

TX-600 Continuum of Care, Serving Dallas & Collin Counties

March 26, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98004827156?pwd=SG13NFVqMFpBMWJtJkVGV1WQkYrZz09>

MINUTES

Welcome/Mission Moment

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Brenda Snitzer, Chair of the General Assembly. The Mission Moment presented by Yolanda Jones (Vice President/COO, AIDS Services of Dallas) Yolanda shared insight into AIDS Services of Dallas, her role and reason for serving the community.

Approval of February 2024 Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Richard (Rick) Grady and seconded by Kelvin Brown, no nays were recorded.

Housing Forward President and CEO Update

Sarah Kahn (President and CEO, Housing Forward), asked for feedback from 3 community work sessions. Sarah shared 3 key points: 1. Input Matters, 2. The work is happening in workgroups and 3. Our collective efforts help make an impact. Sarah shared a list of what is being worked on to implement improvements for all aspects to help unhoused clients. Sarah presented (2024 Annual Priorities and Action Plans).

Flex Fund Update

Sydney Ford (Grants and Contracts Manager, Housing Forward), Tamara Patrick (Flex Funds Coordinator, Housing Forward), Ruby Soliz (Case Manager, Harmony CDC), Alesia Cate (Assistant Director of Rapid Rehousing, Austin Street Center). Tamara and Sydney explained what Flex Fund services are provided. Starting April 1st Flex Fund will have a \$2500 CAP. Flex Funds have a 60-day policy and must be in HMIS. For further information please contact: flexfunds@housingforwardntx.org

Ruby and Alesia shared their experiences using Flex Funds for clients and Cort for furniture (move in kits).

Diversion and Racial Equity Updates

Amber Austin (Senior Manager of CAS, Housing Forward). Amber explained what's "Systemwide Diversion". Amber provided a list of access points with dedicated diversion staff. Amber provided 3 steps to advancing racial equity: 1. System Performance Metrics- Disaggregate data by race/ethnicity, 2. By Component Type- Impact the metrics, and 3. Racial Equity Workgroup- Feedback and Communication.

Streetside Showers

Lance Olinski (Founder, Streetside Showers). Street outreach to meet a large need for clients. They provide a mobile hot shower, with multiple stops and locations (totally private for guests). Streetside Showers is 6 years old and has provided over 35,000 showers. They have expanded to provide food, and a new trailer w/ laundry. WWW.STREETSIDESHOWERS.COM

Network of Community Ministries

Abbie Kauffman (Chief Executive Officer, Network of Community Ministries). Mission: To care, coach and empower our neighbors in need as they seek an improved quality of life. Services: Basic Needs, Stabilization, Seniors' Net, Family & Community. WWW.THENETWORK.ORG

Announcements & Upcoming Trainings

Announcements: Erica Barnett (Marketing and Communications Manager, Housing Forward). Grace period for ANC Membership (ends April 1st). Collin County Homeless Coalition (April 4th), General Assembly (April 23rd).

All training opportunities and community events are listed on the Housing Forward website at www.housingforwardntx.org.

For comments or questions regarding All Neighbors Coalition General Assembly business, please contact Chair Brenda Snitzer at BrendaS@thestewpot.org

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 am to join networking (breakout) groups.