



HRS Leadership Council Public Minutes

Duration: 12 pm – 2 pm

Date: 6/3/2024

Meeting Place: VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Meeting ID: ZOOM INFO

p = Present
A = Absent

Leadership Council Members -OR- Committee Voting Members							
P	Larry Wallace	P	Candace McGary				
P	Summer Wright	P	Dylan Shubitz				
P	Emily Seales	P	Amanda Jasso				
P	David Gray	P	Liz Baker				
P	Nathan Fernandes						
Committee Chairs							
P	Sasha Rose	P	Jason Phillips	P	Liz Schoenfeld	P	
P	Dawn Perkins	P	Kimberly Holiday	P	Mark Hilbelink		
Guest Attendees							
Guest attendance is recorded.							
ECHO (CoC Lead)							
P	Maya Beit-Arie	P	Danica Fraher	P	Kyle Walker	P	Joseph Montano
P	Whitney Bright	P	Bill Wallace	P	Joseph Montano	P	Dominique Peevy
P	Kat Hammer	P	Alesandra Dominguez	P	Meagan Biscamp	P	Micki Metz
P	Angel Romero	P	Eri Gregory	P	Anthony Curtis	P	Tania Hughes
P	Quiana Fisher	P	Jenelle Adetunji	P	Sara Fuetter	P	Nina Gutierrez

AGENDA	PRESENTER	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
Quick Business	Summer Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of the June 2024 Leadership Council minutes with no suggested edits or amendments. Welcoming Nathan Fernandes as Monique Coleman’s delegate for the Travis County appointed seat. Mr. Fernandes will be serving on Leadership Council for a couple of months. 	Consent to approve May 2024 minutes.
HMIS Announcement	Whitney Bright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whitney Bright, Director of HMIS at ECHO, announces a vendor selection process for HMIS. This selection process is in response to a lack of system improvement, and ECHO’s role is to be responsible for addressing end user concerns. ECHO has been approved for HUD technical assistance to guide the RFP process, vendor selection and eventual data migration if a new vendor is selected. An HMIS advisory panel will be formed to work with ECHO’s HMIS department to inform the RFP process including scoring and ranking of vendors. Potential panel members could be HMIS users, government officials, people with lived experience. Information to join HMIS advisory panel will be posted on ECHO’s website at a later date. Benchmark date for this project is March 2025 when current contract with HMIS vendor either renews or expires. Additional work may extend past March 2025 including new training for users and data migration. Attendees are invited to ask questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will current or historical HMIS data get transferred to the new vendor? That will depend on the vendor. Not all data will be able to be transferred and we will have to decide how much historical data we want to transfer, and what cut-off date we want. Projects may have to be recreated for historical data. Is the plan to keep the scorecards? It is an export standard in HMIS systems, so yes. 	
VOCAL-TX Presentation	Cate Graziani, Paulette Soltani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cate Grazini and Paulette Soltani are co-directors of VOCAL-TX Voices of Community Activists and Leaders (VOCAL) is a statewide organization working on grassroots leadership development, community organization, policy development, advocacy, direct services and direct action. A review of some statistics related to overdose, incarceration, and homelessness which demonstrate system level issues VOCAL-TX seeks to change. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Housing Campaign was created as a direct result of VOCAL membership who were experiencing issues with the rapid rehousing program. In April 2024 VOCAL leaders hosted a town hall and as a result created specific recommendations. • Recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify people in RRH who are eligible for PSH • Make a one-time investment in the upcoming City budget session to create a “Bridge to PSH” • Fund enough PSH vouchers and services for people who are eligible for PSH • City Council passed Item 181 on May 30th to address community recommendations which includes working with Leadership Council, Travis County, and service provider to improve the wait list for RRH and PSH and to provide recommendations on the creation of a “Bridge to PSH” • Leadership Council and attendees participate in discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can Leadership Council support the next steps? A big questions VOCAL has is who is in RRH now also eligible for PSH? • Are the issues that have brought up a policy concern or a lack of policy. If a policy concern, what aspects do we need to look at and what recommendations? We used a limited resource to try to serve as many people as possible (i.e., ARPA) and without sufficient safety nets to keep people in housing. In the future, we need to issue RRH resources that are suitable to people’s needs. In the short-term, how do we deal with the risk in front of us for people who are currently enrolled in RRH. • Coordinated Entry doesn’t necessarily create more housing, so if we are prioritizing people for a bridging program how do we do that in a way that is fair to people currently on the street? • There are housing intervention types we haven’t explored (i.e., roommate/house sharing, board and care homes). We should also consider using Coordinated Entry as a way to match unit types – 1 BD, 2 BD – in addition to services. • We are adding beds to the system including nearly 300 project-based PSH units this year alone, in addition to scattered site units. Is there a need to differentiate between project-based PSH and scattered site PSH? • The current prioritization policies we have in place have taken great pains to center client choice and racial equity, and I hope we can preserve that. We have seen bridging programs work in parts of our system when there are specific resources dedicated to it, for example, Veterans. 	
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		<p>will ensure that VOCAL-TX has the invite to participate in those discussions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LIHTC properties are all over the City Council agenda, is there any mechanism to ensure that LIHTC properties lease to program participants. Affordable housing has been a tough nut to crack on a systemic level due to compliance issues and concerns related to fair housing. There have been some properties which have City requirements related to RRH and PSH, and that work is owned by the Housing & Planning Department at the city. • For some providers of PSH, another concern is screening criteria related to evictions and not being able to screen in. What process and what plan do we have in place to support those folks? When we talk about investing more in PSH and affordable housing the goal is to create units for folks with those kinds of vulnerabilities. • Can we commit to coming up with some targets for committees? Co-chairs will reach out to committees to see which have capacity, in terms of bridging RRH to PSH it may be appropriate for Crisis Response Committee or Permanent Housing Committee. 	
		Meeting Adjourns.	

Actions taken by Leadership Council during the meeting on Monday June 3rd 2024	
I.	Approve the May 2024 Leadership Council minutes. Approved on consent.