



Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless  
Quarterly Meeting – October 4, 2017  
Meeting Minutes Summary

A transcript of the verbal recording made by electronic recording may be found here:  
<http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/tich/meetings.htm>

**Members present:**

#	Member Agency	Representative	Attendance (Yes/No)
1	Office of the Governor appointee, Cornerstone Network (TICH Chair)	Mike Doyle	Yes
2	Office of the Lt. Governor	<i>vacant</i>	n/a
3	Office of the Speaker of the House	<i>vacant</i>	n/a
4	Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)	Carissa Dougherty	Yes
5	HHSC	Jessica Hissam	Yes
6	HHSC	Emily Sasser-Bray	No
7	Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)	<i>vacant</i>	n/a
8	Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)	Frances Gattis	Yes – by phone
9	Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)	Valinda Bolton	Yes
10	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Housing Finance representative (TDHCA)	Brooke Boston	Yes – by phone
11	TDHCA, Community Affairs representative	Naomi Cantu	Yes – by phone
12	Texas Education Agency (TEA)	Kelly Kravitz	Yes
13	Texas Department of Juvenile Justice (TJJD)	Todd Novak	Yes
14	Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)	Pam Maercklein	Yes
15	Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)	D.J. Bingler	Yes – by phone

**Advisory Members present:**

#	Advisory Member Organization	Representative	Attendance (Yes/No)
1	Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS)	Christine Gendron	No
2	Austin Travis County Integral Care	Darilynn Cardona-Beiler	No
3	Community Healthcore	Stanley Williams	No
4	Private Citizen	Dennis M. Scholl	Yes – by phone
5	Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA) of Harris County, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) Division	Mende Snodgrass	No
6	Texas Homeless Network (THN)	Eric Samuels	Yes
7	Texas Education Homeless Office (THEO)	Jeanne Stamp	No
8	Education Service Center Region 10	Jana Burns	No
9	Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC)	David Long	Yes
10	Texas Council on Family Violence	Mona Muro	Yes – by phone

**Other attendees:** Bill Hubbard (San Antonio CoC), Cindy Crain (Dallas CoC), Rebecca Cox (Dallas CoC), Megan Moore (THN), Todd Shell (THN), Michael Lyttle (TDHCA), Stephanie Gates, (Ausitin Mayors Office), Niki Novak (ECHO), Ann Howard (ECHO), Marilyn Brown (Houston/Harris County CoC), Michael Wilt (TSAHC), Wallace Prentiss (ACH Child and Family Services), Shelly Boone (ACH Child and Family Services), Jennifer Karol (The Bridge), Cal Lopez (TEA), Matthew Dougherty (USICH), Bob Pulster (USICH), Jenifer Molinari (TDHCA), Tom Gouris (TDHCA), and Megan Sylvester (TDHCA).

**Administrative support:** Cate Tracz (TDHCA)

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Mike Doyle called the meeting to order at 10:07 am and all attendees introduced themselves. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.

**II. Remarks from Chair**

As there were many guests present from THN’s Annual Conference on Ending Homelessness, Mike Doyle welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the TICH, including the legislative mandated activities, annual report and successful collaboration efforts with the THN.

**III. Approval of draft minutes from the July 11, 2017 TICH Meeting**

Mike Doyle introduced the draft minutes from the July 11, 2017, TICH meeting. Kelly Kravitz moved to approve and Todd Novak seconded. There were no comments and members voted aye unanimously to approve the minutes.

#### **IV. Conversation with the United States Interagency Council for the Homeless (USICH)**

Matthew Dougherty and Bob Pulster of USICH were both present to address the attendees. Updates were provided on disaster recovery efforts, federal budget impacts on USICH operations, revisions to the *Opening Doors* document, and coordination with federal, regional, and state partners. A discussion ensued about the criminal justice system and recidivism.

#### **V. Conversation with Continuum of Care agencies**

Each of the CoC leads present addressed the group and reported on recent activities including disaster relief efforts, employment barriers, and mental health. Discussion continued with members from state agencies on these topics.

#### **VI. Report from TDHCA Homelessness Staff on Status of ESG**

Michael Lyttle provided an update on the Texas Ending Homelessness Fund. Beginning January 1, 2018, Texans can donate to this fund when they register or renew registration for their vehicle. TDHCA is in the process of developing rules to administer the funds and attendees were informed on how to provide input and spread the word about this new funding source to address homelessness in Texas. Naomi Cantu then provided an update on ESG contracts and awards for the 2017-2018 program year.

#### **VII. Update on VISTA Volunteer Project on §2306.905(7)**

Megan Moore provided an update on the VISTA volunteer project and spoke about surveying CoC's about their coordination with workforce development boards.

#### **VIII. Updates from TICH Committees**

Brooke Boston provided an update on the Performance Data Committee. Information on performance data has been gathered from TDCJ and Brooke Boston plans to meet with TVC and TEA next. Discussion continued about the criminal justice system, recidivism, and related data. Eric Samuels then provided an update of the activities of the Annual Report Committee.

#### **IX. Public comment**

Dennis Scholl thanked TDHCA staff for their coordination of the meeting and THN staff for their work.

#### **X. Closing comments**

Mike Doyle thanked everyone for attending and commended the CoC's for their work and collaboration.

#### **XI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.