



Our Vision:

Prevent and end homelessness in San Antonio / Bexar County.

Our Goal:

Homelessness will be rare, brief, and nonrecurring.

Continuum of Care Board of Directors Meeting

Craig Hopkins, Board President

Chamber of Commerce NBC
1100 NW Loop 410, Suite 109
San Antonio, TX 78213

February 28, 2019
3:00 – 5:00 PM

The following agenda items may not necessarily be considered in the order they appear.

1. Call to Order – 3:08pm

Board President Craig Hopkins called to order the February 28, 2019 Board Meeting of the South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless at 3:08 PM.

2. Present: Craig Hopkins, Martha Lieper, Greg Matula, Meghan Garza-Oswald, Estella Garza, Robert Blanton, Sheriff Roy Fletcher, Marie Lopez, Gary Chance, Kenny Wilson, Katherine Dillard, Lori Stinson, Leslie Komet, Salina Santibanez, Morjorie White, Leilah, Powell, Brenda Mascorro, Katie Vela, Chelsey Viger

Guests: Katherine Dillard Gonzalez, Gary Chance, Kenny Wilson, Josefa Zatarain-Flournoy

Absent: Edward Gonzales, Eddie Ortega, Tiffany Walker

3. Public Comment

Josefa Zatarain-Flournoy presented her comments regarding the Alamo Area Council of Government. Her program is a collaborative effort between the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and Health and Human Services. They serve veterans, people with disabilities, individuals, and families. Ms. Zatarain-Flournoy reported that she was wanting to learn more about SARAH and how she can continue to increase the number of people her organization serves.

4. Board Member Recognition

Craig Hopkins reported that there were several Board members he would like to recognize for their service. First, he recognized that Meghan Oswald was elected Woman of the Year and thanked her for her many contributions to the HMIS Committee and Membership Council. Second, Robert Blanton and the Sheriff's Office were recognized for their collaboration during the Point-in-Time Count in January. Next, Edward Gonzales and Morjorie White were recognized for speaking at the Point-in-Time Count and representing SARAH. Last, Leslie Komet was recognized for her contributions during the Point-in-Time Count related to the committee as well as her extensive help with the media aspect of the event.



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SARAH NONPROFIT BUSINESS

5. Consent Items

Craig Hopkins presented the minutes from the December 13, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting and the November and December Financial Reports. There were no comments or changes. Motion by Meghan Oswald, seconded by Martha Leiper, motion passed.

6. Executive Director Report – Brenda Mascorro

Brenda Mascorro presented an idea of including a section on the agenda for anyone to discuss or share items related to SARAH's mission so that we can all stay abreast on what is happening in the community. There was a unanimous agreement. Lori Stinson commented that the governor has issued a challenge for suicide awareness, PTSD treatment, and mental health awareness among Veterans, military personnel, and first responders. There have been a few roundtable discussions outside of Austin and they are looking for experts in the field. She reported she would send the information to SARAH staff.

Brenda presented a summary of the 2019 Point-in-Time Count. She reported that SARAH received around 60 volunteer feedback surveys and that as a team we discussed opportunities for improvement as well as successes surrounding the event. The top three successes were: well-coordinated overall; participation of the Street Medicine San Antonio team; and the amount of media involvement and attention. The top three challenges were: the issue with Team Leads not showing up to the event or deciding they would not like to have the responsibility at the time of the event; transportation issues; and police office assignments. Another opportunity for improvement is the re-vamping of the PIT Committee, which will now include seats for different aspects of PIT.

Katie Vela presented on the PIT data and when it will become available for review. First, she noted that with the government shutdown earlier this year, the timeframe may be pushed back a bit. Jayde Beebe at SARAH is currently obtaining the aggregate counts which will be imported into the HUD quality check system that opens tomorrow. The Veteran list must be sent off to the VA to be reviewed to ensure accuracy. The biggest clean-up effort will be the chronic homelessness numbers. Other facets of the data that will be analyzed are aging/elderly population, medical information gathered for Street Medicine San Antonio, length of homelessness, compare those surveyed last year to determine number of people housed. If there are any other factors of the data that someone would like to be considered, they can submit this request to Katie Vela.

Brenda asked if the Board had any feedback for PIT 2019. Martha Leiper reported that she counted in a different zone this year and only counted one person. Furthermore, she reported that they came across some encampments where it appeared as if people had been living there but somehow knew the PIT was occurring that night. Marie Lopez concurred with this feedback, explaining that she felt all of the media attention may have caused people to hide. Brenda remarked that the city encampment



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clean-ups had been occurring on Thursdays so perhaps that may have affected numbers. Robert Blanton stated that they do try to suspend clean-up efforts but that this can become problematic. Estella Garza recommended that next year, we coordinate with probation officers as they also have outreach efforts. Salena Santibanez reported that Southwest Keys checks for runaway youth on probation. She also made a comment regarding Spanish-speaking trainings, which Brenda remarked we will make sure and have next year. Greg Matula reported that he felt the staging went flawless. Kenny Wilson congratulated everyone for the great event.

Brenda reported on the FY2018 CoC Award Announcement, stated the funding totals \$9.7 million. The highlights included many newly created projects included an HMIS expansion, Coordinated Entry expansion, and family violence prevention services.

Brenda presented the new SARAH Organizational Chart. She reported that SARAH will have 15 positions by the end of this year. The Coordinated Entry Director position was created and accepted by Clifford Cantu, formally with the Center for Health Care Services. Salena Santibanez asked if SARAH was following the Mayor's Housing Taskforce. Brenda reported that Bill Hubbard, former SARAH Executive Director, was included in this taskforce and had relayed some feedback. Meghan Oswald recommended reaching out to Ian Rodriguez with the Coordinated Dashboard and how these systems can be connected. Brenda responded that Ian has been included in their discussions. Craig remarked that the organizational chart helps make it crystal clear that the three major facets of homelessness – entry, support, housing – are included in SARAH's structure.

Next, Brenda presented the newly created Committee & Workgroup Structure, which helps visualize the various committees and workgroups and how they interact with the Board. Craig reported that this was very helpful for showing for what the Board is responsible, not SARAH as the nonprofit.

Katie Vela reported on recent meetings with the San Antonio Housing Authority regarding homeless preference vouchers. SARAH was able to allocate 40 for move-on preference and 20 for literally homeless families. Katie reported that SAHA is putting a lot of effort into helping homeless individuals. If approved, this will go into effect in late July.

Last, Brenda reported that SARAH is participating in the Big Give, which occurs March 28, 2019. She presented the tagline as "Smart Solutions. Ending Homelessness." She said all funds raised will be used to divert families from experiencing homelessness. Meghan presented a suggestion of calculating the cost of diverting a family from a shelter and where exactly a donor's money will go.

7. Sign Updated COI/Code of Conduct Agreement Forms

Craig reported that the annual conflict of interest disclosure statements were due and asked everyone to fill them out before they left the meeting.



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CONTINUUM OF CARE BUSINESS

8. Membership Council Report – Marie Lopez

Marie Lopez presented the updates from Membership Council.

- Veteran Workgroup – The workgroup continues to work to reduce down the Veteran numbers. Craig asked the Veteran workgroup to follow up with the Board on the current Veteran numbers and how they have changed recently in light of an op ed piece in the paper that reported numbers were on the rise. Marie remarked that there were a few complications with that, including establishing community-wide definitions of a Veteran and a homeless Veteran dashboard. Craig requested that the workgroup present an update on whether ending Veteran homelessness is on par or if we are losing traction. Request from Craig – update on the story, are we on par or are we losing traction?
- Chronic Workgroup – Brenda mentioned the move on preference regarding Chronic Homelessness and stated they will work on obtaining an accurate number of those experiencing chronicity.
- Youth Workgroup – The Youth Workgroup has been focusing its efforts on the Youth PIT Count, which occurred on January 22nd. The meetings consisted of training volunteers on the counting app. Furthermore, the group discussed a handout on Early Child Homelessness, received an update from Roy Maas Youth Center regarding outreach efforts in January, and continues to work through the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness’s benchmarks for addressing youth homelessness.
- Housing Standards Workgroup – The workgroup most recently discussed the Standardized Habitability Inspection form, landlord engagement events and updates regarding the Risk Mitigation Fund. At the next meeting, the workgroup plans to rethink the inspection process and discuss the landlord appreciation celebration in May 2019. SARAH is creating a survey regarding move-in-kits that will be sent to providers. This survey will help discover what are the most needed items for clients and how the current process is working to obtain these goods. Leilah Powell reported that the Housing Mitigation Fund would be great to benefit to this workgroup. Katie Vela reported that the chair, Ashley Adkins, has been trying to recruit someone from the Housing Mitigation Fund department to co-chair this workgroup. Brenda agreed that this workgroup needs to make sure these efforts are coordinated.
- Family Homelessness Workgroup – Kami King from Haven for Hope was elected as the Family Workgroup chair. The co-chair position is open and has been posted. The Family Workgroup will begin meeting in March 2019.

Meghan Oswald requested a directory of those who belong to each workgroup that can be made accessible to Board members.



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Craig Hopkins requested strategic planning from the workgroups, including their goals and objectives that can be measured by the Board. Brenda believes these goals should be drafted by the workgroups and given to the Board to be approved. Craig asked that this be brought up at Membership Council.

9. Approval of New Member – Alamo Community Colleges, SHARE Center

Brenda Mascorro reported that this organization was vetted by SARAH staff in person, online, and via telephone. Leilah Powell recommended reaching out to the other colleges – St. Phillips and San Antonio College – to see what types of services they have for those experiencing homeless and if there is any collaboration with the colleges. Motion by Martha Leiper, seconded by Meghan Oswald, motion approved.

10. HUD Updates – Katie Vela

Katie Vela presented the criteria for becoming a High-Performing Community. Craig reported that Edward Gonzalez has been using this document as a place to start to determine if the city was considered “high-performing” so he feels it is a valid tool. Katie reported that we would not necessarily be eligible for an increase in funding but that we would be eligible to receive prevention funds. Craig reported that as the CoC, we set our own goals so we need to decide if this is the direction we would like to head in. Estella Garza stated that knowing the metrics for each category would be helpful to see if we are on track. Craig asked Brenda to determine the workload for that type of project to see if it is worthwhile.

Katie then presented the Longitudinal Systems Analysis Update. She stated there was a new report from HUD that they will be providing us with more analytical tools.

11. Diversion Strategy & Plan – Katie Vela

Katie Vela presented the Diversion Pilot Proposal. She explained it’s important to distinguish diversion and prevention. She reported that diversion is not required by HUD but that it is best practice. Haven for Hope currently has diversion programs so SARAH met with their staff to discuss gaps in the system. The new diversion staff member who will begin in November at SARAH will potentially spend some time working at the Haven campus. Estella Garza reported the importance of having this staff person coordinate with the homeless liaisons and asked to be put in touch once this person begins their position. Martha commented that it’s important to differentiate homeless diversion with criminal justice diversion programs.



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12. HMIS Advisory Committee – Meghan Oswald

Meghan Oswald reported that the Membership Application has been completed for the HMIS Advisory Committee. Standing seats have been created; applicants will go to membership council on March 28th to be vetted. The first meeting will be in May, trying to coordinate with ICF to get technical assistance. Brenda reported that the last day to submit applications in March 8th and we have received two applications thus far.

13. HMIS Report - Katherine Dillard

Katherine Dillard presented an update on the Strategies Document. She reported that there are specific tasks delegated to SARAH as well as HMIS and that each project has a deadline and a column to present updates. She also stated there are certain tasks that made more sense for the CoC Board or HMIS Advisory Committee to complete. Craig requested a status update from these strategies earlier than the next Board meeting.

Katherine then presented the HMIS Data Cleanup Update. The estimated completion date was today; however, issues were uncovered during Phase 1, which created the need for Phase 2, which is estimated to be completed June 2019. Everything listed in Phase 1 is complete. Craig asked Katherine how she feels about people in the community thinking the data is “clean” now. Katherine reported that the HMIS manager is developing an operations/policies and procedures document with the consultant so that they are built into permanency on the team. Craig asked what the expectations are for the consumer. Katherine stated that there needs to be a process set up with the providers so that they can define the process. Meghan suggested comprising a top five mistakes in data entry that can be given to the providers. Brenda stated there will be a meeting with ICF to discuss how to communicate the changes.

Katherine gave an HMIS staffing updated, stating that they have hired two system administrators and a new data quality specialist. She reported that Daniela has moved to a different position at Haven and that David Huete and Amanda Flores are the two point of contacts for HMIS.

Regarding the HMIS NOFA submission, Katherine is waiting to hear back from HUD if it moved to phase two of the application process. She is assuming they will receive notice in March/April.

Katherine stated that there is a Bexar County funding opportunity and that they are considering funding HMIS with ESG dollars. She anticipates they will release funding notification in early March for a start date in October.

Regarding opportunities in 2019, Katherine stated they will be adding two positions and if the Bexar County funding comes through, an additional two. HMIS is continuing to receive feedback with vendor transitions and plans to discuss this with ICF, who will provide a recommendation at a Haven for Hope advisory committee. Brenda stated that ICF wants to meet with the Board and that she is looking for as much participation as possible from the Board.



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14. Discuss Special Call Meeting in May – Brenda Mascorro

Brenda Mascorro reported that the special Board meeting in May will be taking place with the following agenda items: New NOFA Policy Approval; System Measures Final Report.

15. Upcoming SARAH Meetings and Events

Next SARAH Board Meeting

Next SARAH Membership Council Meeting

April 25, 2019 3:00 – 5:00 PM Chamber of Commerce, NBC 1100 NW Loop 410, Suite 109	March 28, 2019 2:30 – 4:00 PM American GI Forum 611 N. Flores St., Suite 200
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Committee Meetings & Working Groups

Title	Point of Contact	Event Details
Youth Homelessness Workgroup	Tyler Shoesmith, NEISD tshoes@neisd.net	March 1, 2019 9:30 – 10:30AM SARAH Conference Room 4100 E. Piedras Drive, Suite 105
Veteran Workgroup	Marc Wonder, COSA Marc.Wonder@sanantonio.gov	March 6, 2019; March 20, 2019 1:00 – 4:00PM Veteran’s Outreach Transition Ctr. 202 Connelly St.
Chronic Homelessness Workgroup	Morjorie White, COSA Morjorie.White@sanantonio.gov	March 8, 2019 2:00 – 3:00PM Haven for Hope Volunteer Center Volunteer Room A/B
Housing Strategies Workgroup	Ashley Askins, Haven for Hope Ashley.Adkins@HavenforHope.org	March 5, 2019 11:00 – 12:00PM The Salvation Army 521 W. Elmira St.
HMIS Advisory Committee	Katie Vela KatieVela@SARAHomeless.org	TBD
Point-in-Time Count Committee	Katie Vela KatieVela@SARAHomeless.org	TBD
Coordinated Entry Committee	Katie Vela KatieVela@SARAHomeless.org	TBD



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16. Topics for April Board Meeting

- Coordinated Entry Committee Bylaws
- Elect Membership Council Chair
- PIT/HIC Data Reports

17. Adjournment