

HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes Summary July 22, 2020

On Wednesday, the twenty-second day of July, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., the quarterly meeting of the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council (HHSCC) was held via videoconference.

The following members were present:

1. Bobby Wilkinson, Chair
2. Doni Green, Promoting Independence Advisory Committee representative, Vice Chair
3. Suzanne Barnard, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), Office of Rural Affairs
4. Michael Wilt for David Danenfelzer, Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC) (by telephone)
5. Rev. Kenneth Darden, Advocate for minority issues
6. Diana Delaunay, Financial institutions representative
7. Jennifer Gonzalez, PhD, Nonprofit organization representative
8. Mike Goodwin, Multifamily housing developer
9. Claire Irwin, Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
10. Kevin James, HHSC
11. Donna Klaeger, Rural communities representative
12. Derrick Neal, Health services entities representative
13. Joyce Pohlman, HHSC
14. Jose Ramirez, Texas Veterans Commission
15. Scott Sroufe, TDA, Office of Rural Health

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 present.

1. Approval of May 28, 2020 HHSCC Meeting Minutes

Bobby Wilkinson introduced the meeting minute summaries from the May 28, 2020 HHSCC meeting. Doni Green requested that the minutes be amended to reflect that she was present at the May 28 meeting. Pending that amendment, Ms. Green moved to approve the minutes and Mike Goodwin seconded the motion. There were no additional comments and members voted aye unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

2. Approval of 2020-21 HHSCC Biennial Plan and Report of Findings

Bobby Wilkinson introduced the 2020-21 HHSCC Biennial Plan and Report of Findings. Members engaged in general discussion about the recommendations listed in the Report of Findings. Mike Goodwin moved to approve the 2020-21 HHSCC Biennial Plan and Report of Findings and Donna Klaeger seconded the motion. There were no additional comments and members voted aye unanimously to approve the HHSCC Biennial Plan and Report of Findings.

3. Update on Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program

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Spencer Duran, TDHCA Section 811 Program Director, presented an update on the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) program. The program has housed 506 households during the life of the program and is currently housing 439. Updates include that the program has fully committed its first grant, \$12 million dollars from HUD awarded in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. About 275 households are currently housed using FY 2012 funds. New households are still being housed under the program's second grant, \$12 million awarded by HUD in FY 2013. The program expects to be able to house up to 100 additional households before fully expending those funds. The program has open waiting lists in 34 counties and closed waiting lists in five counties. Lastly, Mr. Duran reported that the program has launched its risk mitigation fund, which will include both damage repair funds and barrier-busting funds. Additional details available in the meeting transcript.

4. Community Services Block Grant Overview

Gavin Reid presented on the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program. Ninety-percent of CSBG funds are provided to CSBG eligible entities for the delivery of services to very low income Texas residents in all 254 counties. These funds support a variety of direct services in addition to helping maintain the core administrative elements of these local organizations. In 2020, TDHCA has received \$35.5 in CSBG funds through the annual allocation process and \$48.1 million in CSBG funds through the CARES Act.

5. TDHCA COVID-19 Response

Brooke Boston, TDHCA Deputy Executive Director of Programs, provided an update on TDHCA's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department has redirected \$11 million in HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance funds to serve households affected by the pandemic and to date has contracted with 20 administrators covering 119 counties to administer those funds. In addition to other redirected funds, multiple TDHCA programs received funds allocated by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These include \$47.4 million in CSBG funds, \$94 million in Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds, \$141.8 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, and \$97.8 million in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. General discussion followed; see meeting transcript for details.

6. Community Resource Centers of Texas, Inc. and Texas Housing Foundation Overview

Donna Klaeger presented an overview of Community Resource Centers of Texas, Inc. (CRC) and the Texas Housing Foundation. CRCs are designed to serve hubs for local, regional and state nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies; CRCs provide these agencies offices in each community where it operates. The organization aims to locate CRCs next to or near affordable housing properties, connecting residents and other community members to service providers. See meeting transcript for details.

7. Next Steps for Council

Danny Shea, TDHCA Housing Resource Center Research Specialist, presented an overview of two projects that Council will undertake for the upcoming year. The first is the formation of a subcommittee focused on policy and planning. Members will meet in between full quarterly

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Council meetings, discuss state agency planning documents and other opportunities for input into planning processes focused on service-enriched housing, and submit comment on behalf of Council. The second project is the development of a service-enriched housing database that will include all state and federally funded properties offering service enriched housing. General discussion followed.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

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

The next HHSCC meeting will take place on October 14, 2020.

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM.