

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Dallas County Administration – 500 Elm Street, Customer Excellence Training Room 7.Y17, 7th Floor, Dallas Texas

February 22, 2023 10:00-11:30am

AGENDA

COVID-19 is hard on all of us but especially hard on our low-income and homeless populations.

Even though we are all doing business differently than before there is value in being able to communicate during these unpredictable times. Thank you for all you are doing and please stay safe.

The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group, with diverse representation, will formulate recommendations on the creation of housing and housing related support services designed to safely divert members of special populations in crisis away from frequent utilization of expensive and sometimes unnecessary inpatient stays, emergency department visits and incarceration.

Success will be measured in placement of consumers in housing and the decreased utilization of higher levels of care (hospitals and emergency care visits) and reduced incarceration in the Dallas County Jail. The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group is committed to a data driven decision-making process with a focus on data supported outcomes.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Reports

a. Governance – Commissioner Theresa Daniel

- Approval of January 25, 2023, minutes
- Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness
- Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee
- Federal & State legislative environment

b. Resources – services, programs, people, funds

- Shelter Discussions
- NTBHA
- Housing Navigator / Homeless Jail Dashboard/St Jude Center
- Housing Authority Report- DHA/DCHA
- ARPA funds Update

c. Projects and Industry Updates

- Housing Forward Update
- Pretrial Diversion and MH screening
- Dallas Connector
- Homeward Bound, Crisis Residential & Respite Services
- Youth Housing
- Family Housing
- Mattingly Report

3. Next Meeting: March 22,2023

Dallas County Administration, 500 Elm Street, 7th Floor, Dallas Texas 75202

January 25, 2023 Minutes

Mission Statement: The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group, with diverse representation, will formulate recommendations on the creation of housing and housing related support services designed to safely divert members of special populations in crisis away from frequent utilization of expensive and sometimes unnecessary inpatient stays, emergency department visits and incarceration.

Success will be measured in placement of consumers in housing and the decreased utilization of higher levels of care (hospitals and emergency care visits) and reduced incarceration in the Dallas County Jail. The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group is committed to a data driven decision-making process with a focus on data supported outcomes.

ATTENDEES: Dr. Theresa Daniel, Dallas County Commissioner; Doug Denton, Homeward Bound; Jim Mattingly, LumaCorp; Eric McCarty, NTBHA; Erin Moore, Dallas County; Tzeggabranhan Kidane, Dallas County; Aaron White, Dallas County I.T.; Amy Gill, Volunteers of America Texas; Janie Metzinger, NTBHA; Ikenna Mogbo, Metrocare Services; Kimberly Onofre, Sharing Life Ministries; Dr. David Woody, The Bridge; Laura Edmonds, DCCJ; Kimberly Rawls, DCCJ; Charles Reed, Dallas County; Mayra Fierro, Texas Appleseed; Renee Arnold, Dallas County; Ken Montgomery, Texas Abilene Homes

Dr. Daniel opened the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.

CALL TO ORDER: The minutes were approved without changes.

GOVERNANCE

Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness:

Commissioner Daniel reported the Dallas Area Partnership January 5, 2023, meeting was canceled due to not having a quorum. The next meeting will be February 10, 2023, and a detailed report will be provided next month.

Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee:

Erin Moore reported that the Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee met on January 23, 2023. The primary discussion was on the wind down of the ARPA funding for eviction prevention. Covid and Mpx numbers in the homeless populations was reported to be significantly lower than previous months. They are continuing to look at cost with comparable cities for homelessness. They will be using those metrics to evaluate the Dallas County cost for a homeless person to make the case that housing, and care is better than leaving them on the street.

Federal and State Legislative Update: Janie Metzinger, NTBHA

Charles Reed reported that the sessions are still very early, and they don't know what the priorities are besides the big-ticket items. He did note that the base budget bills have significant additional investments into mental health as a broad concept. He doesn't know what the actual plan is, but they are supercharging Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) with money for mental health. He suspects that money will be divvied up between behavioral health, substance abuse and housing of some kind, but he is not sure what the details are at this point. Senate finance will be starting their meetings next week so they will know more details on what the plan is on the Senate side. They won't know anything from the House side until mid to late February.

Doug Denton reported that the governor's office has pushed back on a rate increase for substance abuse services because it obligates the state to committing a match to the federal dollars. The state is saying a rate increase will obligate them in perpetuity for this amount. Doug explained that it doesn't necessarily have to. Doug states that the rates with inflation have been horrendous for trying to do the services that they are obligated to do. He also states that there is a disconnect in the communication between the different parts of HHSC, that makes it harder to obtain answers.

Janie reported that the House filed about 1600 bills and the Senate about 600 bills filed through today. Janie stated that every year at the beginning of the Legislative sessions the Texas Comptroller must tell the legislature how much money they will have. This year is record breaking with a beginning balance of \$11 billion from last year and \$32.7 billion this year. There is also money that was unspent which totals out to about \$188 billion. Janie reported that many state agencies are facing workforce shortages, so everyone is asking for pay and rate increases. They are also looking at large things like teacher pay increases and lowering of property taxes. Janie stated that this is not one of the years that they are worried if

funds for behavioral health will be cut. Representative Anchia has proposed a buy down that is quicker and more generous for mental health professionals that provide services in Medicaid, CHIP, or prisons.

RESOURCES

Shelter Discussions: Daniel Roby, Austin Street

Dr. Woody from The Bridge reported that prior to the pandemic they were seeing right under 900 individuals a day for day sheltering services, on Monday they had about 600 individuals for the same services. He explained that the numbers are increasing and approaching the numbers from pre-pandemic. Dr. Woody explained that there are not enough night shelters across the homeless response system and that is a growing issue. There is a growing delta between the number that they are serving for day shelter services and what is offered in terms of the individuals taking care of themselves at night. At the Bridge they have space for about 300 but they have expanded that with an overflow of about 42. The growing issue of the lack of night shelters is exasperated with inclement weather.

NTBHA: Eric McCarty

Eric McCarty reported that with their Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program they are currently serving about 30 households to the tune of a little over 1 million. Eric is still processing information and has about 15 to 20 application that are missing documentation. NTBHA has access to approximately \$600,000 for Dallas County and \$430,000 for the outlying counties under the persons with disability program. NTBHA is currently serving 28 families with 21 of them being Dallas County residents. The COVID 19 emergency funding is still online, and families must be facing eviction to be eligible for this program.

Housing Navigator: Kimberly Rawls, Dallas County

Kimberly stated that both November and December data are included in the report in the meeting packet. The FUSE program will be undergoing funding reconstruction phase. The partners will be meeting to discuss the next steps. There is discussion of the possibility of expanding the book-in requirements to 2 book-ins in the past four years. Kimberly reported that all 13 Dallas County beds at the St Jude Project are all filled. Kimberly is working with the Procurement department to prepare specifications for the bidding process for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) FY 22 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative grant funding award. The Connector on the Dallas County end is running well from the jails.

Homeless Jail Dashboard: Kimberly Rawls, Dallas County

The report was provided to the group in the meeting packet. Kimberly reported that the total numbers of jail book-ins from July to August had an increase 450 jail book-ins. They looked at those numbers to try to determine what caused the spike in the numbers. There has been a steady decline from August to December. Kimberly stated that she researched the weather patterns. She found that July and August had some of the hottest temperatures and could have possibly caused the spike in in the jail book-ins. The offense category numbers for Nov to December show that the assaults, robberies, and theft categories had slight increases. The burglary, criminal mischievous and drug and alcohol offenses had slight decreases.

Housing Authority Report: Thomas Lewis, Dallas County HHS

Thomas Lewis was not available for the meeting but did send in a report. The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) had 124 vouchers allocated by HUD, 108 homeless individuals leased up, 6 open vouchers, and 10 individuals still searching.

CARES Act/ARPA Funds: Charles Reed, Dallas County

Charles reported that they had an active solicitation for several months where they were seeking proposals from the nonprofit community for anything to address the needs that they see out in the community that can be funded with ARPA funds. They contracted out with 34 nonprofits to the tune of about \$49.5 million dollars to deliver services that range from tutoring in elementary schools, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, food pantries, and rental assistance. They continue to work through the 2000-unit affordable housing challenge which is another \$50 million investment made with ARPA funds. There are about 3 that Charles reported have already started with 3 to 4 that are still in the development stages. Charles provided an attachment of summary description of each proposal.

PROJECTS AND INDUSTRY UPDATES

Housing Forward updates: Sara Craig, Housing Forward

Sara Craig was not available for the meeting. Report will be given at next month's meeting.

Pretrial Diversion and Mental Health Screening: Laura Edwards, Dallas County

Laura Edmonds reported that the process of connecting those with mental health needs from the jail to community resources continues to run smoothly. NTBHA has been very helpful with finding boarding home placements for the clients.

Dallas Connector: Daniel Roby, Austin Street

Daniel Roby was not available for the meeting. Report will be given at next month's meeting.

Homeward Bound: Doug Denton, Homeward Bound

Doug reported have struggled with having the mental health impairment identified by the law enforcement officers during check at the Dallas County Deflection Center. Doug also reported that in November they had 29 referrals and in December it dropped to 21 referrals. He stated that due to the holidays they expected an increase but saw a decrease. He reported that they called around to try to find out what could have caused the decrease. On January 7th the numbers started to go back to the normal referring pattern of about one a day. Doug also explained they recently he had a meeting with Darryl Martin and the elected Dallas County Constables. There were discussions about transporting of individuals who need a higher level of care due to decomposition. There was also a meeting with the City of Dallas detention center to discuss the possibility of people who have a history of criminal trespass and public inebriation being given the option to go to the Dallas County Deflection Center.

Youth Housing: Josh Cogan, A Way Home America

Josh Cogan provided a write up on federal youth legislative updates that was included in the packet.

Family Housing: Ellen Magnis, Family Gateway

Ellen Magnis was unavailable for the meeting. A report will be given at next month's meeting.

Mattingly Report: Jim Mattingly, Lumacorp

Mr. Mattingly reported that there has been a trend during 2022 where fewer and fewer new housing units are being absorbed on a quarterly basis. In the final quarter of the year, they had a negative absorption, which means that not only did they not absorb new units, but more existing units became vacant. You are seeing some response in rental rates to the negative absorptions. Occupancy levels declined 1.6% for the quarter and the rental rates were down .6%. Mr. Mattingly noted that the decline in rental rates were in the sub-markets with the rates that are well above average. If you look at the below average sub-markets, you are seeing significant rent increases. For example, the average effective rental rate was reported at \$1,542. Significant 4th quarter rent increases were reported in the following sub-markets: Southeast Dallas (\$1,075) +3.9%, Central Arlington (\$1,220) +2.6%, Mesquite/Balch Springs (\$1,265) +2.4%, Bachman Lake/Webb Chapel (\$1,189), +1.9% and Skillman/Audelia/635 (\$1,206) +1.6%. The sub-markets with the largest decline in asking rents were North Dallas/Midtown West (\$1,782) - 4.7%, Far North Dallas-Tollway West (\$1,383) - 2.9%, West Plano (\$1,816) - 2.7%, Rockwall/Rowlett/Sachse/Murphy (\$1,645) - 2.6% and Frisco/The Colony/Little Elm (\$1,800) -2.5%.

The meeting was adjourned with words of maintaining the efforts by Dr. Daniel.

Next Meeting: February 22, 2023



Texas House Bills

[HB 185](#)-Gonzalez-Amends Texas Education Code 29.081 (d) and 48.009. Related to the inclusion of chronically absent students as students at risk of dropping out of school and the collection and reporting of data regarding those students. Students who are homeless are included in the list of students at risk of dropping out in existing state law. HB 185 adds a definition for the term ‘chronically absent student’. Adds Requires each school district and charter school report the total number of chronically absent students enrolled at each campus or school disaggregated by race, ethnicity and status as students in special education, having dyslexia, educationally disadvantaged, emergent bilingual students.

[HB 272](#)-Julie Johnson-Amends Texas Education Code 5.001 to conform to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

[HB 279](#)-Jetton-Amends Texas Penal Code 20A.01 related to the trafficking of persons. Current statute specifically protects individuals from a shelter, residential treatment center serving runaway youth, foster children, the homeless, or persons subjected to human trafficking, domestic violence or sexual assault. This bill does not propose a change that portion of the law. Adds protection to disabled individuals and clarifies statutory language regarding child sex trafficking.

Companion: [SB 466](#)-Bettencourt

[HB 313](#)-Bernal-Amends Texas Education Code 43.104 to adjust the compensatory education allotment for homeless students or students in foster care under the Foundation School Program. Requires temporary housing between academic terms for students who are homeless or were in foster care. Gives priority access to student housing for students who are homeless. Authorizes memorandums of understanding between the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

[HB 320](#)-Jarvis Johnson-Amends Texas Education Code 51.9356 to designate a liaison officer in institutions of higher education to assist students who are or were in foster care or who are homeless.

*This document is intended for informational purposes only
and is not intended to indicate a position for or against any legislation.*

If you have questions, please contact:

Sabrina Conner at sconner@ntbha.org or Janie Metzinger at jmetzinger@ntbha.org

[HB 342](#)-Bucy- Amends Texas Education Codes 29.153 (a-1), (b), (c), (d), and (f), which is related to providing full-day prekindergarten. Expands eligibility to any child who is at least four years of age. Current law allows district to offer prekindergarten if the district identifies 15 or more children meet certain criteria, including homelessness. That portion of the law does not change. Companion: [SB 38](#)-Zaffirini.

[HB 516](#)-Wu-Amends Texas Education Code 37, Subchapter C to require a report from school districts and charter schools regarding disciplinary or law enforcement actions. One of the criteria to be listed is whether the student is homeless.

[HB 581](#)-Raymond-Amends Tax Code 11.18. Adds children with disabilities in need of residential care to *ad valorem* tax exemptions on properties owned by charitable organizations for the purpose of renting the property at below-market rates to low-income or moderate-income households. Existing law includes individuals who are homeless and have a disabling condition and have been continuously homeless for a year or more or have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the preceding three years.

[HB 741](#)-Goodwin-Amends Texas Tax Code 11.18(d). Similar to HB 581-Raymond.

[HB 772](#)-Allen-Amends Texas Education Code 37. Adds a definition of corporal punishment. Existing law recognizes the challenges faced by students who are homeless.

[HB 780](#)-Collier-Amends Texas Government Code 2306.2585(a0 and (b). Adds local programs to prevent and eliminate homelessness, including programs to prevent homelessness resulting from displacement due to economic development activities. Authorizes the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to adopt rules.

[HB 834](#)-Campos-Amends Texas Government Code 2306.2582 to establish a ‘Text-to-Donate’ pilot program under the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Donations could be made to local programs in municipalities with populations of 285,000 or more, including programs to prevent and eliminate homelessness, to provide emergency housing and transportation. Requires TDHCA to allocate:

- Not less than 65% for costs associated with housing individuals and families.
- Not less than 20% for transportation costs.
- Not less than 5% for program promotion.
- Not more than 10% for overhead and administrative costs.

[HB 870](#)-Patterson-mentions the word ‘homeless’, but is referring to homeless dogs and cats. It regulates animal control agencies, animal rescue organizations, animal shelters and pet stores.

[HB 913](#)-Campos-Amends Government Code 2306. Would establish a statewide homelessness data system.

[HB 1142](#)-Thierry-Amends Education Code 51.9356 –Similar to HB 320-Jarvis Johnson, above.

[HB 1292](#)-Campos-Amends Local Government Code 11, Subtitle A to add provisions for access to mobile showers in municipalities with populations of 500,000 or more.

[HB 1426](#)-Campos-Amends Texas Government Code 2306.

Directs the Interagency Council for the Homeless to evaluate, encourage, provide incentives for, and monitor the participation by providers of services to the homeless throughout the state in a regional or statewide homeless information system. Goals are to:

- Achieve statewide participation in the management information system.
- Improve collaboration and coordination of services.
- Increase transparency and accountability.
- Prevent the loss of state and federal funding for services to the homeless.

Requires the Interagency Council to make quarterly reports to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs on:

- The rate of participation in the system by service providers.
- Barriers to achieving statewide participation including data input and quality control.
- Potential solutions to barriers.
- Available funding sources to provide resources and incentives for participation.
- Estimated timeline for updates and customization.
- Compliance with procurement regulations.
- Compliance with privacy laws.
- Feedback from participating and non-participating service providers on the ease of access to participate and the local of the system administrators.
- Recommendations from system administrators throughout the state.
- Data-driven scenarios that have improved the provision of services.

The Council may seek assistance from the Texas Homeless Network or any other organization in Texas with a network of service providers to the homeless.

[HB 1523](#)-Campos-Amends Texas Government Code 2306, Subchapter K. Directs Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to establish a housing mobility program to counties with populations over 500,000.

- Grants and loans to provide incentives to landlords to accept tenants participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.
- Allows use of any available revenue.
- Directs TDHCA to adopt rules, guidelines and provide a mechanism for allocation of available funds.

HB 1523-Campos-continued

Amends Local Government Code 392, Subchapter D to authorize the program.

- Directs local housing authorities to recruit families and landlords to participate.
- Landlords must agree to participate for a minimum of three years.
- Properties must be single-family homes.
- Families must hold housing vouchers, be on a housing voucher waiting list, be homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
- The local housing authority shall:
 - Conduct individual and annual inspections of each property.
 - Coordinate with the landlord regarding time and date of inspection.
 - Prepare and make available an inspection checklist of each item to be inspected.
 - Whether each item was in satisfactory condition.
 - List items that must be in compliance, items that must be brought into compliance within 30 days and items that must be brought into compliance before the next annual inspection.
 - Screen and rank tenants based on credit history, residential references, criminal history, employment verification, personal interview, personal statement by applicant regarding other household members, questions tailored to the applicant, and additional criteria recommended by participating landlords.
 - Require tenants to attend a class regarding lease requirements, landlord requirements, tenant liabilities regarding repairs and maintenance, property management, lawn maintenance, role of neighborhood associations and home ownership associations, utility assistance programs, early departure consequences, tenant eviction process, and the lease renewal process.
 - Produce and mail a quarterly newsletter containing the above class information.
 - Collect the tenant's rental deposit and share of the first month's rent.
 - Deliver the deposit amount and the full amount of the first month's rent to the landlord.
 - Deliver the full amount of the monthly rent to the landlord on or before the move-in date.
 - Deliver the full amount of the monthly rent to the landlord on or before the first day of each month.
 - Collect the tenant's share of the monthly rent within the first five days of the month.
 - Receive all complaints by tenant and landlord and seek amicable solution.
 - Shall pay the penalty if an action, or a failure to take action by a tenant results in a fine, fee, or charge by a legal entity against the landlord.
 - Shall reimburse the landlord who pays the above penalty within 30 days.
- The local authority may
 - Award a grant of not more than \$5000 to rehabilitate the property for initial inspection.
 - Pay the landlord the landlord an amount not to exceed two months' rent for lost rent due to a tenant's eviction, early lease termination or last-minute nonrenewal of a lease.
 - Pay \$2500 to repair tenant-caused property damage if the cost of repair exceeds the security deposit.

HB 1523-Campos-continued

- Initiate an eviction proceeding due to late payment, nonpayment, noncompliance with the lease, written request of the landlord, or any other reason considered appropriate and legal by the authority.
- Applicants ranking in the top 10% are automatically eligible to participate.
- Applicants shall provide notice of departure or nonrenewal of the lease on or before the 30th day before vacating the premises.
- Landlords may not charge rent that exceeds:
 - 120% of the median rent for similar units in the same zip code in school districts ranking A or B in the most recent school district by the Commissioner of Education.
 - 100% of the median rent for similar units in the same zip code in school districts ranking C, D, or F in the most recent school district by the Commissioner of Education.

Requires establishment of the housing mobility program no later than January 1, 2024.

[HB 1557](#)-Campos-Amends Texas Government Code 411, Subchapter Z. Directs the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to establish and administer a homeless impact grant program to public improvement districts in counties or municipalities in which the most recent point-in-time count exceeds 500 unsheltered homeless individuals.

[HB 1677](#)-Jetton-Amends Texas Health and Safety Code 191, Subchapter A. Texas Transportation Code 521.4265 (b) and (c).

- Would allow a person who is homeless to request a certified copy of the individual's birth certificate.
- Would direct the state registrar, a local registrar, or a county clerk to issue a certified copy of the birth record without a fee.
- Would direct the Texas Department of State Health Service (DSHS) to adopt rules for a process to verify the person's status as a homeless individual, prescribe the documentation necessary for the issuance of a driver's license or personal identification.
- Would require DSHS to allow certification of homelessness to include a letter from a director of an emergency shelter, transitional housing program funded by US Department of Housing and Urban Development; a shelter for homeless individuals; a transitional living program; or a law enforcement agency of a Texas county or municipality.

[HB 1917](#)-Walle-Amends Texas Government Code 2306. Establishes the Texas Tenant Readiness and Landlord Incentive Pilot Program.

[HB 2081](#)-Klick-Amends Business and Commerce Code Title 5, Subtitle A. Would require registration of vision support organizations that provide support services to optometrists. Exempts nonprofit corporations that performs eye care services primarily for homeless, migrant, indigent, or medically underserved populations. Companion: [SB 820](#)-Kolkhorst

[HB 2131](#)-Raymond-Amends Texas Government Code 2306.2585(a). Would reduce the population size of municipalities that can be overseen by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs from 285,000 to 250,000. This change would include Houston, San Antonio, Dalla, Austin, Fort Worth, El Paso, Arlington, Corpus Christi, Plano, adding Irving, Lubbock, Laredo and Garland at present. <https://worldpopulationreview.com/states/cities/texas>

[HB 2181](#)-Rose-Amends Texas Government Code 2306. Would allow Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to establish and administer a youth and young adult homeless housing and services grant program which includes:

- Construction, development or procurement of housing.
- Financial assistance to local providers to prevent and eliminate homelessness.
- Increase access to safe housing and services.

TDHCA may adopt rules, provide allocation of funds, and prescribe detailed guidelines.

[HB 2244](#)-Campos-Amends Texas Government Code Title 4, Subtitle I. Would direct HHSC to establish a statewide pilot project to provide supportive housing service through Medicaid to persons experiencing chronic homelessness.

- Defines chronic homelessness as an individual or family as:
 - Living at a safe haven, emergency shelter, or place not meant for human habitation.
 - Homeless for the continuous preceding year, or on at least four separate occasions in the past three years.
 - Head of household has a diagnosed substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairment resulting from a brain injury or a chronic illness or disability or a co-occurrence of any two or more of the above diagnoses.
 - Individuals who have been in institutional care such as jail, substance use or mental health treatment facility, hospital or similar facility for less than 90 days, but who met the above requirements before entering care, remain qualified for the program.
- Services available through Medicaid in the pilot project would include:
 - Mental health and substance use services.
 - Case management.
 - Personal care and personal assistance.
 - Home and community-based services.
 - Other housing support services.
- HHSC would establish eligibility criteria for participation that considers:
 - An individual's health conditions, and housing status,
 - Current or potential costs of providing supportive housing services through Medicaid.

HB 2244-Campos-continued

- Supportive housing services to be provided to project participants:
 - Outreach and engagement.
 - Housing search assistance.
 - Education on tenant's rights and responsibilities.
 - Eviction prevention services.
 - Supportive housing services plans.
 - Coordination with primary care, home health care, substance use treatment, mental health treatment, vision services, dental services, hospital care, emergency room services, crisis intervention, critical time intervention, education on independent living skills, links to education, job skills training and employment opportunities.
- HHSC should use financing and reinvestment strategies that account for:
 - Costs of providing health care to Medicaid recipients.
 - Costs of providing health care to recipients of supported housing services.
 - Costs of providing health care services to individuals under the Affordable Care Act.
 - Housing status of Medicaid recipients.
 - The degree to which accurate and current housing status information is available on Medicaid recipients.
 - The pilot project's effects on costs to other entities such as jails, long-term care facilities and treatment facilities.
 - Affordable housing investments that can be leveraged for participants' housing opportunities.
 - Amount of flexible service dollars to cover project costs.
- HHSC should address the administration of pilot project benefits including the roles of managed care, supportive housing services providers and coordination with existing and emerging health care systems.
- Requires a preliminary report by June 1, 2024 to include:
 - A summary of the project's progress.
 - Assessment of the effect of supportive housing services on the costs to provide services.
 - Assessment of the effect of services to individuals experiencing chronic homelessness.
 - Medicaid plan waivers or amendments necessary.
 - Supportive housing services provided at the time of the report.
 - Analysis of the services provided at the time of the report.
 - Estimate of costs and potential savings.
 - Proposed modifications of eligibility criteria.
 - Legislative recommendations.
- Final written report is due September 1, 2026. Enabling legislation expires September 1, 2027.

Texas Senate Bills

[SB 38](#)-Zaffirini-Amends Texas Education Codes 29.153 (a-1), (b), (c), (d), and (f), which is related to providing full-day prekindergarten. Expands eligibility to any child who is at least four years of age. Current law allows district to offer prekindergarten if the district identifies 15 or more children meet certain criteria, including homelessness. That portion of the law does not change. Companion: [HB 342](#)-Bucy.

[SB 89](#)-Johnson-Amends Texas Education Code 29.153 (b) related to free prekindergarten classes for three year olds. Current list of eligible children includes children who are homeless. This part of the law does not change. Adds children of primary or secondary school classroom teachers.

[SB 466](#)-Bettencourt-Amends Texas Penal Code 20A.01 related to the trafficking of persons. Current statute specifically protects individuals from a shelter, residential treatment center serving runaway youth, foster children, the homeless, or persons subjected to human trafficking, domestic violence or sexual assault. Proposed bill does not change that portion of the law. Adds protection to disabled individuals and clarifies statutory language regarding child sex trafficking. Companion: [HB 279](#)-Jetton

[SB 719](#)-Paxton-Amends Texas Tax Code 11.18(d) regarding exemption from *ad valorem* taxation of property owned by a charitable organization that provides services related to the placement of a child in a foster or adoptive home. Current statute includes organizations that provide housing and related services to individuals who are homeless. This part of the statute does not change. Updates language regarding children with disabilities. Adds exemption for organizations providing services related to planning and or placement of children in foster or adoptive homes or providing support or relief for women who are or may be pregnant and are considering placing their unborn children for adoption.

[SB 820](#)-Kolkhorst-Amends Business and Commerce Code Title 5, Subtitle A. Would require registration of vision support organizations that provide support services to optometrists. Exempts nonprofit corporations that performs eye care services primarily for homeless, migrant, indigent, or medically underserved populations. Companion: [-HB 2081](#)-Klick



Dallas County Criminal Justice (DCCJ) Housing Navigator February 2023 Report

FUSE Project

December 2022 Jail FUSE Data

(January 2023 FUSE Data will be sent later)

December 2022 Jail FUSE Data		Total Clients Triaged for FUSE		385
Referral Source				
Jail FUSE Navigator Triage	345	NTBHA Living Room Referral		0
Defense Attorney Referral	7	Shelter/Street FUSE Navigator Referral		10
Another Referral Source	14	Pretrial Referral		9
Client Triage/Referral Outcomes				
Released to Another Program or Agency	12	Referral Banned from Shelter		0
Client Refused to be interviewed or Participate or Interview attempt	8	Client didn't qualify for FUSE		144
Immigration Hold	11	Client report not being Homeless		2
Released (i.e., Posted Bond)	77	Qualified referred by Shelters/Street Outreach		4
FUSE bond denied	0			
Pending Client Referrals				
Waiting on info, Waiting on Bond to Post, and pending attorney response	106	In Quarantine/Medical/Interview Pending		12
Total Released from Jail to FUSE				9
Shelter Assignment				
Austin Street Center	2	The Bridge		7
Salvation Army	0	Referred to or by Street Outreach		0
Other	0	No Response		0
Shelter Connection Rate				
Austin Street Center	1	The Bridge		2
Salvation Army	0	Other		0
No Response	0	Client Abscond/Did Not Connect		6
Housed or placed on the Housing Priority List or Info sent to MDHA				2

St. Jude Project

- All 13-Dallas County beds are occupied.

Housing Services for Homeless Criminal Justice-Involved Clients (HSH-CJC) Grant

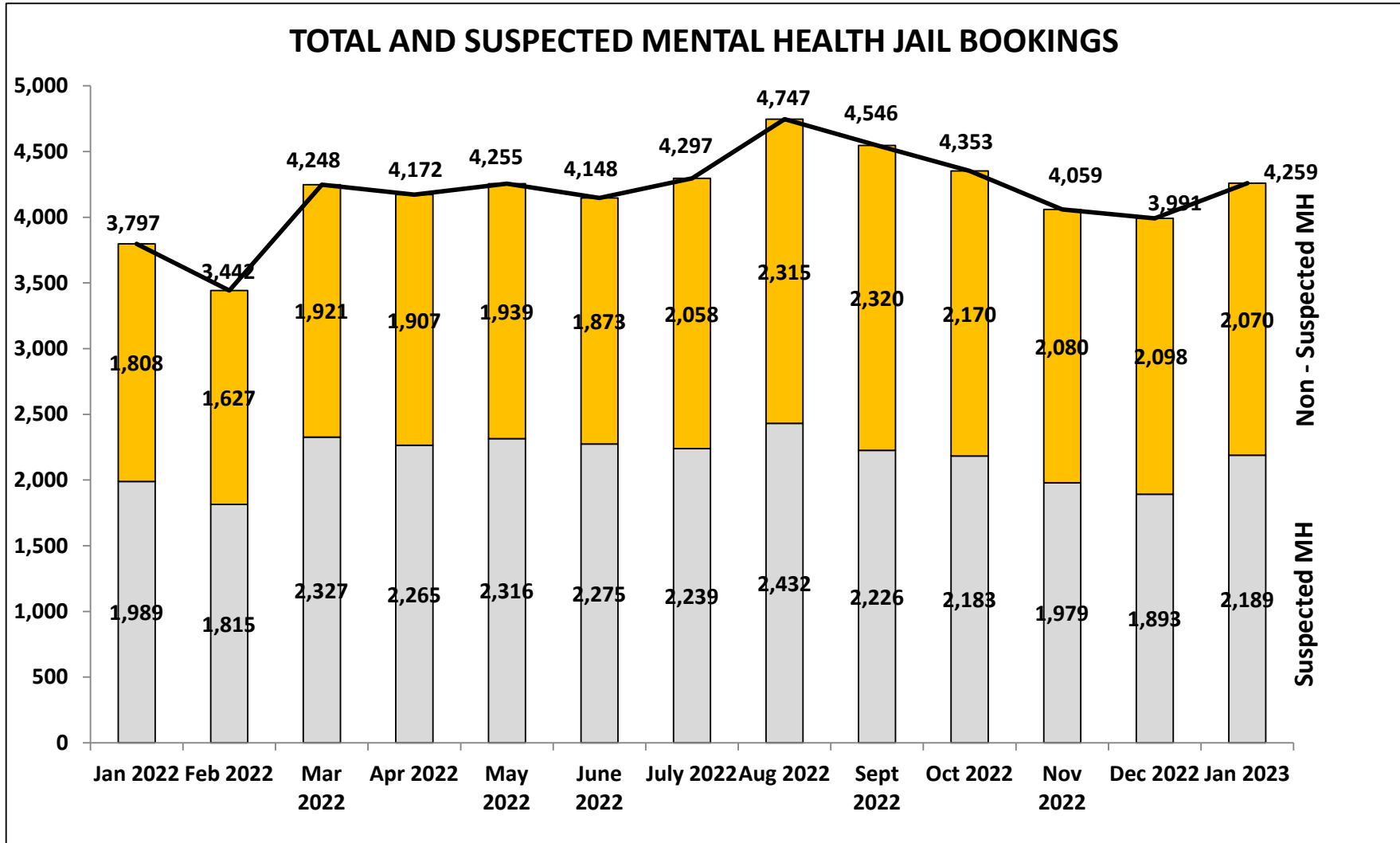
- I am working to complete the Online Financial Grant Management training required by the BJA.
- I also had my first meeting with the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center's Training & Technical Team.
- Last, I am continuing to work with the Procurement dept. to prepare specifications(specs) for the bidding process for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) FY 22 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative grant funding award.

Dallas Connector Project (DCP) Dallas County Client Utilization – Transport to the NTBHA LR from the Jail and or the LR to the FUSE Shelters

The NTBHA Livingroom (LR) Staff conducted jail releases for individuals going to the Livingroom and Austin Street's report would contain the January 2023 jail data.

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

JAN 2023 Homeless Report Snapshot



DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Breakdown and Avg LOS - Dec 2022 to Jan 2023

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Dec 2022	Suspected MH	1,893	47%	% of total bookings [3,991]
	Homeless	408	10%	% of total bookings [3,991]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	278	68%	% of total homeless [408]

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Jan 2023	Suspected MH	2,189	55%	% of total bookings [4,259]
	Homeless	409	10%	% of total bookings [4,259]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	292	72%	% of total homeless [409]

Month/Yr	Avg LOS Total Bookings [days]	Avg LOS Homeless Bookings [days]
Dec 2022	7	10
Jan 2023	7	9

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Primary Offense Categories - Dec 2022 to Jan 2023

Offense Categories	Dec 2022 total	Dec 2022 %	Jan 2023 total	Jan 2023 %
Arson	2	0.5%	0	0.0%
Assaultive	54	13.2%	50	12.2%
Burglary	17	4.2%	17	4.2%
Criminal Mischief	5	1.2%	9	2.2%
Criminal Trespass	65	15.9%	52	12.7%
Drug/Alcohol	75	18.4%	93	22.7%
Evading	12	2.9%	15	3.7%
False Info/Fail to Identify	17	4.2%	21	5.1%
Fraud	4	1.0%	7	1.7%
HOLDS	51	12.5%	40	9.8%
Murder	2	0.5%	1	0.2%
Other	31	7.6%	37	9.0%
Prostitution	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Resist	4	1.0%	5	1.2%
Robbery	13	3.2%	8	2.0%
Sexual Offense	5	1.2%	7	1.7%
Theft	36	8.8%	32	7.8%
UUMV	15	3.7%	15	3.7%
TOTAL	408	100.0%	409	100.0%

HOLDS: Citation/Tickets, Insufficient Bonds/Insufficient Bond Warrants, External Holds (Transfer to another county), and Parole Violations

Other: Offense categories with one or two charge occurrences of monthly bookin totals (i.e. Terrorist Threats, Child Endangerment, Stalking, etc.)

UUMV: Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle (i.e. Joyriding)

HOUSING FORWARD UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2023

On February 2, 2023, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced a first-of-its kind package of resources to help communities implement a coordinated approach to ending unsheltered homelessness. The national award totaled nearly \$315 million, of which the All Neighbors Coalition received \$22.8 million. This award helps the local homeless response system expand Diversion efforts that prevent people from becoming unsheltered and increases the availability of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Funds will go directly to several leading homeless service providers to deliver these proven solutions to homelessness. Housing Forward has released an information sheet with more information about the funds and the grant process. Scan the QR code.



SYSTEM PERFORMANCE METRICS

(Q1-Q4 2022 METRICS)

Rare

35%

Increase in housing
placements since 2020

Brief

82 Days

Average # of Days in
Housing Search

Non-Recurring

94%

Remained Housed
After 6 months

ALL NEIGHBOR COALITION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

We are actively renewing and adding new members to the All Neighbors Coalition. If your organization would like to be a part of a collective of over 120+ organizations, individuals and municipalities working in collaboration to solve homelessness, please renew or join today! Visit: <https://housingforwardntx.org/all-neighbors/>



POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) COUNT UPDATE

Our annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count has been completed across Dallas and Collin Counties. This annual initiative allows us to better understand year-to-year trends and gather critical information from individuals experiencing homelessness that are considered both sheltered and unsheltered. Our data team and a 3rd-party data consultant go to work to ensure the data is accurate and reliable. We only share city-specific information or public numbers once all data and submissions have been reviewed and checked for accuracy. This thorough analysis process takes several months to ensure our data is accurate. The official data will be shared on April 13th at our annual State of Homelessness Address.



DALLAS R.E.A.L. TIME RAPID REHOUSING

(AS OF 2/07/23)

Through the Dallas R.E.A.L. Time Rapid Rehousing initiative we are rehousing our most vulnerable neighbors experiencing homelessness. It relies on the support from our private and philanthropic community for flexible funds to ensure we can remove all barriers to housing.

DALLAS R.E.A.L TIME RAPID REHOUSING (DRTRR)

1611

Totalled Housed

95

Average Days
in Search

99%

Remained Housed
After 12 months

ENCAMPMENT DECOMMISSIONING

(AS OF 1/20/23)

Brings together partners with a common mission to end homelessness and resolve public health risks with a focus on rehousing. Encampment Decommissioning continues to be an innovative solution for our neighbors experiencing chronic homelessness. We are continuing to seek and build new partnerships with street outreach workers across our Dallas and Collin County footprint to increase alignment and our ability to rehouse more people out of encampments. The goal is to house our neighbors quickly while providing immediate connections to supportive services.



136
Individuals
Housed

VETERAN UPDATE

All Neighbors Coalition has started the official process of declaring an effective end to Veteran Homelessness with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). Through cross-system partnerships with the Veterans Administration we've achieved critical milestones and surpassed the goal for VA National Housing Challenge.

1570
Total Veterans
Housed Since 2019

50%
Reduction in Veterans
awaiting a housing solution
since April 2022

Only 10
Veterans Experiencing
Chronic and Long-Term
Homelessness

UNIT CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We exceeded our 250 unit goal for our first quarter unit campaign and are working to distribute those across the system. Since mid-December when we started the unit push: 302 available units have been brought into the system with 137 being held with a deposit. We are currently working with 180+ landlords and property owners. Contact our Housing Location Team to learn more at landlordinfo@housingforwardntx.org.

INCLEMENT WEATHER SHELTERS

Stay up to date with inclement weather shelter openings by following our social media channels. We are so grateful for the volunteers, organizations and cities who are working to provide inclement weather shelters during this critical season for our neighbors. Visit our website to learn more about our inclement weather shelter locations across Dallas and Collin Counties: <https://housingforwardntx.org/help-resources/>



If you haven't already, follow us on social media @housingforwardntx and check out our, We Are Neighbors podcast.





Point-in-Time (PIT) count Update

Our annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count (our census of neighbors experiencing homelessness) has been completed across Dallas and Collin Counties. This annual initiative allows us to better understand year-to-year trends and gather critical information from individuals experiencing homelessness that are considered both sheltered and unsheltered. This summary helps describe the steps our Housing Forward team takes after the annual count each year:

Our data team and a 3rd-party data consultant go to work to ensure the data is accurate and reliable. To ensure the integrity of the data collected during the annual Point-in-Time count, we focus on these four priorities:

- Follow [HUD's guidance and standards](#) to ensure there are no duplicate entries or entries for people who were not experiencing homelessness on the night of the count.
- Correct any location errors to ensure data accurately reflects the precise area where the information was collected.
- Review of each geographical area to ensure all areas within Dallas and Collin Counties had the proper coverage.
- Final collection of data from all agencies to ensure information is captured for those staying in shelter on the night of the count.

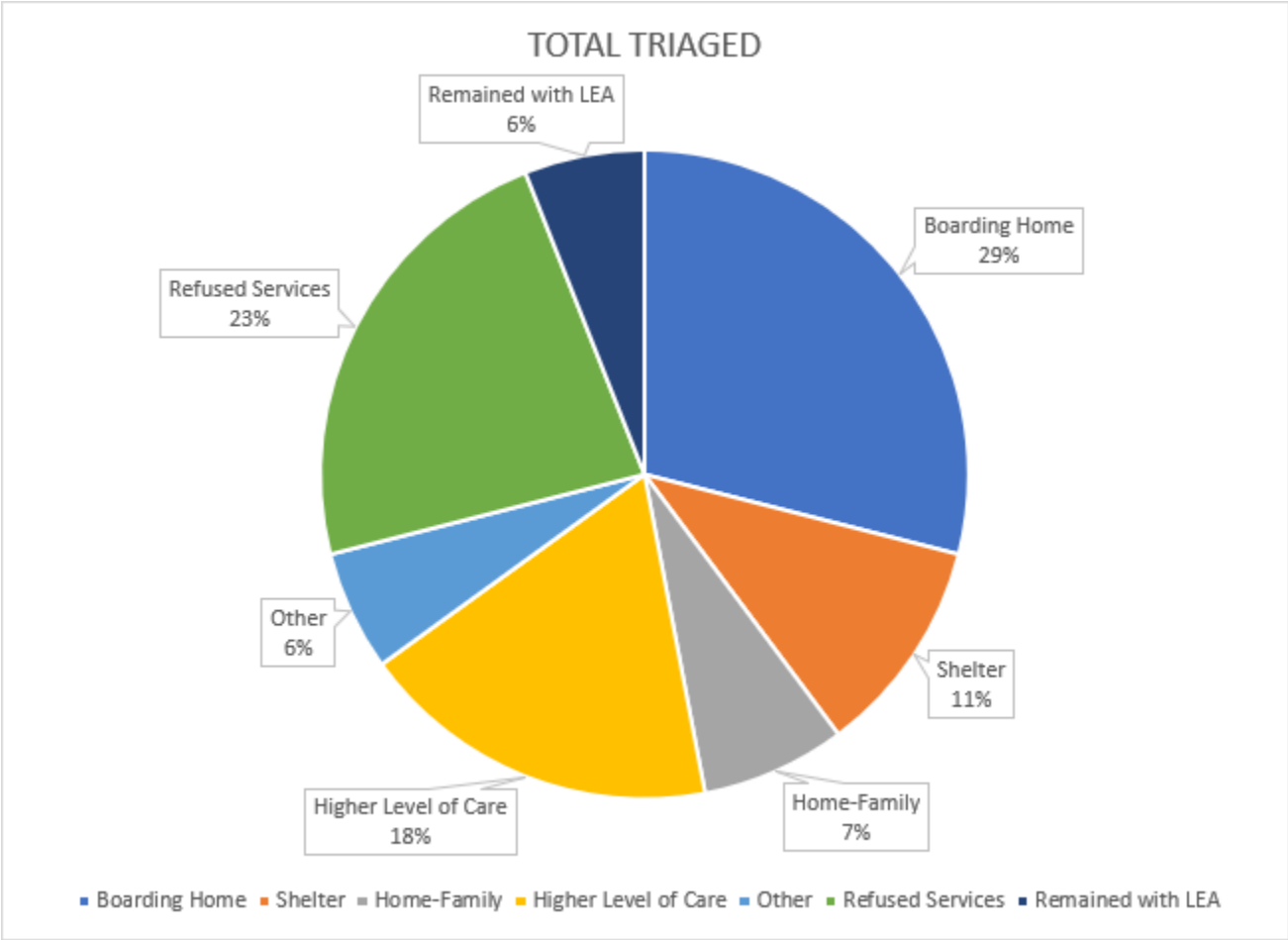
We only share city-specific information or public numbers once all data and submissions have been reviewed and checked for accuracy. This thorough analysis process takes several months to ensure our data is accurate. All Point-in-Time count data will be shared with the public, cities, and our broader All Neighbors Coalition on April 13th at our annual State of Homelessness Address. Details on how to attend or watch the State of Homelessness Address will be shared soon.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, please contact info@housingforwardntx.org.

DALLAS COUNTY DEFLECTION CENTER

2022-23	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	TOTAL
TOTAL TRIAGED	0	2	17	14	29	21	22	9	0	0	0	0	114
Referral Source													
Dallas PD													0
SC Div		1	4	4	4	2	3	2					20
SW Div					4	1	3	1					9
SE Div			3	1	2	4	1						11
NC Div					2	2	1	1					6
NE Div				6	5		2	1					14
NW Div			2	1	2			1					6
CEN Div		1	3	1	6	7	4						22
Right Care						1	1						2
Dallas Marshal - CDC			1										1
Great SW Coalition					3	1	1	1					6
SE Coalition													0
NTBHA MCOT							5	1					6
													0
DART PD			4		1	1							6
DCHD - Parkland PD				1		2	1	1					5
TRIAGE OUTCOME		2	17	14	29	21	22	9	0	0	0		
Psych Crisis Residential					1								1
Detox-Withdrawal Mgmt													0
Living Room-NTBHA*		1	4	6	9	2	1						23
CMHP Services													0
ACT Team						3							3
OTHER SUD Services							1						1
Shelter													0
Austin Street			1	1	1	1							4
Bridge													0
Salvation Army				1	2								3
Union Gospel Mission													0
Other						2							2
Home-Family		1		3	1	1	1	1					8
Boarding Home					1	1							2
Higher Level of Care													0
Behavioral Health			4		4	2	6						16
Physical Health			1		1	3	3						8
Veterans Administration				1									1
LEA Maintained Custody			2		3		1	1					7
Still in Service							4	5					9
Refused Services			5	2	6	6	5	2					26

Dallas County Deflection Center
Housing Work Group Meeting
February 22, 2023



Federal Updates – Josh Cogan
Housing Work Group Meeting
2/22/2023

Federal Updates:

- YHDP (Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project) re-authorization bill with Sen. Coons (D-DE) will not be moving forward at this time. Sen. Collins (R-ME) will be exploring pathways for funding through the appropriations process

- PYHDP (Prevention of Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project) language is being tightened up and will hopefully be introduced by Sen. Murray (D-WA) by March

- **SAVE THE DATE:** A Way Home America and True Colors United will be hosting a combined Hill Day in Washington, D.C. on **Wednesday, April 26th**, which is also the annual "True Colors" day; our theme is "Nothing For Us, Without Us," so we encourage any CoCs/providers to bring their Youth/Young Adults with Lived Expertise (YYALE) with them (we're encouraging at least 51% of participants from CoCs/providers to be YYALEs).