

CoC Workgroups

Our workgroups accomplish specific tasks to conceive, test, and implement policies and practices that improve how providers work together to make services more efficient.

Workgroup	Mission	Objectives	Purpose	Workgroup Representatives	Meeting Details
Racial Equity	Drive and support Racial Equity within our Homeless Response System & By our Homeless Response System while centering and amplifying the perspective and voice of people with lived experience. Create and maintain a culture of accountability utilizing appropriate tools, training, and regular review of relevant data stratified along racial lines for system performance, funding, and outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase understanding of racial equity + homelessness across our CoC & in the larger community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminate racial disparities/inequities in service delivery Eliminate racial disparities/inequities in housing placements (length of time) Incorporate racial equity analysis across CoC workgroups in plans & outcomes Increase engagement and inclusion of individuals with lived experience in all aspects of CoC planning and systems Revamp Racial Equity workgroup to act as a thought partner in all workgroup plans & processes 	Track progress on CoC-wide equity goals; design and implement strategies for reducing disparities in housing outcomes and addressing system inequities	Joli Angel Robinson (Housing Forward, Chair) Dr David Woody (Exec Council Liaison) Contact: Joli.robinson@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Monthly, Third Friday 3 to 4PM
Veterans	The community achieves and maintains an effective end to veteran homelessness.	Reduce length of time from identification to housing to 90 days	Track progress and support goal of ending veteran's homelessness; Create alignment on the core elements of the strategy to end/reduce Veteran homelessness and the process for decision making	Leah Williams (Housing Forward, Chair) Tammy McGee (Clutch) Dr David Woody (Exec Council) Contact: Leah.Williams@housingforwardntx.org Contact: leah.williams@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Leadership Workgroup Every Other Thursday 9 to 10:30 AM
		Ensure rate of inflow matched outflow			
		Decrease total number of active BNL veterans			
		Identify and address racial disparities in housing outcomes			
Rapid Rehousing	Households experiencing homelessness can move directly into permanent housing in the community using a combination of financial assistance and housing-focused services	Increase housing placements	Support the implementation/operationalize new RRH projects through alignment of process and resources; to enhance service delivery capacity	Luis Acuna-Pilgrim (Housing Forward, Chair) Heather Muller (Clutch) Brenda Snitzer (Exec Council) Contact: Luis.Acuna@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Leadership Workgroup Monthly, Third Tuesday 10:30 to 12 PM
		Improve long term housing stability			
		Build capacity of new RRH workforce			
		Identify and address racial disparities in housing outcomes and access			
Coordinated Access System	To connect all people experiencing homelessness to the right housing intervention through a standardized matching and referral process.	Improve equity in access and outcomes in CAS	Monitor the efficacy and effectiveness of CAS; to synthesize practice to create and modify CAS policies in support of improved functioning	Crystal Sheppard, The Family Place (Chair) Andrew Lomax, The Bridge (Co-chair) Rebecca Hickom (Housing Forward) Daniel Roby, (Exec Council) Contact: Rebecca.hickom@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Monthly, Third Tuesday 9 to 10:30 AM
		Increase efficiency and effectiveness of system flow			
		Build provider capacity			
		Refine and scale CAS process, policy and tools to improve effectiveness			
Permanent Supportive Housing	Households experiencing chronic homelessness have access to permanent, affordable housing and comprehensive services to remain stably housing	Expand PSH Options	Implement PSH refinements and support improved PSH performance	Ayanna Robertson (Housing Forward) Yolanda Jones (Exec Council) Contact: Ayanna.robertson@housingforwardntx.org For more information	Monthly, Fourth Wednesday 2 - 3:30 PM
		Increase Transitions from PSH to Permanent Housing (Move On)			
		Improve Long Term Housing Stability			
		Identify and Address Racial Disparities in Housing Outcomes			

Youth	A youth-informed network of activists, advocates, community and faith-based partners, and other stakeholders committed to a relentless focus on making instances of homelessness and housing insecurity rare, brief, and non-recurring for youth and young adults in Dallas and Collin Counties. We are devoted to raising awareness of these issues to combat persistent institutional policies incriminating and subjecting them to barriers that impede their growth.	Develop a Youth and Young Adult "System Vision"	Facilitate the collaboration of stakeholders to ensure youth homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring	Leah Williams / Jordan Gilbert (Housing Forward Co-Chairs) Karen Hughes (Exec Council) Contact: Leah.Williams@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Monthly, Third Wednesday 10am - 11am
		Identify and engage all literally homeless and at-risk Youth			
		Streamline Access to Housing for Youth			
Street Outreach	The CoC has a coordinated street outreach component of the rehousing system to identify, assess, serve, and rehouse all people who are unsheltered in Dallas and Collin Counties.	Build a Coordinated Outreach Response	Develop a comprehensive, coordinated street outreach response to unsheltered homeless	Hannah Sims (Housing Forward, Chair) Heather Muller (Clutch) Brenda Snitzer (Exec Council) Contact: Hannah.sims@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Monthly, Second Wednesday 2:30 to 4:00 PM
		Reduce the number of encampments			
		Increase housing placements from unsheltered locations			
		Identify and address racial disparities in outreach and housing outcomes			
HMIS	The CoC has complete and accurate data on homelessness and is maximizing the use of data in system planning and performance improvement.	Build capacity for improved data quality	Provide input and guidance on HMIS governance, policy, performance, promote data quality and standards, and respond to implementation challenges	Sarah Masih, The Salvation Army & Hayedeh Jahansouz, The Bridge (Co-Chairs) Freda Nelms (Housing Forward) Dr David Woody (Exec Council) Contact: Freda.nelms@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Monthly, Third Tuesday 2 to 3:00 PM
		Increase HMIS participation			
		Integrated DV data			
Diversion & Rapid Resolution Pilot Workgroup	Further understand and monitor the impact of Diversion as an exit pathway for those experiencing homelessness in Dallas and Collin counties. Best practices and strategies learned and refined through this pilot project will be used to scale Diversion as a system-wide intervention.	Build and scale diversion across the CoC	Ad hoc Diversion Pilot Workgroup: To test, design, and iterate a Diversion pilot program model.	Rebecca Hickom (Housing Forward, Chair) Tammy McGhee (Clutch) Ellen Magnis (Exec Council) Contact: Rebecca.hickom@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Ad Hoc Workgroup
Families	A collaborative group of stakeholders across Dallas and Collin County dedicated to creating a homeless response system that effectively serves families with children by making homelessness and housing insecurity rare, brief, and non-recurring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No (or few) Unsheltered Families Identified in the PIT Count <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective Diversion to Limit Inflow into Shelter Rehouse Within 30 Days of Entry to Homeless System Safe, Permanent Housing Available for All Within 30 Days of Housing Instability 	Provide input and guidance on policy and practice refinements.	Trudy Hernandez (Housing Forward) Ellen Magnis (Exec Council) Contact: Trudy.hernandez@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Meeting Times Vary Each Month
Landlord Engagement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinating on the sale and property visits (we're often going to the same places!) Agency housing locators bringing information to Housing Forward about properties with vacancies, so that OUR team can negotiate a bigger block of vacancies and hold blocks of units Making the centralized database available to ALL case managers (training will begin THIS week, and we are in the process of purchasing online unit mgt software for the system). 	We are creating a 1 stop shop system for all COC housing providers to access. The more units held, the more clients WE can house.	Marsha Jackson (Housing Forward) Contact: Marsha.jackson@housingforwardntx.org for more information	Every Tuesday at 9am

WORKGROUPS ON THE HORIZON
Domestic Violence
Inclement Weather Shelter (as needed)