

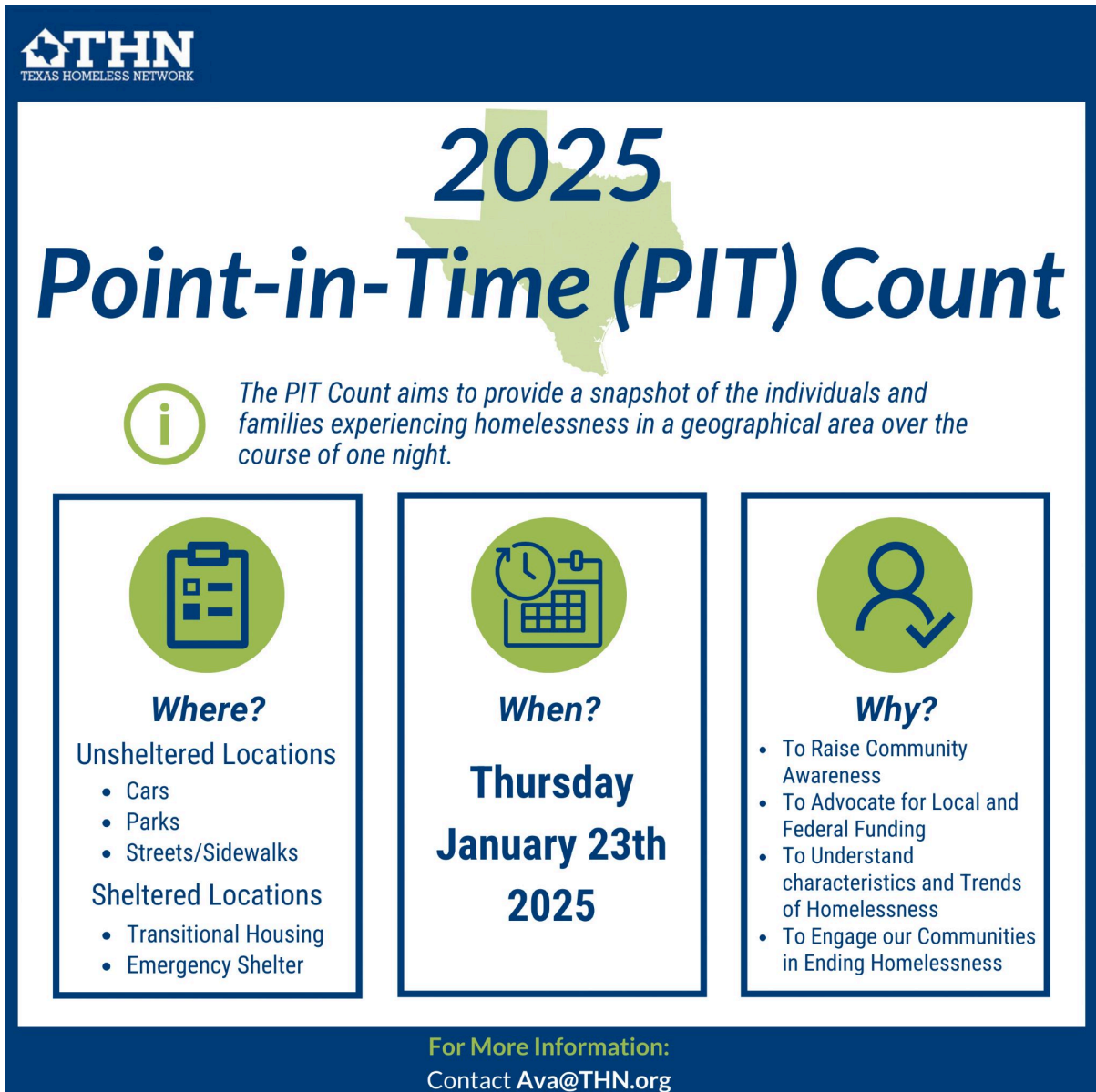


TEXAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE NEWS

November 2024


Announcements




2025 Point-in-Time Count



THN
TEXAS HOMELESS NETWORK

2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

 *The PIT Count aims to provide a snapshot of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in a geographical area over the course of one night.*

 <p>Where?</p> <p>Unsheltered Locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cars • Parks • Streets/Sidewalks <p>Sheltered Locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitional Housing • Emergency Shelter 	 <p>When?</p> <p>Thursday January 23th 2025</p>	 <p>Why?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Raise Community Awareness • To Advocate for Local and Federal Funding • To Understand characteristics and Trends of Homelessness • To Engage our Communities in Ending Homelessness
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For More Information:
Contact Ava@THN.org

The 2025 Balance of State CoC Point-In-Time count will be occurring on **January 23th, 2025**. For more information please contact ava@thn.org

Request for Proposals: Written Standards for Service Delivery

The Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC) seeks proposals to update its Written Standards for Service Delivery, emphasizing inclusivity and equity. The goal is to create standards that reflect the diverse needs of communities, address racial disparities, and promote culturally responsive and fair practices. Stakeholder feedback, including from those with lived experiences, will be integral to this process. The project budget is \$60,000, running from 10/01/2024 to 08/31/2025. **Proposals are due by 12/09/2024.**

[Click here to see more details.](#)

2024-25 CoC Board Nomination Period is Open



Have you experienced homelessness? Do you have expertise in homeless assistance? Do you want to get more involved in the TX BoS CoC's work? If so, run for a seat on the CoC Board!

The CoC is accepting nominations for seven board seats:

Seat 2 – Homeless veterans

Seat 4 – Homeless families

Seat 6 – Victim services

Seat 7 – Health/medical

Seat 10 – Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program recipient

Seat 12 – Law enforcement/criminal justice

Seat 14 – Faith community or faith-based organization

Key dates:

The deadline for nominations is **November 22, 2024, at 11:45 PM**

[Click here to complete the nomination form online.](#)

Voting will occur in **February 2025**.

The term of service will be **April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2027** (24 months).

The CoC Board plans to meet in person in Austin in April 2024 for an orientation session and then once per month for 1.5 hours by Zoom.

Background:

The CoC Board is the main decision-making body of the CoC. It determines the policy direction of the CoC and ensures that the CoC fulfills its responsibilities. Additionally, the board oversees the work of CoC committees and the CoC Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead Agency (Texas Homeless Network). Board members also stay informed about how the CoC is performing to prevent and end homelessness, and they serve as liaisons between the CoC and the communities and sub-populations they represent. Board members comply with a code of conduct, conflict of interest policy, and confidentiality policy.

Seat 1 is filled by a person with lived experience of homelessness. Seats 2-15 are filled by people who represent the stakeholder groups designated for those seats by:

Being a member of that group (for example, Seat 2 could be filled by a currently or formerly homeless veteran); and/or

Working for an agency/organization that serves the designated group; and/or

Clearly representing the interests of that group, as evidenced in the nomination form.

The Board needs members with varying skills, expertise, and backgrounds to represent the diversity of people experiencing homelessness in the CoC. Anyone who lives and/or works in the [TX BoS CoC's geographic area](#) is a general member of the CoC and may run for a seat on the Board. See more guidance about elections in the [CoC Board Requirements Policy](#).

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Mary Stahlke, Director of Engagement, at mary@thn.org.

Coordinated Entry Assessment and Prioritization Redesign

Help Shape a New Process for Texas Housing & Services

Are you a BIPOC* service provider and/or a person with lived experience (PWLE)** of homelessness? Join our workgroup to help design a new process for connecting people to housing and services!

What You'll Do:

- Redesign a more equitable homelessness-to-housing intervention process
- Create a culturally responsive and trauma-informed assessment
- Address the flaws of current tools
- **Contribute to long-term, systemic change**



Apply to join the work now: tinyurl.com/ce-workgroup

*Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

**People with lived experience of homelessness (PWLE) will be compensated for time spent in meetings.

Help shape the future of Coordinated Entry in Texas! THN is looking for BIPOC providers and people with lived experience of homelessness to join our project to redesign the Coordinated Entry system and improve our housing processes. Together, we'll create a trauma-informed and culturally responsive process that ensures fairness for all.

Apply Today

Funding & Other Opportunities

HOPE Month

November is National Youth Homelessness Outreach, Prevention and Education (HOPE) Month - an opportunity to acknowledge and embrace the challenges associated with youth homelessness and double down on our commitment to help those facing challenges.

On November 1, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the start of National Youth Homelessness Outreach, Prevention and Education (HOPE) Month.

[Check out more details on their landing page here.](#)

Second Chance Leasing Program

At the core of our efforts our Second Chance Leasing Program is designed for those facing unique challenges—whether it's inconsistent rental histories, non-traditional employment, credit challenges, or specific criminal backgrounds. We recognize that these obstacles can feel daunting, but our approach is rooted in compassion and a commitment to turning negatives into positives. Here's how our program works in detail:

Comprehensive Assessment: We begin with a thorough evaluation of each applicant's situation, identifying their strengths and the challenges they face. This allows us to create a tailored support plan that addresses their specific needs.

Personalized Support: Our dedicated team provides one-on-one assistance to help applicants eliminate the complexities of the rental process.

Strong Relationships with Property Owners: Over the past 8 years, we have cultivated meaningful strong relationships with a network of compassionate apartment managers, private property owners, and new home builders throughout the entire state. These partners understand the hurdles our applicants face and are committed to giving second chances. They recognize that each applicant is more than their past and deserve the opportunity to start anew.

Negotiation for Success: Our team works tirelessly to advocate for our clients. We engage in negotiations with property owners to secure approvals, focusing on the strengths and potential of each applicant. We don't rest until we achieve a "yes," creating pathways to stable housing that might have otherwise seemed impossible.

Ongoing Support and Check-ins: Once housing is secured, we don't just walk away. We continue to support our clients, checking in regularly to ensure their transition is smooth. Our goal is to help families thrive in their new homes, fostering stability and hope for the future.

Our passion for helping our community drives us to deliver fast results. We know that time is of the essence for those waiting for stable housing, and we are committed to doing everything we can to expedite the process.

We would be honored to explore the possibility of a referral partnership with your organization. Together, we can bridge the gaps that often stand in the way of those seeking stability and support. If you're open to it, I would love to set up a time for us to discuss how we can collaborate in this vital mission. Please feel free to give us a call directly at 240.330.0638 or email secondchanceleasingteam@gmail.com

Enterprise Announces Open Call for Section 4 Capacity Building Grants

Enterprise is excited to invite Community Development Corporations (CDCs) and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) to apply for Section 4 Capacity Building grants. These grants, funded by HUD, aim to enhance the capacity of CDCs and CHDOs to support affordable housing and community development for low-income families ($\leq 80\%$ AMI).

Key Information:**Who Can Apply?**

Urban communities: CDCs and CHDOs – applications due by **December 6, 2024**.

Rural and tribal communities: RFP opens **December 4, 2024** for CDCs, CHDOs, Tribes, TDHEs, THAs, and Native CDFIs.

[To determine if you are in a "urban" area as defined by this RFP visit this link](#)

How to Apply:

Submit required templates (Budget Template and Organizational Document Checklist).

Register for a webinar or watch recordings for guidance.

Informational Webinars:

Urban Communities: Recording from October 23, 2024, [slides available now](#).

Rural & Tribal Communities: Webinar on **December 11, 2024, 3:00–4:00 p.m. EDT**. [Register here]

This grant opportunity supports organizational stability and fosters long-term impact in underserved areas. Learn more and apply today!

[See the RFP here](#)

Important Dates

Webinar: Safety Planning in Homeless/Housing Programs

November 6, 2024, 2:00 PM

Join us for an interactive live webinar! Texas Association Against Sexual Violence and Texas Homeless Network are partnering to discuss some basic concepts and best practices related to safety planning with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault participating in homeless/housing programs. Whether you're a frontline worker, manager, or policymaker, this webinar equips you with tools and knowledge to create safer environments and processes for all survivors.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Texas BoS Executive Committee Meeting

November 7 2024, 2:00 PM

*Closed Meeting

Community Investment Committee Meeting

November 13, 2024, 1:30 PM

*Closed Meeting

Texas BoS Board Meeting

November 20, 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

[OurCalling breaks ground on OurCommunity, a tiny home community dedicated to the most vulnerable experiencing homelessness](#) (Ellis County)

South

[Autopsy ordered to determine cause of homeless man's death](#) (Victoria County)

East

[Galveston Homeless Outreach Festival](#) (Galveston County)

[More homes to be placed in Veterans Village](#) (Jasper County)

West

[Odessa proclaims October 10 as National Homeless Day](#) (Ector County)

[The Fields Edge helping homeless people in the community with the Glean-up Litter Program](#) (Midland County)

[Abilene Community Unites For Coats For Kids Drive Success](#) (Taylor County)

Central

[Killeen City Council reviews plans for new \\$250,000 homeless shelter](#) (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 homelessness. See the [Join Us page](#) for dates, topics, and registration links

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



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