

1. What is modernization and why does it matter?

Why this Discussion?

- *The TX BoS CoC is dedicated to prioritizing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness and those who work most closely with them.*
- *The most effective approach involves resourcing, coordinating and supporting providers and response systems at the local level.*
- *The vast number of communities and extensive area within the Texas BoS present challenges that are not met by existing structures and processes.*

Why this Discussion?

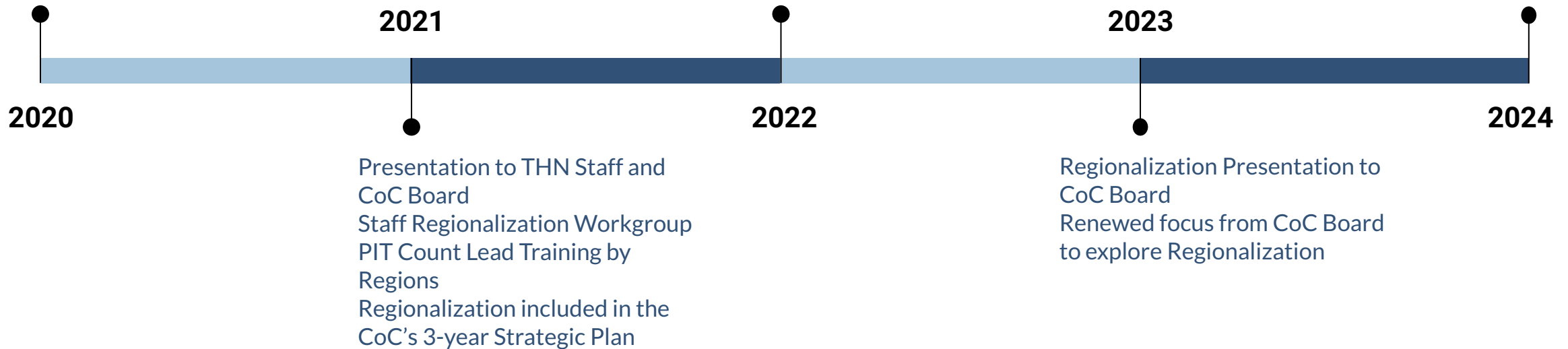
The CoC is exploring options to modernize supports to local communities in ways that improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness and support work done at the local level.



Timeline

VISTA Member Research
Regionalization Report by Staff
Member
CoC's Gaps Analysis conducted
using regional framework

HUD TA focused on
modernization of the CoC
(Regionalization)



Documents Reviewed

- Priority Communities TA Recommendations (2017) and Update (2019)
- Community Investment Committee Notes (2020)
- Gaps Analysis (2020-2021)
- THN Regionalization Work Group Meetings (2021)
- Regionalization Project Proposal (2021-2023)
- TX BoS CoC Strategic Plan (2021-2024)
- Governance Charter (2022)
- Coordinated Entry Evaluation (2022)
- TX BoS Board Meeting (2023)
- THN Organization Chart (2024)

Document Summary

There is a lack of capacity to provide adequate support “on-the-ground” from THN

Providers want THN to be more present in the field than they currently are (Gaps Analysis 2020)

- Communities struggle to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness (CE Evaluation 2022)
- Providers need more support from THN (Gaps Analysis 2020)
- Current level of training offered does not meet the needs of providers. (CE Evaluation, 2022)
- No mechanism exists at the CoC level to regularly review performance data, identify areas of concern, and elevate to appropriate bodies to address. (CE Evaluation, 2022)

Community Meetings and Input

- CoC Board Meeting (4/24)
- CoC Spring General Membership Meeting (5/15)
- LHC Leadership (6/27)
- Lived Experience Commission (LEC) (7/3)
- LHC and local governments (7/25)
- Google Form ([accepting responses](#))

Have you participated in a Community Meeting?

What we have heard so far

- A desire for a more regionally-focused presence - THN staff assigned by region as a primary point of contact or using a local agency with capacity.
- Offer more on-the-ground help, training, assistance, support (coordinated entry, furniture/donation coordination, PIT orchestration, engaging decision-makers, agency-level support to work on outcomes)
- Share replicable successes across regions.
- Increase work with policy makers

“BoS covers a huge area of the state with vastly different issues, political climates, and needs, but we're all supposed to have the same goals and priorities in order to get CoC funding. Because of this, instead of catering our programs to what our community needs, we are trying to shoehorn them into BoS and the result is no one wins.”

We want to hear from you: <https://forms.gle/hsosKjzGLsGPWSuB9>

2. Adding capacity

System Capacity

CoC Planning Costs

Planning funds are available to assist the CoC in carrying out a number of its responsibilities. These funds are equal to up to 3 percent of the CoC's Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) or a maximum amount to be established by the CoC NOFA. The period of performance for a planning grant is one year and there is no guarantee that planning grant funds will be awarded each year.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-eligible-activities/planning-costs/>

What is a Planning Grant For?

Planning Grant - Eligible Activities and Recipients

What are eligible activities that a CoC can expend planning grant funds on?

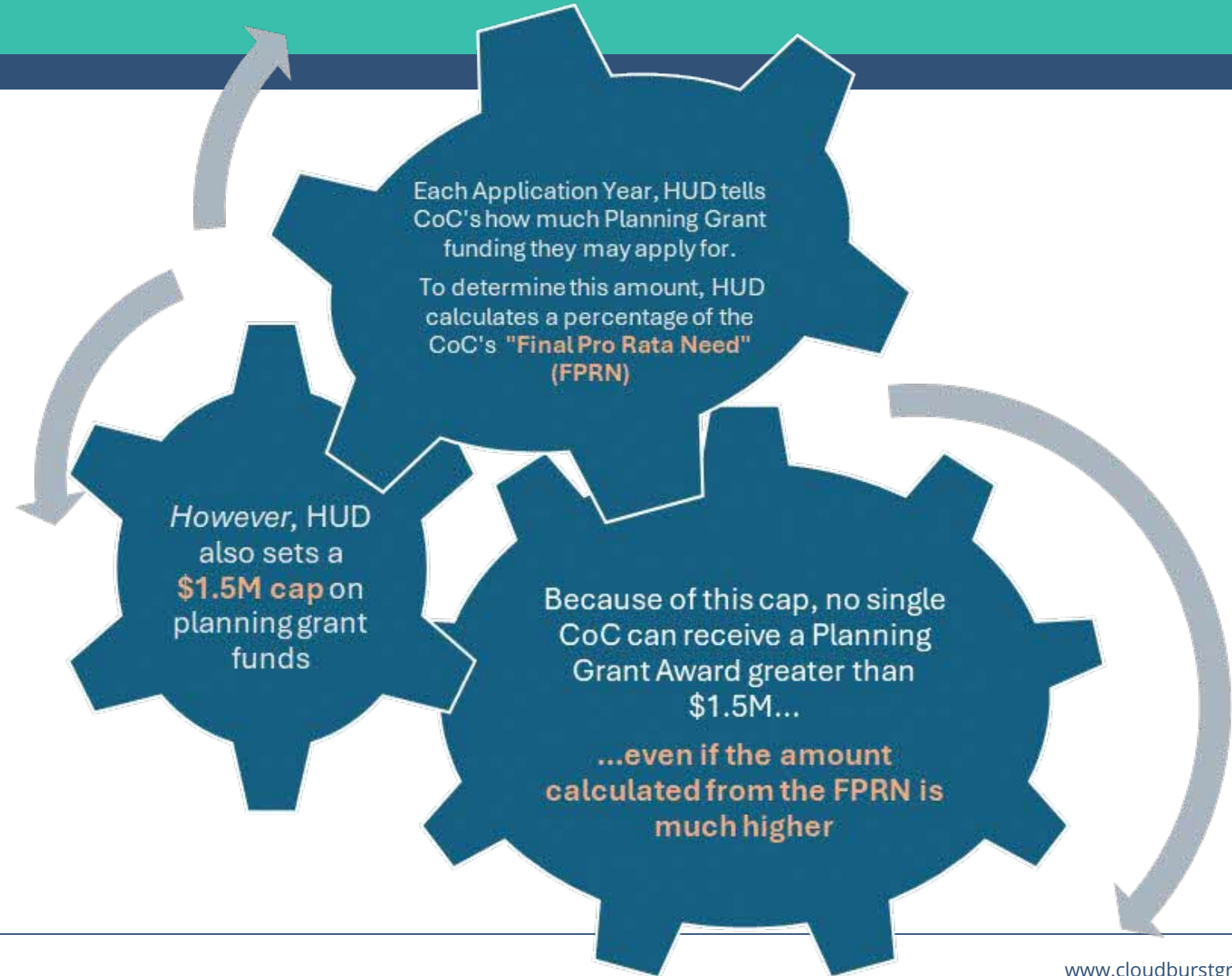
- **Developing a community-wide process** involving the coordination of various providers to develop strategies for ending homelessness and identifying resources that are available to meet that goal
- Determining the geographic area that the CoC will serve including evaluating the merits of merging with other CoCs
- Developing a CoC system
- Evaluating the outcomes of CoC and ESG projects within the CoC
- Participating in the consolidated plan(s) within the CoC's boundaries
- Preparing and submitting an application to HUD on behalf of the CoC, including conducting a Point-in-Time count and other data collection as required by HUD
- Monitoring and improving the quality and performance of recipients and subrecipient projects and enforcing compliance with program requirements

Who can receive a CoC planning grant?

CoC planning grants can only be awarded to the CoC's Collaborative Applicant.

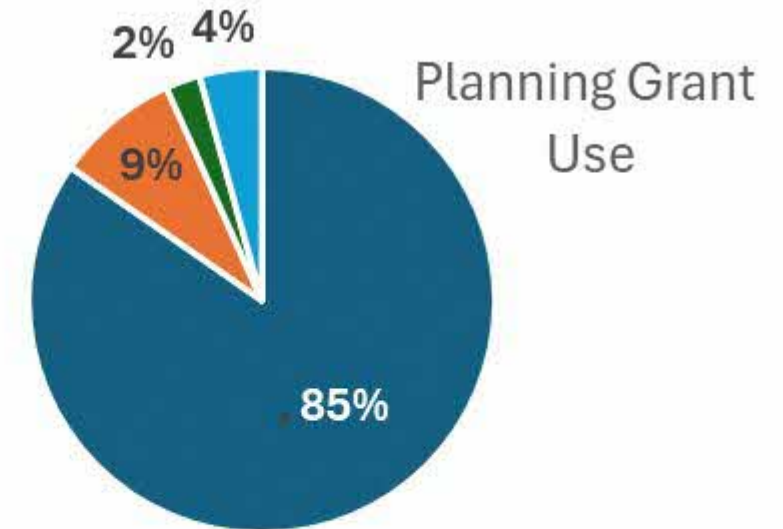
How Does HUD Determine How Much a CoC Receives?

Mechanics of the Planning Grant Allocation



Current CoC Capacity - Planning Grant

- 2023 planning grant award: \$1,500,000
- THN match (required to be at least 25%):
 - DSHS
 - CDBG-D
 - Americorps VISTA Volunteers
 - In-kind Point In Time Hours
 - Housing Stability Services- Admin



Adding CoC Capacity - CoC Split

Current maximum planning grant available: \$1.5 million in the FY24 CoC NOFO (The Texas Balance of State (BoS) has reached the maximum allocation of their CoC planning grant based on current regulations.)

If the BoS decides to divide the geography and register as two or more CoCs, regardless of whether operations are fully separated into multiple CoCs or the separation happens on a technical level only, it could drastically increase planning dollars.* There are a variety of ways to do this and create the impact we are hoping for.

*Subject to NOFO Planning Grant allocations in future years and CoC geography

Adding CoC Capacity - Possible Activities

- Increase personnel to:
 - offer additional technical assistance and training at a local level
 - provide more regional-specific strategic planning and support
 - inform and engage policy makers
 - spend time on the ground with individual communities and providers
 - support actionable data at the local level (e.g. county-level reports)
 - coordinate the sharing of replicable successes across regions



3. Considering a CoC split

What is a CoC split?

A CoC split is when part of the geography of a CoC makes the formal decision to leave the CoC to create a new, independent CoC.

HUD generally discourages CoC splits because communities that split tend to not fully appreciate how much work it is to operate an independent CoC.

CoC Split Considerations

- Governance
 - Collaborative Applicant
 - CoC Board
 - Policies & Procedures
- HMIS
- Coordinated Entry
- Geography
- Funding



Governance- Collaborative Applicant

Current State

- THN currently serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the TX BoS

Options Include

- THN could be the Collaborative Applicant for both CoCs
- THN could be the Collaborative Applicant for both CoCs and subcontract some of the work out to other entities
- A second entity could become the Collaborative Applicant for the new CoC

Governance- CoC Board

Current State

- CoC Board represents the entire geography of TX BoS

Options Include

- Single shared board for both CoCs, with representation from both geographies
- Two entirely separate boards
- Two different boards with a few shared members on each board

Governance- Governing Documents

Current State

- TX BoS has one set of governing documents for the entire CoC

Options Include

- The old and new CoC could share the same governing documents
- The new CoC could share some governing documents while changing others
- The new CoC could create all new governing documents

HMIS and Data Considerations

Current State

- THN currently serves as the HMIS Lead for the TX BoS
- THN received \$662,418 in the FY2023 CoC NOFO from the HMIS grant

Options Include

- THN could stay the HMIS Lead for both CoCs with two different implementations
- A second entity could become the HMIS Lead for the new CoC with two different implementations

Coordinated Entry

Current State

- THN currently serves as the Coordinated Entry Lead for the TX BoS
- THN received \$280,000 in the FY2023 CoC NOFO for Coordinated Entry
- United Way of Denton received \$123,926 in the FY2023 CoC NOFO for Coordinated Entry

Options Include

- THN could serve as the Coordinated Entry Lead for both CoCs
- THN could be the Coordinated Entry Lead for both CoCs and subcontract some of the work out to other entities
- A second entity could serve as the Coordinated Entry Lead for the new CoC

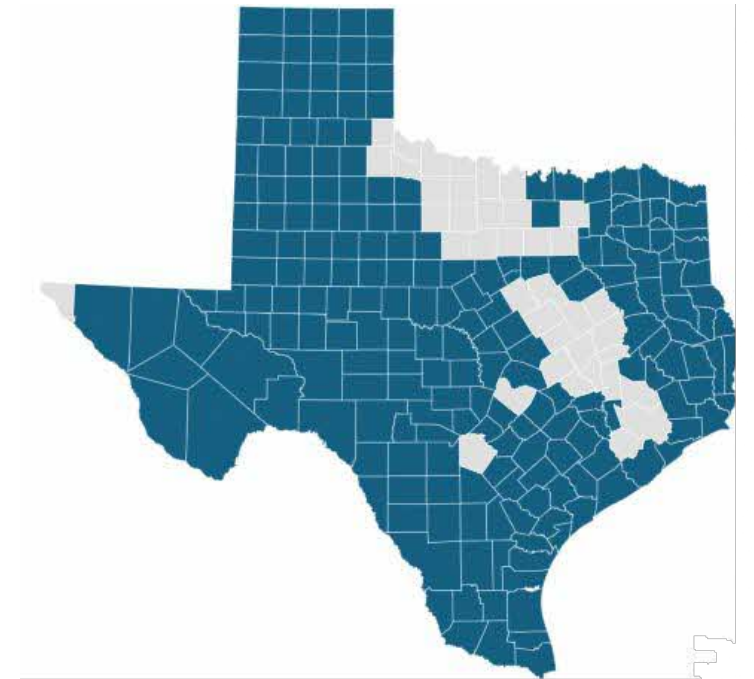
Geography

Current State

- TX BoS covers 215 counties in the State of Texas

Things to consider

- Client movement throughout the CoC
- Agency service coverage
- Locations of currently funded programs
- Council of governments (CoG) geographies
- Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) geographies
- Funding considerations



Funding

Current State

- TX BoS received \$16,980,102 in funding in the FY2023 CoC NOFO competition across 35 projects
- \$1.5 million of that is Planning Grant funds

Things to consider

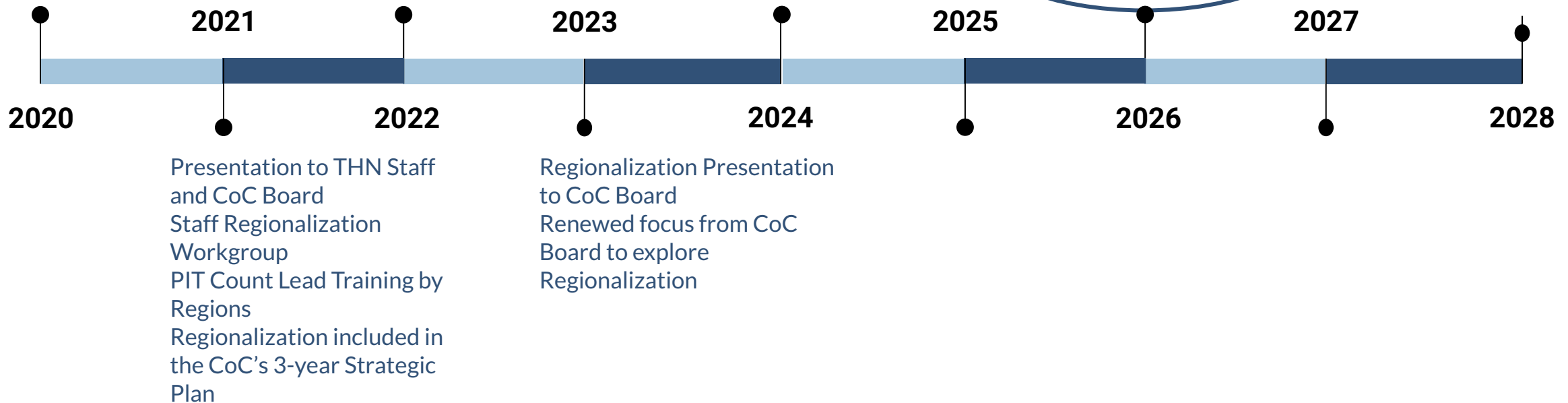
- How to maximize Planning Grant dollars for both CoCs
- Analyze currently funded projects and the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)
- Impacts on access to bonus money

Timeline

VISTA Member Research
Regionalization Report by Staff
Member
CoC's Gaps Analysis conducted
using regional framework

HUD TA focused on
modernization of the CoC
(Regionalization)

The soonest possible
split: 2026 competition
registration.



Questions

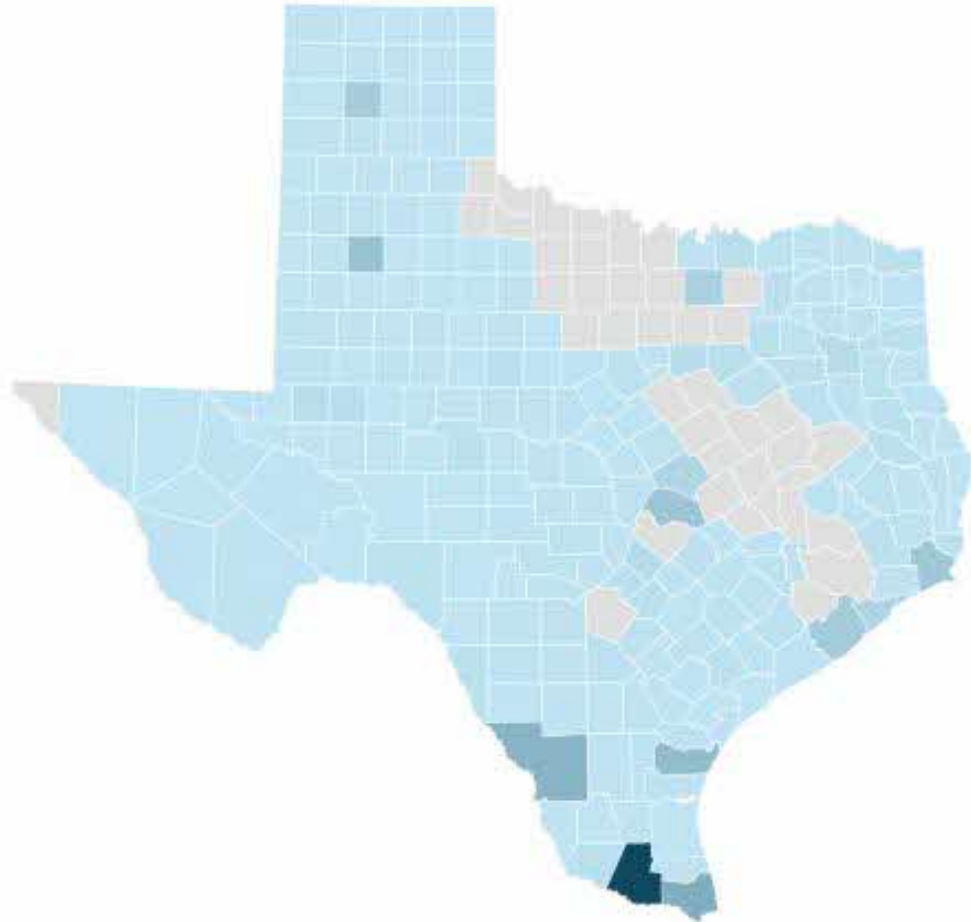
Thoughts

Feelings



4. Next steps

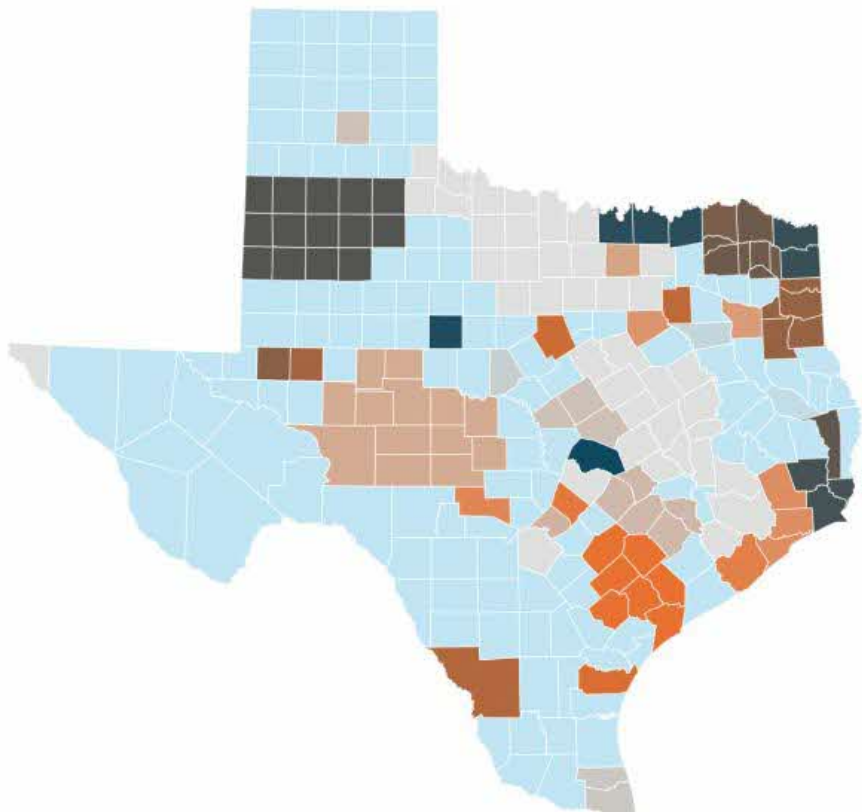
Geographic analysis: What to consider for a split?



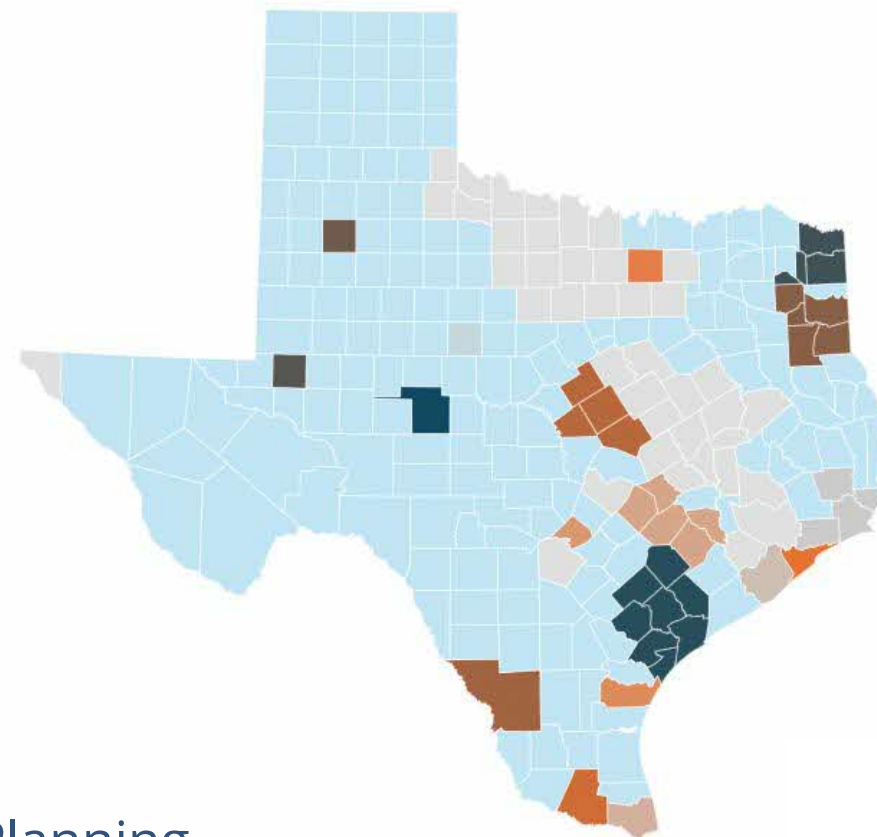
What are the important geographic factors to consider?

- ★ Distribution of Funding (PPRN pictured)

Geographic Analysis: Homeless Planning

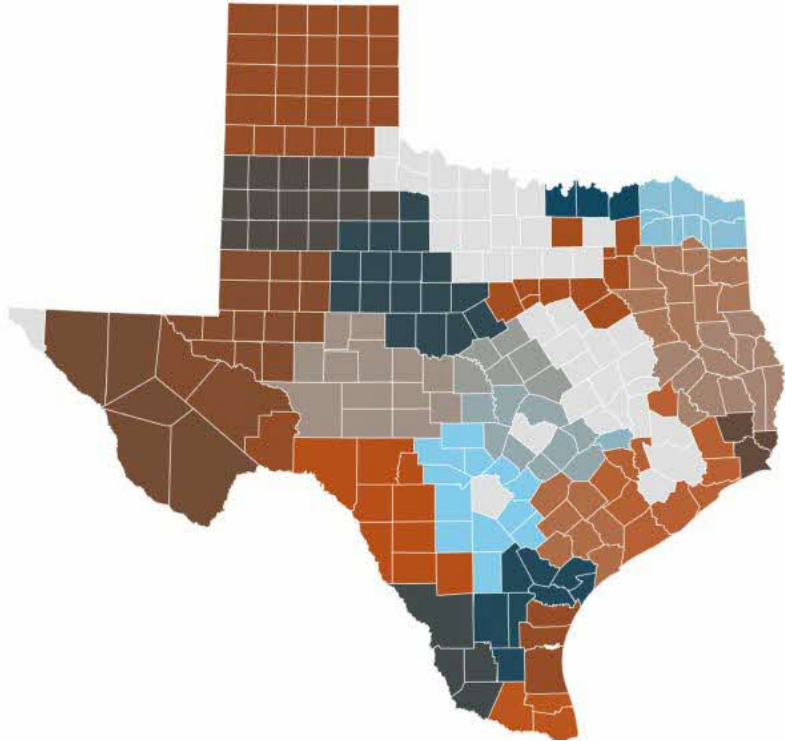


Local Homeless Coalition

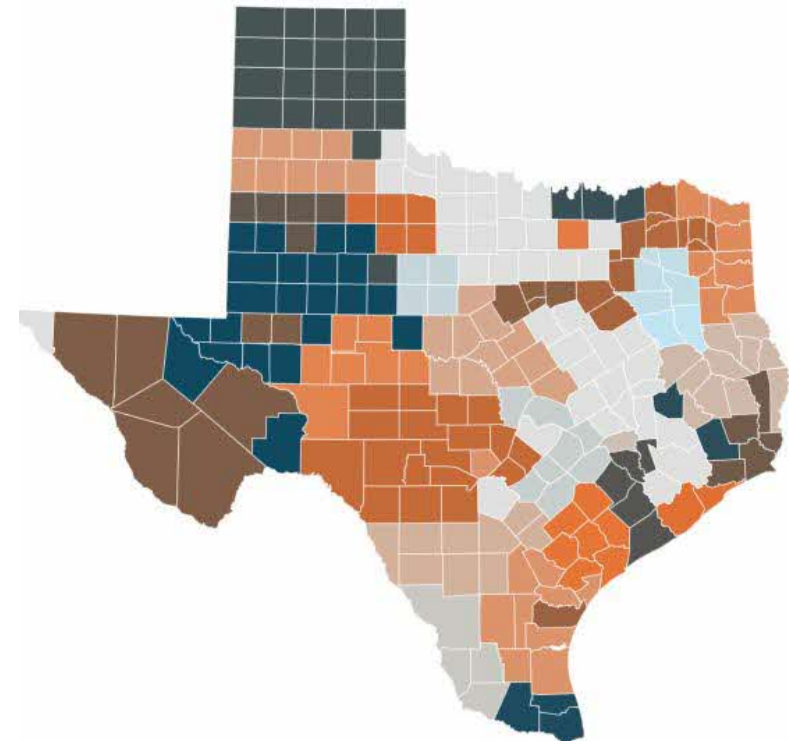


CE Planning

Geographic Analysis: Other Coordinating Entities

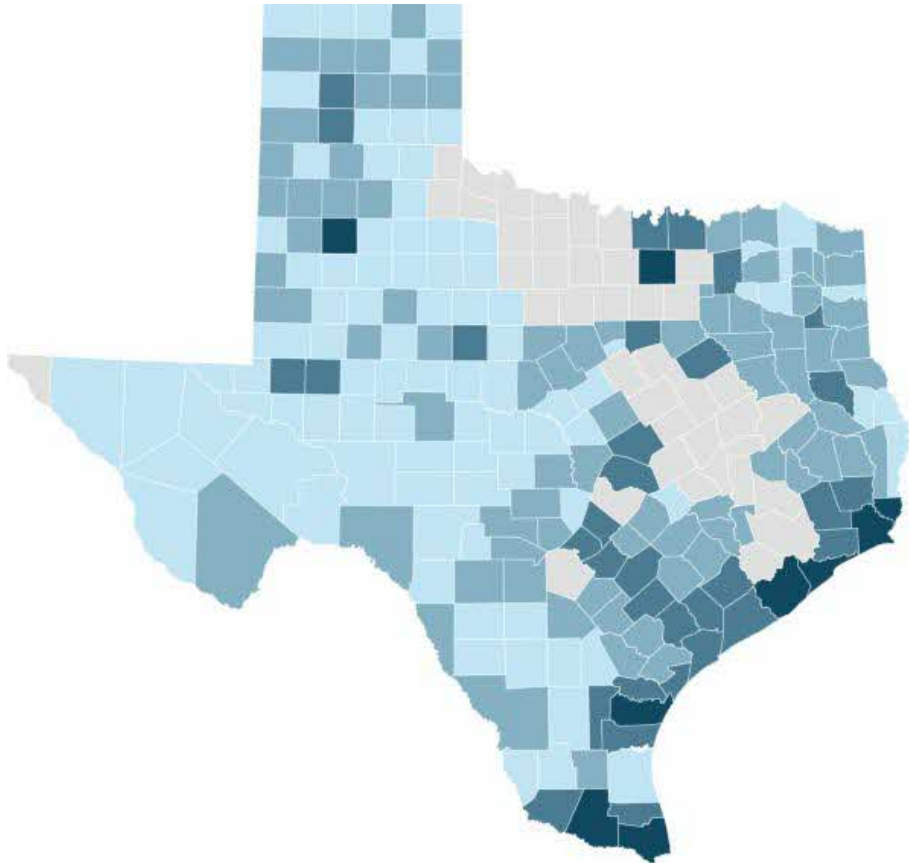


Council of Government



Mental & Behavioral Health Authority

Geographic Analysis - What else should be considered?



[FEMA National Risk Index](#)

*Darker shades indicate higher risk

Other Potential Factors

- ★ What are factors need to be taken into consideration?
- ★ Example Pictured: Risk of Natural Disaster

Moving Forward?

- Create a Modernization work group
- Work group will meet to discuss the various options and will create recommendations
- Work group will bring recommendations to existing committees (i.e. HMIS, Coordinated Entry Steering Committee, etc)
- Work group to bring recommendations to the Spring CoC meeting

Additional Ways to Engage

- [Google Survey](#)
- Come see us at the conference, Wednesday-Thursday, in the Shady Acres Room!