

HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes Summary October 16, 2019

On Wednesday, the sixteenth day of October, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., the quarterly meeting of the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council (HHSCC) was held at the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs building at 211 East 11th Street, Austin, TX 78701, Room 116.

The following members were present:

1. Bobby Wilkinson, Chair
2. Doni Green, Vice Chair, Promoting Independence Workgroup representative
3. Suzanne Barnard, Texas Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Affairs
4. Mike Goodwin, Multifamily housing developer
5. Claire Irwin, Health and Human Services Commission
6. Jose Ramirez, Texas Veterans Commission
7. Joyce Pohlman, Health and Human Services Commission

Welcome and Introductions

Bobby Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. After all attendees introduced themselves, it was determined that quorum was not present.

1. Approval of July 31 HHSCC Meeting Minutes

Bobby Wilkinson announced that approval of the meeting minutes from the July 31, 2019 HHSCC meeting would be postponed because Council did not have quorum.

2. Update on the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC)

TDHCA Director of Programs Brooke Boston provided an update on the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC). Brooke Boston has participated in the SBHCC for the past 18 months and reports out on the work of the HHSCC, which has served informally as a housing subcommittee for the SBHCC. The SBHCC had a meeting on August 1, 2019, and discussed the creation of formal subcommittees, including the potential creation of a housing subcommittee. Because the HHSCC is statutorily mandated and the SBHCC would not be able to delegate tasks or deliverables to the HHSCC, it was determined that the HHSCC would no longer serve as an informal subcommittee to the SBHCC. Brooke Boston will continue to serve on the SBHCC and report out to the group on the work of the HHSCC. She expects that the SBHCC may create a housing subcommittee in the near future. General discussion followed.

3. Update on the HHSCC Performance Measures Advisory Committee

TDHCA Housing Resource Center Research Specialist Danny Shea provided an update on the HHSCC Performance Measures Advisory Committee. The Committee – Mike Goodwin, Helen Eisert, Joyce Pohlman, Danny Shea and Elizabeth Yevich – held an initial meeting on September 26, 2019. Next steps for the Committee will include defining key terms and reviewing barriers to service-enriched housing identified by the Council over the past ten years. Danny Shea reported that the Committee will provide updates at upcoming Council

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meetings and aims to suggest performance measures in time for HHSC's 2020 Biennial Plan and Report of Findings.

4. Update on Proposed 2020 Qualified Allocation Plan

TDHCA Director of Multifamily Finance Marni Holloway provided an update on the Department's proposed 2020 Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP). Public comment on the draft QAP closed October 11, and the final draft is scheduled to be presented to TDHCA's Governing Board at their November 7 meeting. Proposed changes to the QAP include allowing supportive housing projects to carry foreclosable debt as long as they meet other underwriting requirements, removing a Section 811 scoring item, allowing schools to be considered among the options on the Opportunity Index scoring item, adding a scoring item incentivizing proximity to jobs, and extending affordability scoring items to 40 and 45 years. Discussion about the removal of Section 811 from the QAP followed.

5. Update on National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) Technical Assistance Initiative

Joyce Pohlman, HHSC Stakeholder Engagement and Strategic Planning, provided an update on the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) technical assistance initiative. Texas Health Improvement Network (THIN) finished a preliminary data-matching project focused on Section 811 and Medicaid data; they determined that there is a sufficient amount of data that may be matched and will pursue funding to do a full assessment of Medicaid expenditure data for Section 811 residents. Additionally, HHSC is planning regional housing summits for service providers around the state to identify and develop solutions for affordable housing, reviewing Medicaid Z code data on homelessness and emergency department use, and collaborating with TSAHC to develop a pilot program that will create 12 units of permanent supportive housing for Medicaid beneficiaries eligible for long-term services and supports.

6. Update on Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Program Evaluation

TDHCA Section 811 PRA Program Specialist Monica McCarthy provided an update on the Section 811 PRA program. The program has housed 318 households to date, with a goal of housing 600 households by 2021. The program is in the process of bringing on 25 new Section 811 properties that were identified during the 2019 tax credit cycle. The program has trained 500 referral agents through HHSC's Centralized Training Infrastructure; 87 referral agents are currently active. General discussion followed.

7. TDHCA Updates

TDHCA Director of Programs Brooke Boston provided two additional updates from TDHCA. First, TDHCA does plan on applying for the Section 811 PRA funding announced by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development in October. The deadline for that funding application is in February 2020. Second, there will be a Section 811 presentation at THIN's Texas Health Summit on October 17, 2019. Brooke Boston and Spencer Duran will be presenting with a Section 811 developer and a partner from a Local Mental Health Authority.

TDHCA Housing Resource Center Administrator Jeremy Stremmer reminded Council that TDHCA is accepting Five-Year Consolidated Plan consultation through the end of October.

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8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. General Updates/Next Steps/Staff Assignment(s)

The next HHSCC meeting will take place on January 29, 2020.

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM.