Amarillo Continuum of Care
(CoC TX-611)
Board of Directors' Meeting Agenda

Date of Meeting: July 8, 2026, at 8:30 am
Location: Hillside Church North Grand Campus, 3508 NE 24th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79107

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Introductions**

3. **Consent Agenda**
   a. Consider approval of minutes (June 10th Board Meeting, June 26th Board Meeting)

   b. Written Committee Reports:
      - Shelter Committee- No report submitted
      - Lived Experience Advisory Committee by Lacey Epperson

   c. Collaborative Applicant Written Report

4. **Discussion Items**
   a. Scoring and Ranking Committee Appointments (Thursday, July 30)

   b. Appeals Committee Appointments (Thursday, August 6)

   c. Homebase Presentation, Nick Mitchell: CoC Board Training

   d. Collaborative Application scoring priorities

   e. September Agency Spotlight recommendations

5. **Non Consent Agenda**

6. **Adjournment**

Lived Experience Advocacy Subcommittee Report 7/2/26

Report prepared by: Lacey Epperson subcommittee chair

1) **Summary of activities:** We met on June 9th and June 23rd.
2) **Attendance:** We had a representative from RHN come and present on June 9th.
3) **Key Updates/Highlights:** We successfully held our 2nd memorial for our friends that have passed away in collaboration with Food not bombs, Amarillo street medics and Amarillo Housing First on Sunday June 27th @3 PM at Elwood Park. It was very successful. We had probably close to 100 people in attendance with food, and a station for photos, candles, and chalk and bubbles to celebrate the lives of those we know who aren't with us anymore. We are currently in conversation with The PARC to see if we can't get a meeting space there once or twice during the summer. The attendance is lacking at the moment I believe because of the heat and most people are going to The Parc during the day? Haven't had confirmation whether or not we can, but we are working on it.
4) **Board Discussion Items:** N/A
5) **Challenges/Gaps:** Access to showers and laundry are still an issue at this point as the individual who was assisting with the laundry is no longer employed at the laundromat. The systemic challenges with folks that need long-term medical care and shelter is still a huge concern.
6) **Next Steps:** Press on regardless of the obstacles and hindrances that are in place at the moment.
7) **Lived Experience Meetings:**

July 7th and 21st 10:00 AM @ The Hub

CoC Collaborative Applicant Report

Report Prepared By: Stefanie Rodarte-Suto & Shaira Joyce, Collaborative Applicant Representatives

Meeting Date: July 8, 2026

1. **Summary of Activities**
   Provide a brief overview of major activities, meetings, submissions, monitoring activities, technical assistance, or coordination efforts completed since the last report.

   Homebase TA, CoC Application: We are currently working with Homebase to process and develop our approach to the FY 2026 CoC NOFO released by HUD on June 1. We will continue to work with Homebase through submission of the Collaborative Application on/before August 26.

   CoC NOFO: CoC Local policies and scoring tools were approved by the Board on June 26. The local competition opened on July 1 and will conclude on July 27. Materials and timelines are posted on the CoC website:
   https://www.amarillo.gov/community-development/continuum-of-care/
   No letters of intent have been received to date, but applicants have until July 10 to submit the LOI. We will submit LOI for our renewal applications, HMIS and Coming Home.

2. **Key Updates**
   HUD/NOFO guidance, PIT/HIC activities, HMIS, Technical assistance, Monitoring or compliance, Funding opportunities, System coordination activities

   HMIS: We are working with Clarity to outline support and customization needs. This process is ongoing, as we are working closely with the company to sufficiently prepare agencies for platform updates that will take effect this fall. We are also preparing HMIS policy updates to present to the Board for review in the coming months.

We are still missing current inventory numbers from some HMIS participating agencies. We will continue to work with agencies to update inventory.

3. **Board Discussion Items**

   Topics the CA is submitting for Board input or discussion.

   Scoring/Ranking (3) and Appeals Committees (3) members should be appointed during July's Board meeting. All members must be non-conflicted.

   HUD- Collaborative Application scoring: HUD has identified over 100 points (of 200) that CoC's can receive through partnerships with key agencies. We have identified these partnerships as essential to improving our score to increase the competitiveness of our final application. Scoring guidelines can be found on pg. 70 of the NOFO: https://files.simpler.grants.gov/opportunities/18c6dc79-e5dd-42e9-aca5-b35c5d26eded/attachments/0ead4b33-e9a1-4934-92b3-65ed41847905/Foa_Content_of_CPD-2600-DC-0025.pdf
   The higher our community scores, the better our chances to receive Tier 2 funding (potential funding could add $1M to our community efforts to alleviate homelessness). The CA will work with the EC to execute MOUs with these agencies in the coming weeks.

4. **Challenges or System Needs**

   Identify barriers, gaps, risks, or capacity concerns impacting CoC operations or system performance.

   Coordinated Entry is still missing in our community. We have concluded our CE workshops through HUD provided TA, and we are using that information to apply for a coordinated entry project. We will meet again with our regional rep in the coming weeks.

5. **Upcoming Dates/Events**

   List important meetings, HUD deadlines, trainings, competitions, or community events.
   July 10: Letters of intent to apply for a CoC project is due.

July 27: Local competition closes
July 30: Scoring and Ranking Committee meets to score applications and create priority listing
August 5: Appeals due
August 6: Appeals panel meets, if necessary
August 7: Board representative finalizes priority ranking
August 10: Final scoring and ranking of all projects due to HUD

Amarillo Continuum of Care (CoC TX-611)

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: June 10th, 2026, at 9:00am
Location: Hillside Christian Church – N. Grand, 3508 NE 24th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79107

- **Board Members Present**
  - James Bellar, Lacey Korn, Michelle Shields, Steve Smart (via Microsoft Teams), Virginia Williams Trice, Stefanie Rodarte-Suto, Juan Maldonado, Rudy Montano
- **Board Members Absent**
  - Major Tex Ellis, Audra Rea
  - *Board Member Appointees Absent: Janell Menahem, Dianne Ridgway*
- **Observers in Attendance**
  - Shaira Joyce (CA), Jackie Simmons (CA), Nick Mitchell (Homebase), Rusty Donelson, Kathy Olson, APD Officer Padron, APD Officer Blanco

1. **Call to Order**
   a. The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am by James Bellar.
2. **Consent Agenda**
   a. *Consider Approval of Minutes*
      i. Michelle Shields motioned to approve the May 13th Board minutes, as well as the May 22nd board meeting minutes. Juan Maldonado seconded the motion. All were in favor, none were opposed. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved.
      ii. During discussion, Lacey Korn noted a correction to the May 13th General Meeting minutes. The wording should be changed from "honoring deceased community member" to "honoring deceased community members."
      iii. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto moved to approve the May 13th General Meeting minutes with Lacey Korn's proposed correction, changing "member" to

"members." Michelle Shields seconded the motion. All were in favor, none were opposed. The motion passed, and the minutes will be corrected.

b. *Written Committee Reports*
   i. A motion was requested to accept the written committee reports that had been distributed via email. Rudy Maldonado moved to accept the reports, and Michelle Shields seconded the motion. All were in favor, none were opposed. The motion passed.

c. *Collaborative Applicant Written Report*
   i. Michelle Shields moved to accept the Collaborative Applicant Written Report. Juan Maldonado seconded the motion. All were in favor, none were opposed. The motion passed.

3. Discussion Items

a. *Introduction of New Board Members (Michelle Shields)*
   i. The board discussed the status of the new members and applicants. Dianne Ridgway with the Amarillo Children's Home is currently on vacation so she will be introduced during the next board meeting. Janell Menahem with 2-1-1 Texas Panhandle United Way Helpline was not in attendance, and Robert Burton with Faith City Mission had to decline the nomination as he mentioned he doesn't have the capacity to be an active board member.
   ii. Board nominees will be introduced during July's General Membership meeting and the membership will vote on their appointment.

b. *TA Provider, Nick Mitchell, Homebase*
   i. Nick Mitchell with Homebase presented to the Board, followed by discussing Board capacity planning. He explained his presence during the meeting was to gather feedback on what the Board would like to see from this process, and he noted the follow up Board training in July, including a review of the details of the plan.
      1. Members of the Board brought up several points, such as discussions about coordinated entry, and the police officers in attendance brought up the need for after-hours communication.
      2. Michelle Shields brought up the point of addressing the issue in the general meeting as there are more organizations there that need to be included in the discussion.
   ii. Nick Mitchell closed out his portion of the agenda and thanked everyone for their feedback.

c. *The Board discussed the July Board training and meeting schedule.*
   i. To ensure adequate time for training and regular business, Board members discussed moving the July Board meeting start time to 8:30 a.m.

d. *The next General Membership Meeting will be held on July 8th following the Board meeting.*
    i. The Board discussed creating a promotional flyer for the General Membership Meeting.
    ii. Members discussed attaching a script to accompany the current flyer. Michelle Shields suggested issuing a press release to local news outlets.
    iii. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto stated that her team would provide any support needed. She also noted that a formal vote was not necessary. Michelle Shields will update and resend the calendar invitation accordingly.

e. *Lacey Korn announced the memorial service honoring unhoused and formerly unhoused individuals who have passed away.*
    i. The service will be held on Saturday, June 27, at 3:00 p.m. Board members were encouraged to attend.
    ii. Virginia Williams Trice requested that names of deceased unhoused or recently housed individuals be forwarded to Lacey for inclusion in the memorial.

f. *PIT Presentation – Requested Data Review (Shaira Joyce)*
    i. Shaira presented an overview of PIT Count data and requested Board feedback.
        1. Topics presented included:
            a. Youth homelessness data
            b. Domestic violence data
            c. Shelter count breakdowns by agency
        2. The presentation highlighted:
            a. Areas where data was incomplete or missing
            b. Data elements that were not collected consistently through Clarity and other reporting systems
            c. Reasons for missing information within survey responses
        3. Discussion included concerns regarding data quality and completeness. Members noted that incomplete data impacts Continuum of Care performance and may negatively affect HUD application scoring.
    ii. *Lacey Korn* departed the meeting at **10:10 a.m.**
    iii. *Rudy Montano* departed the meeting at **10:10 a.m.**

g. *NOFO- Review of timeline and upcoming needs from the Board.*
    i. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto reviewed the upcoming NOFO process and timeline.
    ii. Key dates discussed:
        1. August 11: Deadline to submit ranking decisions to HUD.

2. August 26: Deadline for all project applicants to submit applications.

iii. She reviewed changes to the NOFO process and noted that some changes resulted from advocacy efforts by the National Alliance to End Homelessness. She mentioned seeking guidance from the organization regarding the recent funding notice.

iv. The Board was informed of the need to:
   1. Nominate three to five members to serve on the Scoring and Ranking Committee.
   2. Establish a deadline for committee nominations.
   3. Form a separate Appeals Committee consisting of non-conflicted members.

v. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto clarified that:
   1. Members may not serve on both the Scoring and Ranking Committee and the Appeals Committee.
   2. Individuals affiliated with agencies submitting applications may not participate in scoring or ranking those applications.

vi. Officer Padron provided the following contact information for future coordination:
   1. Sheldon West, Email: sheldon.west@amarillo.gov, Phone: 806-378-9402

vii. Officer Padron requested that Sheldon West be added to future meeting invitations and stated that he can assist in connecting the Board with the lieutenant, captain, and newly appointed assistant chief once finalized.

4. Non-Consent Agenda

i. Members noted that Pride events would be held at San Jacinto Park during the upcoming weekend.

ii. Juneteenth activities on June 19 were also acknowledged.

5. Adjournment

a. James Bellar adjourned the meeting at 10:18am

Amarillo Continuum of Care (CoC TX-611)

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: June 26th, 2026, at 9:00am
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting hosted by Stefanie Rodarte-Suto
Meeting ID: 222918 396 455 561
Passcode: xs6DF7CT

- **Board Members Present**
  - James Bellar, Lacey Korn, Michelle Shields, Virginia Williams Trice, Stefanie Rodarte-Suto, Rudy Montano
- **Board Members Absent**
  - Audra Rea, Steve Smart, Juan Maldonado
- **Observers in Attendance**
  - Shaira Joyce-Collaborative Applicant, Jackie Simmons-Collaborative Applicant, Dianne Ridgway-Amarillo Children's Home

1. **Call to Order**
   a. The meeting was called to order at 9:09 am by James Bellar.
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
   a. The board welcomed Dianne Ridgway and each member introduced themselves.
3. **New Business and Discussion Agenda Items:**
   a. *Review and Discuss:*
      i. 2026 HUD CoC NOFO Updates
         1. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto presented and reviewed the NOFO updates with the Board. The updates included changes to the funding sequence, allowing funds to be reallocated across communities.
      ii. Local Competition Timeline
         1. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto reviewed the project timeline and key dates with the Board, noting that the local competition opens on July 1.
      iii. CoC Competition Policy & Procedure updates
         1. The board discussed the changes in how applicants are reviewed.
   b. *Vote to Approve Process and Policy Updates*
      i. Vote for a designee to approve the final application.

        1. Michelle Shields motioned to have a designee approve the final scoring. Virginia Williams-Trice seconded. All voted in favor via chat and verbally, none opposed. The motion passed.
    ii. Vote to approve the timeline.
        1. Michelle Shield motioned to approve the timeline Stefanie Rodarte-Suto outlined in her presentation. Rudy Montano seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.
    iii. Vote on policy updates.
        1. Michelle Shields motioned to approve the policy updates outlined during the presentation. Rudy Montano seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.
    iv. Vote on the scoring tools.
        1. Rudy Montano motioned to accept the scoring tools presented, Michelle Shields seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. The scoring tools were accepted.

4. **Adjournment**
    a. *James Bellar adjourned the meeting at 10:32am*

Meeting Recording: https://youtu.be/vYkp6tuxjfw