



Amarillo CoC (COCTX-611) General Membership Meeting Minutes

May 8th, 2025

Black Historical Cultural Center: 901 N. Hayden **10:00 AM**

Called to order by Shanna at 10:02am

- I. Welcome and CoC Overview: Shanna provided a presentation over the CoC's mission ("to build a stronger community through collaborative solutions to ensure homelessness is rare, free, and not recurring"); emphasis on the CoC's role as a collaborative group, not a non-profit; discussion of the funding cycle (potentially every two years), and the importance of coordinating service delivery across multiple providers and systems. **CoC Key Functions and Limitations** -Overview of key CoC functions: system planning, data collection, service prioritization, resource allocation, performance monitoring, advocacy, and partnership development. Discussion of limitations: inability to force compliance, create new resources, solve upstream issues (housing market conditions, economic factors, healthcare deficiencies, criminal justice policies), or directly provide services. Concerns raised about funding cuts impacting nonprofits and staff resources.

II. Committee Reports (12:18-29:03)

A. Shelter Committee Report presented by Virginia:

Discussion: Updates on shelter bed availability (Cenikor, Transformation Park Cabin and Safe Space), policy changes regarding extreme weather access at the Salvation Army, and issues with hospital discharges (lack of hygiene support, medication access). Requested **Action Items:** Advocate for showers at hospital ERs; ensure adequate medication for weekend discharges.

B. Lived Experience Advisory Subcommittee Report (15:31-29:03):

Discussion: Concerns about individuals falling through the gaps in services, lack of access to resources outside of Guy Sanders Resource Center; need for mental health professionals to assist individuals struggling with hoarding and other issues; concerns about ADA compliance and accessibility at Transformation Park; cases highlighting individuals needing immediate housing assistance but lacking timely access. Proposal for a domestic violence and sexual assault peer support group.

Requested Action Items:

- Secure volunteers (mental health professionals) to assist individuals struggling with hoarding and related issues at the Guyon Sanders Resource Center encampment.
- Address ADA compliance and accessibility concerns at Transformation Park, particularly regarding larger cabin spaces for individuals in wheelchairs.
- Prioritize housing for vulnerable individuals (e.g., those with traumatic brain injuries, veterans in dire conditions).
- Lacey wants to start a domestic violence and sexual assault peer support group. Michelle asked her to reach out to Family Support Services for help.

IV. Leadership Updates and Point-in-Time Count

Discussion: Announcement of Kraig Stockstill's departure as CoC chair and James Bellar's appointment as vice-chair; review of the Point-in-Time (PIT) count methodology, data collection methods, and results (641 individuals experiencing homelessness, breakdown by gender, shelter status, veteran status, and chronic homelessness); discussion of challenges in accurately counting individuals experiencing homelessness.

Requested Action Items: Explore options for improving the accuracy of the PIT count data, specifically for individuals staying in temporary situations (hotels, etc.) Develop local data collection enhancements that provide a clearer local picture, though not affecting the federal reporting.

V. Upcoming Events and Announcements

Discussion: Announcement of a crisis forum summit (June 24th), the CoC conference in November (seeking sponsorships), and various agency events/announcements from attendees.

Requested Action Items: Promote the crisis forum summit and CoC conference; secure sponsors for the CoC conference.

VI. Attendee Introductions and Announcements

This section contains individual introductions and announcements from various attendees, including upcoming events and initiatives from their respective organizations. These are summarized within the individual committee report and upcoming events sections above where relevant. Casie Stoughton did share about the new Amarillo Public Health Women's Clinic and the services and about the measles.

VII. Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:03 AM