# A Way Home for Tulsa

## CoC Leadership Council Agenda

**August 25, 2020 | 11:00am | Zoom Conference Call**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Time Allotted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Call to Order</td>
<td>Jeff Hall, Chair</td>
<td>5 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Roll Call</td>
<td>Erin Velez</td>
<td>5 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. June Meeting Minutes Approval*</td>
<td>Jeff Hall, Chair</td>
<td>10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. What’s Your Why?</td>
<td>Jeff Hall &amp; Melanie Goldman</td>
<td>5 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Headlines of 2021</td>
<td>Breakout Session</td>
<td>15 min</td>
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<td>6. Lead Agency Report</td>
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<td>20 min</td>
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<td>7. Coordinated Entry System</td>
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<td>8. Task Force Updates</td>
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<td>9. Strategic Plan Progress Report</td>
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<td>10. Move On</td>
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<td>11. Public Comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Announcements &amp; Celebrations</td>
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<td>13. Adjourn</td>
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- **COVID Status Report**
- **NOFA Update**
- **Data Review**
- **HMIS**
- **Street Outreach**
- **Policy Update***
- **Emergency Prioritization***
- **CES – Erin Willis**
- **HMIS - Vacant**
- **Networking – Beth Svetlic**
- **Discharge Planning – Sarah Grounds**

Bridget Kurtt DeJong, Greg Shinn

1. Call to Order: Jeff Hall, Chair
2. Roll Call: Erin Velez
3. June Meeting Minutes Approval*: Jeff Hall, Chair
4. What’s Your Why?: Jeff Hall & Melanie Goldman
5. Headlines of 2021: Breakout Session
7. Coordinated Entry System: Erin Willis
8. Task Force Updates: Erin Willis
10. Move On: Homebase Greg Shinn
11. Public Comments: 10 min
12. Announcements & Celebrations: 10 min
13. Adjourn: 10 min
**AWH4T CoC Leadership Council**
*Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 11:00 am*

**Attendance**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Representation</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>James Wagner</td>
<td>City of Tulsa</td>
<td>Appointed</td>
<td>2020-</td>
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<td>Karen Keith</td>
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<td>INCOG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melanie Stewart-Goldman</td>
<td>Provider Agency, U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs</td>
<td>Elected</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mack Haltom</td>
<td>Provider Agency, Tulsa Day Center</td>
<td>Elected</td>
<td>2020-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Shinn</td>
<td>Provider Agency, Mental Health Association Oklahoma</td>
<td>Elected</td>
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<td>Jim DeLong</td>
<td>Participant Advisory Group</td>
<td>Elected</td>
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<td>Pete Patel</td>
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**Next CoC Leadership Council Meeting**

*Tuesday, October 27th | 11:00am-1:00pm*
AWH4T CoC Leadership Council Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2020 | 1:00pm | Zoom Conference Call

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Hall.

Roll Call

Attendance record follows minutes.

March Meeting Minutes Approval

Nancy Curry moved to approve the April meeting minutes with no changes. Matt McCord seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lead Agency Update

The Schusterman Family Foundation & Tulsa Area United Way are partnering with Restore Hope to fund rent expenses for people who received evictions before March 31st. To receive these funds, landlords will be asked to not file evictions for 3 months. Action Tulsa volunteers are on site at the county courthouse to help tenants access resources.

Staffing Updates

- Erin Willis has joined Housing Solutions as the Director of Data & Analytics.
- Macy Dale is our intern for the summer and will be supporting data analysis efforts.
- Liz Maine is our Urban Leadership Fellow and will be working on a volunteer database and eviction prevention community education.
- We are renewing the contract with ISOK for HMIS.

THANK YOU!!!

- The Salvation Army and Tulsa Day Center have partnered to operate the Overflow Shelter at the former Juvenile Detention Center so that numbers could be reduced at the regular shelters. Iron Gate provided meals to the participants. We are beginning the discussion about our step-down plan.
- City Lights and Youth Services are partnering to operate a Quarantine Hotel for people who are more vulnerable to the virus or who have been exposed and need to isolate.
- Coordinated Outreach teams have modified their services to make sure that people who are unsheltered are still receiving information and supplies.
- Greg Robinson and Major Matt McCord are working to address inequities and make sure that people have the right to peaceful protest in Tulsa.
Discharge Policies to Quarantine Hotel

*Tyler Parette, Program Manager at City Lights*
- City Lights has been operating the hotel with funding from Ascension St. John and ESG dollars through the City of Tulsa. YST is partnering with City Lights to help with HMIS.
- CL is working with clients on exits to permanent housing. Referrals are coming from shelters, community providers, and hospitals.
- CL is taking as many precautions as possible – masks, isolation, etc.
- Partnered with local restaurants for meals.

*Sarah Grounds, Executive Director at City Lights*
- Acuity at the hotel is higher than expected.
- Connecting people to resources, including medical resources has been a huge benefit to participants.
- Gap – Hospitals are discharging patients without housing to the street. People are being discharged from hospitals without discharge plans and unfilled prescriptions.
- Best Practice – The social worker at the hospital connected the patient’s RN with City Lights staff. They were able to have a discussion with the RN to make sure they understood the patient’s needs. This patient will now be housed and will not be returning to the street. Communication is key!

Discharge Planning Task Force

Jeff Hall called for a motion to approve a Discharge Planning Task Force with Sarah Grounds as the Champion. Claudia Brierre moved to approve the Discharge Planning Task Force with Sarah Grounds serving as the Champion. Donnie House seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Networking for AWH4T Members

Melanie Goldman discussed the opportunity for AWH4T members to network with one another. The next all-member meeting is in July. We would like to create some networking opportunities during that meeting.

Jeff Hall called for a motion to create a Networking Task Force. Nancy curry moved to create a Networking Task Force. Jeff Jaynes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

No nominations were offered for the Champion, so they will be solicited via email.

NOFA Discussion

Homebase presented the recommendations from the CoC NOFA Task Force. (PPT and NOFA Document are included in appendices).
- Notice of Funding Availability through the Department of Housing and Urban
Development (HUD)

- This notice kicks off a national competition for funding
- Last year, Tulsa received over $3 million of renewable funding, an increase of 12% since 2018
- Increasing renewable funding is crucial to maintaining and expanding the community’s portfolio of programs
- The review panel will rank the applications and send to the leadership council for an approval vote. Applications will then be sent in with the collaborative application.
- Rhene Ritter is the Champion of this Task Force and Nancy Curry is the Sponsor.
- Nancy noted that the task force reviewed the feedback from last year to incorporate into this year’s process.
- Greg Shinn noted that these are highly complex metrics, and how the money is spent is very important.

Systems Analysis Presentation

They Systems Analysis includes data to show what is happening in the CoC. The summary is included in the appendices.

Public Comments

- Erin Willis asked that we reestablish a Coordinated Entry Task Force to make sure that we are following requirements and maintaining efficiency. Jeff Hall called for a motion. Nancy Curry moved to establish a CES Task Force. Melanie Goldman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  ➢ Nominations for the Champion will be solicited via email.
- Erin Willis asked that we reestablish a HMIS Governance Task Force. Jeff Hall called for a motion. Greg Shinn moved to establish an HMIS Governance Task Force. Claudia Brierre seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  ➢ Nominations for the Champion will be solicited via email.
- Greg Shinn thanked everyone who helped convert 12th Street Safe Haven to Permanent Supportive Housing. The chronic homeless count decreased by 21 when that happened.
- Family Promise is starting an apartment shelter program that can house 24 families with their 90-day program. This will be in addition to their congregation housing. Lindsey House and MHAOK are partnering to make this program successful.
- Travis Hulse with the City of Tulsa talked about how they are working on being more intentional with CDBG dollars. This will be similar to the Strong Neighborhoods initiative in OKC.
- Ms. Gomez with the IRS spoke about the economic impact payment. They are asking for help getting out information out to people experiencing homelessness. Flyers were distributed via email.
- Jeff Jaynes is building a network of organizations working on eviction prevention. If you know of an organization working in this space, please email
Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned.

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AWH4T CoC NOFA Task Group
Recommendations

Tulsa City & County CoC NOFA
The CoC NOFA

- Each year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releases a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
- In 2019, the Tulsa City and County CoC received preliminary awards in the amount of $3,150,860
  - An increase of renewable funding of 12.4% over 2018
- Increasing renewable funding is crucial to maintaining and expanding the community’s portfolio of programs
- The CoC Consolidated Application is made up of three parts: CoC Application, Project Applications, CoC Priority Listing
  - HUD typically rewards CoCs that have coordinated, inclusive, and outcome-oriented community processes for the solicitation, objective review, ranking, and selection of project applications
The Local Competition

1. CoC NOFA is released

2. Homebase facilitates a **TA workshop** for prospective applicants to review competition requirements, processes, and timeline

3. Housing Solutions recruits at least four non-conflicted **Project Review Panel Members**

4. Applicants prepare and **submit application materials**

5. Project Review Panel Members individually **review and tentatively score** applications for renewal and new projects
6. **Panel meets** to jointly discuss each application, conduct short in-person interview sessions with applicants, and score applications.

7. **Scoring results**, reallocation recommendations, and Panel feedback are released to applicants.

8. **Appellate hearings** are held, if requested, and results are distributed.

9. **Leadership Council** considers and modifies/approves the CoC Priority Listing.

10. The CoC’s Consolidated NOFA Application is made available for public review and reference on the Tulsa CoC website and submitted to HUD.
Proposed CoC Standards of Operations

- Clarify the roles of the CoC NOFA Task Group, Leadership Council, Project Review Panel, Collaborative Applicant, and Homebase
- Provide step-by-step instructions to guide the project application solicitation, submission, review, and ranking process, including but not limited to:
  - Applicant responsibilities
  - How scoring tools will be applied
  - How the Project Review Panel will approach ranking
Proposed CoC Standards of Operations (continued)

• Guide the Project Review Panel in considering partial or full reallocation of CoC funding based on:
  • Unspent funds
  • History of reallocation
  • Poor performance
  • Inability to meet financial management standards
  • Projects at risk of not being funded and alternative funding sources available to support them
  • HUD covenants on acquisition, rehabilitation, and new construction
  • Impact on system performance and CoC Consolidated Application score
  • Impact on the community in light of community needs

• The impact of this policy is that high-scoring projects may be reallocated if these considerations warrant that decision
Proposed CoC Standards of Operations (continued)

• Clarify the appeals process, including:
  • Allowable basis for appeals (must relate to specific scoring factors and the number of points awarded)
  • Courtesy notice to agencies whose rank may be affected and who will be eligible to appeal as a result
  • Appeals panel members and responsibilities

• Outline a process for strategic allocation of CoC funding within Tier 2 based on alternative funding sources available and impact on CoC housing inventory and resources to address homelessness

• Clarify that an individual can be disqualified from participating on the Project Review Panel due to conflict of interest based on the relationship an immediate family member to an applicant organization
Proposed CoC Funding Priorities

- Each project will be scored, and therefore prioritized, for funding based on its:
  - Contribution to system performance
  - Housing First alignment
  - Data quality
  - Proposed strategies to promote racial equity
  - Proposed strategies to effectively support chronically homeless, young adult, and/or unsheltered populations in regaining and maintaining housing stability
A Way Home for Tulsa’s Strategic Plan calls for an annual system analysis to identify gaps in services provided or populations served, inequities in populations served, duplications or inefficient practices, or other opportunities for improvement.

### Data Sources:
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Unite Us
- American Community Survey (ACS)
- Point-in-Time (PIT) Count
- Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
- Tulsa Equality Indicators
- Gallup-Tulsa CitiVoice Index Results
- A Way Home America
- The Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan
- Lived expertise focus groups
- Comparable national and city performance

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### Key Finding: System Performance Measures

**Needs Improvement:**
- **Unsheltered** homeless population continues to increase
- **Returns to homelessness** are above national average and trending up
- Percentage of households served that **access housing** is significantly below national average and trending down

**Going Well:**
- 95% of persons experiencing homelessness who are housed **maintain housing**
- At 43%, **jobs and income** growth for CoC program participants is exceeding national average performance by 10% and trending up

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### Key Finding: Racial Inequity

**Compared to the overall homeless population:**

**People who are Native American** were:
- **More likely** to be homeless and chronically homeless;
- **More likely** to have serious mental illnesses, physical disabilities, and substance use disorders;
- **Less likely** to be served by crisis housing and;
- **Less likely** to maintain housing or successfully exit to other permanent housing when served by permanent supportive housing.

**People who are Black or African American** were:
- **More likely** to be homeless, but
- **Less likely** to be unsheltered, and
- **Less likely** to have a substance use disorder.

**Persons who are Hispanic/Latinx** were:
- **Less likely** to be assessed for housing,
- **Less likely** to have health insurance, and
- **Less likely** to successfully exit rapid rehousing.
Key Finding: Young Adults (18-24)

Compared to the overall homeless population:

- Young adults are least likely to be served by crisis housing
- Young adults are more likely to have serious mental illnesses
- Young adults successfully exit rapid rehousing at lower rates
- Young adults have higher than average access to employment income, but significantly lower than average access to cash income and non-cash benefits, including health insurance
- Relatively few young adults are referred to housing through coordinated entry and those that are referred experience extremely long wait times.

Key Finding: Housing First

AWH4T has committed to Housing First, an evidence-based practice in which people experiencing homelessness are not rejected from housing due to financial history, income, rental history, criminal convictions unrelated to tenancy, or sobriety.

- Even people who have been assessed and prioritized for housing through coordinated entry experience high referral rejection rates
- A significant number of persons are referred without having received a vulnerability assessment
- Persons with disabilities are more often turned away from rapid rehousing programs
- People with criminal background, no employment, no income or no identified housing have increased barriers to accessing permanent housing

Key Finding: Data Limitations

- While crisis response programs are sheltering people at and above their occupancy levels, no data exists to analyze how to best bridge this system gap
- Fewer than one in five emergency shelter residents are assessed with the standard vulnerability assessment
- The needs of people at risk of homelessness are not collected and documented in a useable way
- System analysis does not include programs that do not record data in HMIS (e.g. VA, DV)

Bottom Line:

As data quality and completeness improve, areas of low performance may be identified in future analyses.

System performance may trend downward before it starts to improve.