

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES
COORDINATION COUNCIL MEETING

via GoToWebinar

May 28, 2020
10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

BOBBY WILKINSON, Chair
SUZANNE BARNARD
KENNETH DARDEN
DIANA DELAUNAY
HELEN EISERT
DR. JENNIFER GONZALEZ
MICHAEL GOODWIN
CLAIRE IRWIN
DONNA KLAEGER
DERRICK NEAL
JOYCE POHLMAN
JOSE RAMIREZ
SCOTT SROUFE
MICHAEL WILT

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I N D E X

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	3
ESTABLISH QUORUM	3
1. Welcome and Introductions	3
2. Approval of January 29 HHSCC Meeting Minutes	8
3. HHSCC Overview	9
4. Update on HHSCC Biennial Plan and Report	16
5. Update on Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program	33
6. Update on Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Housing Choice Plan	38
7. TDHCA COVID-19 Response	42
8. Public Comment	none
9. General Updates/Next Steps/Staff Assignment(s)	52
ADJOURN	52

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. WILKINSON: Everyone, welcome to the Housing
3 and Health Services Coordination Council. This is our
4 first virtual meeting of the Council due to COVID. We've
5 done this for some board meetings, so this should be
6 easier.

7 It's not 300 people, it's 30. Got some new
8 appointees today. Welcome. Glad to have you on board and
9 looking forward to meeting you in person eventually. I'm
10 going to go ahead and call roll, and you know, tell me that
11 you're here, but also say, you know, who you represent and
12 anything like that.

13 Some of you have been on the Council for a
14 while. Some of you are new. So I'm just going to go down
15 the list. I'm going to start with the agency appointees.
16 Helen Eisert?

17 MS. EISERT: Hi. Yes, I'm here, and I'm
18 formerly with Adult Mental Health and I've moved to
19 Innovation Strategy, and so I don't know if you've got
20 Kevin James on there as the list -- but he'll be taking my
21 place on the Council.

22 MR. STREMLER: Yes. Kevin is with us. He's
23 here.

24 MR. WILKINSON: Great, great. Joyce Pohlman?

1 MS. POHLMAN: Yes. This is Joyce Pohlman, and
2 I'm with the Health and Human Services Commission, Office
3 of Mental Health Coordination.

4 MR. WILKINSON: Great. Claire Irwin?

5 MS. IRWIN: Hi. This is Claire. I'm with Texas
6 Health and Human Services, Aging Services Coordination
7 office. Sorry. I was having a problem with my mute
8 button.

9 MR. WILKINSON: No problem. Suzanne, I see you,
10 but you have to say you're here.

11 MS. BARNARD: Suzanne Barnard. I'm with the
12 Texas Department of Agriculture, the Community Development
13 Block Grant Program.

14 MR. WILKINSON: Great. Scott Sroufe?

15 MR. SROUFE: Good morning. This is Scott
16 Sroufe. I'm with Texas Department of Agriculture,
17 Certified Retirement Communities.

18 MR. WILKINSON: Great. Michael, Michael Wilt?

19 MR. WILT: Yeah. Michael Wilt, Texas State
20 Affordable Housing Corporation.

21 MR. WILKINSON: Good morning, Michael. It's
22 been a while.

23 MR. WILT: Yeah. Good morning.

24 MR. WILKINSON: Joe Ramirez?

25 MR. RAMIREZ: This is Joe Ramirez with the Texas

1 Veterans Commission.

2 MR. WILKINSON: Great. All right. Moving on to
3 Governor appointees. Doni Green?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. WILKINSON: Reverend Kenneth Darden?

6 MR. DARDEN: I'm here, representing the Housing
7 and Health Services Coordination Council, minority
8 representative.

9 MR. WILKINSON: Thank you, Reverend. Mr.
10 Goodwin, I see you. You're muted, sir. I -- Mr. Goodwin,
11 I can't --

12 MR. STREMLER: Hi, it shows me you're unmuted.
13 Is your computer audio on?

14 I would note that Doni is on. She did click to
15 unmute herself, so she might be having the same issue as
16 Mike as well, not being heard.

17 MR. WILKINSON: Doni?

18 MR. STREMLER: Yes. Doni is on.

19 MR. WILKINSON: Yes. She's here. Okay. All
20 right, Mr. Goodwin. We'll try to do that later. Donna
21 Klaeger?

22 MS. KLAEGER: Here. Donna Klaeger with the
23 Community Resource Centers of Texas, working with the Texas
24 Housing Foundation.

25 MR. WILKINSON: Great. Good to have you.

1 Derrick Neal? Derrick Neal?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. WILKINSON: Dr. Jennifer --

4 DR. GONZALEZ: Hi. This is Jennifer Gonzalez.

5 I'm with the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute. I am
6 a new employee, new hire.

7 MR. WILKINSON: Great. Good to have you on
8 board, Doctor. And Diana Delaunay?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. STREMLER: So it looks like Diana is on but
11 hasn't been able to connect to the audio yet.

12 MR. WILKINSON: Okay.

13 MR. STREMLER: Anyone with that issue where
14 they're not able to connect to the audio on their computer,
15 you should have received an email with the links, call-in
16 numbers. So if you haven't tried that, give that a try.

17 MR. WILKINSON: So if an appointee doesn't make
18 it happen, is there a quorum?

19 MR. GOODWIN: Am I still in a mute mode?

20 MR. WILKINSON: I can hear you now, Mr. Goodwin.

21 MR. GOODWIN: Good. Thank you.

22 MR. WILKINSON: Excellent. Okay. I think we
23 have 13 out of 17, so that's definitely a quorum, so
24 that's -- we can vote. So --

25 MR. STREMLER: Bobby, a couple -- Diana has said

1 hello in the chat. So Diana, I'm sorry the audio's not
2 working, but thank you for coming into the chat. And then
3 it looks like Derrick Neal is also here, but maybe has not
4 been able to connect to audio just yet.

5 MR. WILKINSON: Okay. Fourteen out of 17.

6 Once again, welcome, everyone. We'll get the
7 kinks worked out on the webinar, I'm sure. First order of
8 business, the "Approval of the January 29 HHSCC Meeting
9 Minutes." So it will be a voting item.

10 Do I hear a motion to approve the meeting
11 minutes from January?

12 MR. GOODWIN: So moved, from San Antonio.

13 MR. WILKINSON: Second?

14 MS. GREEN: I don't recall seeing a copy of the
15 minutes. When were those distributed?

16 MR. SHEA: Yeah. That should have been sent out
17 in one of the reminders I sent last week.

18 MR. RAMIREZ: They were there, Danny. I got the
19 attachment with the email.

20 MR. SHEA: Okay.

21 MR. RAMIREZ: Joe Ramirez, Texas Veterans
22 Commission.

23 MS. YEVICH: Thank you, Joe. We like to hear
24 you, Doni. Glad you're able to use the audio.

25 MS. GREEN: Yeah. I could not connect through

1 the webinar. I have not had that issue before, but I was
2 unmuted in both locations, and still couldn't be heard.

3 MS. YEVICH: I feel your pain. I think we all
4 do with this technology.

5 MR. WILKINSON: Would y'all like to take a
6 moment to maybe look back and review the minutes? Maybe
7 we'll come back to that?

8 MS. GREEN: Sounds like the majority received,
9 so I would suggest proceeding.

10 MR. WILKINSON: Okay. I have a motion from Mr.
11 Goodwin. Do I have a second?

12 MR. GOODWIN: Yes.

13 MR. WILKINSON: Can I have another second?

14 (General laughter.)

15 MS. BARNARD: This is Suzanne. I'll second.

16 MR. WILKINSON: Great, great. All in favor of
17 approval, say aye.

18 (A chorus of ayes.)

19 MR. WILKINSON: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. WILKINSON: All right. Ayes have it.

22 Moving on to Item 3, the HHSCC Overview, conducted by
23 Elizabeth Yevich and Danny Shea.

24 MS. YEVICH: Good morning, everyone, and I am
25 Elizabeth Yevich. I think most of you should -- I think my

1 video is showing. I'm director of the Housing Resource
2 Center here at TDHCA, and it's a delight to welcome you to
3 our Housing and Health Services Coordination Council.

4 Around here, it's always an alphabet soup of
5 acronyms, for all of you new members. So this one is
6 HHSCC, and it's so similar to the State of Texas Health and
7 Human Services, which is HHSC, that we generally refer to
8 this as just Council, or sometimes you'll hear it known as
9 "husky."

10 So the Housing Resource Center, which I oversee,
11 is known as HRC. So back in 2009 when this Council was
12 created by legislation, it was deemed it was going to live
13 at TDHCA, and then it landed in HRC, at precisely the same
14 time that I landed at TDHCA and I landed in HRC.

15 So Council and I have been here well over a
16 decade now. So it helps me to remember the genesis of both
17 of these. Now, when Council landed in HRC, there has
18 always been a staff person assigned to do the facilitation
19 and the coordination, and currently, that staff person is
20 Danny Shea.

21 Ah, ha. Danny's photo is now up there. He's
22 waving. And Danny is a research specialist in HRC. And
23 one of his many tasks is to oversee the Council, especially
24 the upcoming biennial plan and biennial report of finding,
25 and they are due by legislation to the Governor on August 1

1 of this year.

2 So we'll be talking about that later in this
3 meeting. And you know, I was thinking of this earlier this
4 morning. During the first 10 years of this Council, there
5 have now been just three staff who have overseen Council,
6 Danny being the third, who's been here just about a year.

7 In fact, I think your anniversary is coming up
8 in about a week, Danny. So congratulations on that. And
9 we've also just had three executive directors, and by
10 legislation, the executive director of TDHCA serves as the
11 chair, and Bobby is our third one of that.

12 And Bobby, I think you've been here just a
13 little over a year. Correct? At TDHCA? I think so.

14 MR. WILKINSON: It will actually be a year
15 August 15, but who's counting? Yes.

16 MS. YEVICH: Oh, but there we go. I'm a little
17 off. Okay.

18 And something else to note is that there are two
19 Council Governor appointees that were named back in the
20 fall of 2009, and they are here with us today. And I
21 believe they have been at almost every meeting since.

22 And they are Doni Green -- and she also serves
23 as Vice Chair of this Council -- and Mike Goodwin, who you
24 can see there, with the ceiling fan. And you know, I feel
25 that a body such as this Council retaining members for that

1 long really speaks to those individuals and their talent
2 and their effort and perhaps endurance. But it also
3 reflects that the Council itself is so worthwhile and
4 rewarding, which is -- especially this one.

5 When you look at all the achievements that have
6 happened over the past decade, it's quite an array, and
7 it's quite impressive. But you know, going back in that
8 very first year, we saw -- there was a number of
9 administrative foundation chats, as I call them.

10 For example, we had to define service-enriched
11 housing. Sounds pretty simple, but I think Mike Goodwin
12 would agree. We had a little bit of -- he's smiling
13 there -- a little bit of war wounds on that. It took about
14 a year for that definition.

15 And then it has been entered into Texas
16 Administrative Code, known as TAC, and that is a rule. And
17 every four years, TDHCA, by legislation, has to review its
18 rules. And recently, I think in the past year, we reviewed
19 that rule and everything.

20 It still stays the same with the definition of
21 service-enriched housing. Now, along with some of the
22 basic highlights beginning when we really started rolling
23 back in 2011 -- I'll list off a few. There were developing
24 a State agency reference guide, developing service-enriched
25 housing case studies, conducting provider capacity

1 surveying, providing guidance for development and
2 implementation of a program, which you will hear about
3 later on in this agenda.

4 It's called Section 811 Project Rental
5 Assistance, and it has been most successful. And Spencer
6 Duran, who is now the director of Section 811, will be
7 speaking to that later.

8 And Council also secured the services of another
9 TAC. Now, this was known as the Technical Assistance
10 Collaborative, not to be confused with the Texas
11 Administrative Code. Again, we are just an alphabet soup
12 always of like-sounding acronyms. We hired them -- I want
13 to say it was around 2013, 2014 -- to develop the State of
14 Texas comprehensive analysis of service-enriched housing
15 finance practices.

16 Then we contracted with Texas State University
17 to conduct the Council's work with our 211 information and
18 referral network, an evaluation of that. That was back in
19 2014. Then in 2015, this Council took up a large endeavor,
20 contracting with -- they're known by their acronym -- CSH,
21 the Corporation for Supportive Housing.

22 And they provided what was known as the Housing
23 and Services Partnership Academy, very, very successful.
24 We did that several years in a row. The topics included a
25 tenant-consumer panel, an overview of new construction and

1 rehabilitation, development processes, identifying and
2 securing a visiting unit for service-enriched housing.

3 There were roundtable sessions on housing and
4 services, peer presentations, team planning,
5 extraordinarily successful. We did that for several years,
6 and then ended up contracting again with CSH in 2017 to do
7 technical assistance.

8 And another extraordinarily large and successful
9 undertaking was the creation of 10 service-enriched housing
10 training videos. And these are available, not only off our
11 Council webpage -- and I believe that Danny has sent you
12 the link to our webpage, and hope that you will, if you
13 haven't had a chance to peruse it.

14 It's also still on the front of TDHCA's home
15 page, these videos. And in fact, they live on their own
16 YouTube channel. So I saw that this morning, watching just
17 the first few minutes of that video would provide a really
18 nice introduction to service-enriched housing.

19 And then, we -- I actually didn't think of this
20 till yesterday, so we didn't do this during our practice
21 session on Tuesday. And this morning, Jeremy Stremmer, and
22 Danny and I practiced doing the video. Unfortunately, I
23 don't think, because we're all remoting in -- or at least,
24 that's my best guess on why the sound isn't coming apart.
25 But I believe that Jeremy is going to show the video and

1 it's closed-captioned.

2 And as he's doing that, there's a few folks you
3 might recognize in this video. That guy up there, with the
4 ceiling fan over his head, Mike Goodwin was prominent in at
5 least the initial video, as well as Doni Goodwin, our --
6 excuse me -- Doni Green, our Vice Chair.

7 And --

8 MR. GOODWIN: Elizabeth, we've been together
9 since 2009, but we still live apart.

10 MS. GREEN: Yes. We're very close friends.

11 MS. YEVICH: I love it. I love it. So -- and
12 while Jeremy is doing that, I want to thank Jeremy
13 Stremmler, and also say that he works under the Housing
14 Resource Center as well. And I know -- I want to do my
15 shout-out to Jeremy and Danny that I always do, and to any
16 of you that do not have young staff or millennials on your
17 staff, I would be lost without them in the last two months,
18 as we're telecommuting.

19 I say this all the time. I can't say it enough.
20 These poor guys, they hear me every day going, how do I do
21 this? What do I do? Why is it not working? So hats off
22 to Jeremy, being the captain of our ship this morning, and
23 Danny, for guiding us.

24 And with that, I think Jeremy is showing you the
25 first parts of this video. And I also want to point out

1 the gentleman right there in the A&M shirt, he was also a
2 Council member. He was the consumer advocate, one of the
3 Governor appointees. And sadly, shortly after we filmed
4 this video back in 2014, he passed away.

5 But I'm so glad that he is there. And in one of
6 our biennial plans and reports, we dedicate it to Felix,
7 and he never missed a meeting. He always came, which spoke
8 a lot about having a consumer advocate also on the panel.

9 And I think Jeremy is going to scoot on over,
10 and you'll see, I believe, Doni Green next, and then Mike.

11 But I would invite you all to watch these
12 videos. Again, it's something that Council did. So -- and
13 they're so informative. All of the topics, you know, they
14 didn't go out of date. There's still the need, and they're
15 all pretty current, and something else, really, pretty
16 nifty about quite a few of these.

17 We had them translated into both Spanish and
18 Vietnamese. So several of them you can hear in Spanish and
19 Vietnamese, and all of them are closed-captioned. So with
20 that, the second half of this, I believe, I'm going to turn
21 it over to my able Mr. Shea here, Danny Shea, who is
22 research specialist within the Housing Resource Center, and
23 also he is going to be the person who you will always be in
24 contact with, with anything related to Council.

25 Danny?

1 MR. SHEA: Thank you. So yeah. I'm going to
2 talk a bit about -- Elizabeth mentioned our biennial plan
3 and report of findings. So Jeremy, if you could switch me
4 over to be the presenter, and I'll share the screen, so we
5 can take a look?

6 Okay. Okay. So as Elizabeth mentioned, that
7 these are the Texas Administrative Code that founded the
8 Council and assigned it its scope. This requires two
9 documents be put together on a biennial basis for us.

10 So the first is a plan that describes the
11 Council's work to support service-enriched housing, and
12 then the second is a report of findings which includes
13 Council's recommendations. And that is the piece that is
14 due to the Office of the Governor and to the Legislative
15 Budget Board, or LBB, on August 1 of every even-numbered
16 year.

17 And so that is coming up here. So to give
18 everyone, particularly our new members, a bit of background
19 for kind of the process that we, you know, developed these
20 documents with, in January, we provided an update to
21 everyone, on the kind of just outline that we would be
22 working on the drafts before this meeting, our spring
23 quarterly meeting, and that we would be sharing the drafts
24 with everyone now, talking a bit about it.

25 And then after this meeting, I will send the

1 drafts out again to just follow up with folks over the next
2 few weeks. If they have any suggested edits, additions,
3 anything like that, let me know. We will work that into
4 final draft, so we can send that out before what will
5 hopefully be a July meeting or summer quarterly meeting.

6 And then Council will vote on final approval of
7 both documents in July in time to get to -- in time to get
8 the report findings to the Governor and to the LBB by the
9 August 1 due date.

10 So the report of findings is, again, the piece
11 that is sent to the Office of Governor and the LBB. This
12 one is, I think, a bit briefer than the biennial plan, and
13 this is broken into a findings section and a
14 recommendations section.

15 So our findings, we have kind of an overview of
16 housing needs for populations that are served by service-
17 enriched housing. You see here it includes older Texans,
18 persons with disabilities, and other populations. Kind of
19 the meat of the findings section is challenges that have
20 been identified by Council, in terms of the provision of
21 service-enriched housing across Texas.

22 And so these kind of, you know, are ongoing
23 conversations that Council has had over the years, what we
24 are doing, from service providers that, you know --
25 feedback has been given during previous public meetings,

1 previous technical assistance opportunities.

2 And we've broadened them into three main
3 categories. So the first is community and landlord
4 opposition. And then we also have committed funding for
5 service-enriched housing. And then the time and capacity
6 requirement for the system has changed.

7 And this section is -- again, makes up a good
8 bulk of kind of what we talk about when we're talking about
9 challenges and what we're focusing on, because this is kind
10 of what Council -- this is the main idea that Council was
11 created with. Again, coordination is in the name. And so
12 this is the piece about, you know, State agencies working
13 together and working with local providers to coordinate
14 services and, again, try to improve and expand the
15 provision of service-enriched housing in the state.

16 The recommendations section is designed
17 specifically in response to those three challenges.
18 They're also broken out into section by community and
19 landlord opposition, limited funding, and then the time and
20 capacity needed for systems change for further service
21 coordination.

22 And you will see -- Elizabeth mentioned we get
23 technical assistance provided by the Corporation for
24 Supportive Housing, or CSH. And so you'll see that several
25 of the recommendations are carried over from a previous

1 biennium that CSH -- these recommendations that CSH worked
2 with Council to make, and a lot of those are geared towards
3 what local communities can do.

4 So there are some good recommendations on there,
5 an interesting kind of read-through, particularly for folks
6 who might be newer to, you know, these kinds of
7 conversations. And then, again, the bulk of the
8 recommendations section in this document is focused on the
9 time and capacity required for systems change.

10 And a lot of this is kind of explained in
11 further detail in the biennial plan document. But you
12 know, these are recommendations for Council, for member
13 agencies, you know, basically to kind of continue some of
14 the coordination work that is happening at the state agency
15 level, and then also to kind of continue it on further to
16 provide any kind of assistance to local providers on both
17 the housing and health services side, to coordinate
18 services and improve the provision of service-enriched
19 housing.

20 So on both these documents, I know, I will try
21 to -- you know, I was unable to send out both drafts the
22 other day to Council members. So I recognize not everyone
23 maybe has had a chance to really read through both
24 documents in great detail. But before I go into the plan
25 I'll stop and see, does anybody have any questions or

1 comments on the draft of the report findings that went out
2 earlier?

3 MS. POHLMAN: Danny?

4 MR. SHEA: Yes?

5 MS. POHLMAN: This is Joyce. And I had a
6 question about recommendations to the tax credit program.
7 I don't know if these have been discussed in this group or
8 not, but one of the things that kind of happens is that
9 people get points for providing services, but the services
10 aren't really the same as what's needed in service-enriched
11 housing, like it might be, I don't know, child care or
12 social activities.

13 And I was wondering if there was any interest in
14 the Council in maybe providing more guidance or support for
15 more intensive supports for individual who have
16 disabilities?

17 MR. SHEA: Yes. So that's a good question. I
18 think there have been. I'm not sure if we included in this
19 version. I think there have been some recommendations,
20 kind of, to that end in previous versions, but, I think,
21 Brooke or Elizabeth, if either of you have any thoughts on
22 that that you might be better equipped to answer that
23 question.

24 MS. BOSTON: Sure. This is Brooke. Can you
25 guys hear me?

1 MALE VOICE: Uh-huh.

2 MS. BOSTON: Okay.

3 FEMALE VOICE: Yes.

4 MALE VOICE: Yes.

5 MS. BOSTON: So I guess one thing I would
6 clarify is the points in the QAP, Joyce, are not intended
7 to be targeted to supportive housing. It's just like
8 services for low-income tenants. So the points are kind of
9 a driver to ensure that the properties in our portfolio,
10 regardless of what population they serve, are doing things
11 that are nice for the client, so whether that -- like you
12 said, like child-care or computer labs or ESL classes or
13 financial literacy.

14 So it was never intended to be as robust as is
15 needed for supportive housing, but maybe a suggestion from
16 the Council could be that for the properties that do
17 supportive housing, that there are, like, a threshold or a
18 minimum set of services that you guys think are necessary
19 or critical, and that that could be something you guys
20 recommend into our QAP input.

21 MS. GREEN: Yeah. This is Doni Green. And I
22 know we've had conversations over the years, and I think
23 one of the services that's really critical in terms of
24 helping tenants access necessary community services, that
25 service coordination piece.

1 And I don't recall if a recommendation was made
2 to award points for that, but I do think that it's a good
3 idea to incentivize properties to invest in that service
4 coordination piece. I just -- I think that's a much better
5 way to connect tenants with a full range of services,
6 rather than a developer saying, you know, I think tenants
7 are going to need service A.

8 You know, that may or may not hit the mark for a
9 specific tenant, whereas service coordination ideally looks
10 at, you know, that tenant's wants, needs, preferences, then
11 helps him or her connect with the full range of services.

12 MS. BOSTON: Sure. Perhaps Danny can look at it
13 over the next month or two to work with those of you who
14 have input that's specific to what you think that should
15 look like in the QAP. We're on the front end of starting
16 to work on the 2021 QAP.

17 And so if we were to get that input -- I don't
18 know -- by mid- to late summer, I think we could look at
19 how to integrate that.

20 MS. GREEN: That sounds great.

21 MR. SHEA: I've taken down some notes. I'll
22 follow up. Again, these drafts are going to be going out,
23 and I'm inviting folks to provide feedback over the next
24 few weeks, over the next month or so, before we start
25 working on finalizing versions of both of these drafts.

1 And so Joyce and Doni, I would be happy to reach
2 out to you for, you know -- for your thoughts on that part
3 of it specifically.

4 MS. KLAEGER: Hello? This is Donna Klaeger.
5 Can you hear me?

6 MR. SHEA: Yes.

7 MS. KLAEGER: Yes. I'm with the Community
8 Resource Centers of Texas, and we actually have community
9 resources centers in two apartment complexes, affordable
10 complexes. It's a good model and I would like to be
11 included on that conversation, because we have a lot of
12 ideas, as we continue to grow in different rural
13 communities. We're addressing rural community needs.

14 MR. SHEA: Yes, definitely. Once we start to --
15 you know, again, this is all going to go out to all the
16 Council members, but Donna, if there's anything more
17 specific to you, I'll definitely be in contact.

18 MS. KLAEGER: Thank you.

19 MR. SHEA: Okay. So if that is it for the
20 report of findings, then we'll -- we're going to talk about
21 this plan a little bit. So the plan is a document that
22 provides some background information on Council and on all
23 the member agencies.

24 I'm kind of going back to some of the things
25 that Elizabeth talked about in her part of the presentation

1 this morning. And so again, on this, particularly for the
2 State agencies, you know, if you have any thoughts or edits
3 on kind of how your agency is -- describe any of the
4 programs that your agency is working on.

5 You know, we definitely want to make sure that
6 all of the work that member agencies are doing is included,
7 anything that they want to highlight, and you know, that
8 that information is complete and accurate. So definitely,
9 you know, look it over.

10 Some folks have already gotten back to me. But
11 look it over, let me know if you have any additional edits
12 on that. And I would also add, again there is --
13 especially on the first half of the document, there is a
14 good bit of background information on both the Council and
15 member agencies.

16 So for folks who are new to Council, I think you
17 can spend a little time to kind of read through this. In
18 addition, I'll send all of the links that Elizabeth
19 referenced earlier. I think this could be a good way to
20 familiarize yourself with the Council and its members
21 agencies, and some of the projects that the group has been
22 working on over the past several years.

23 And so --

24 MS. EISERT: Danny, this is Helen. Can you send
25 that out in a Word document instead of a pdf?

1 MR. SHEA: Yes. I saw your email this morning.
2 Yes. I'll send it right --

3 MS. EISERT: Okay.

4 MR. SHEA: -- out.

5 MS. EISERT: Thank you.

6 MR. SHEA: So since that has been sent out,
7 it's going to be sent out again. I won't go through like
8 section by section, and read out the whole thing, but just
9 kind of for the sake of time, we'll focus on two sections,
10 specifically kind of this biennium and this version of the
11 Plan are looking a little bit different than they have in
12 previous years. And so I kind of want to talk through
13 those and then break for feedback. Again, this is
14 something that some folks have already provided some
15 feedback on, but I just want to continue that conversation.

16 So the first is the training and technical
17 assistance section here. That statute is required to
18 identify opportunities to provide technical assistance and
19 training to local providers and about cross-educating staff
20 about service coordination and opportunities to increase
21 the provision of service-enriched housing.

22 As Elizabeth kind of alluded to, in previous
23 years there have been some pretty robust things and
24 initiatives that Council has kind of been a part of, maybe
25 working with CSH or other groups to plan, you know,

1 workshops, academies, things like that.

2 But the funds appropriated for HHSCC activities
3 have been reduced, Council has been kind of limited in its
4 furthering training opportunities. And so for this section
5 in this year's plan, what we decided to do was kind of just
6 highlight some of the work in this area that member
7 agencies are doing.

8 Some of them kind of working with other member
9 agencies, some of them independently, but just highlighting
10 those you can just see at the regional housing summits,
11 whether they're [indiscernible] a bit. TSAHC has their
12 permanent supportive housing development workshops.

13 And Michael, I got your email yesterday. I
14 think I wasn't able to add the other ones, but Michael Wilt
15 from TSAHC did follow up with a couple of other suggested
16 additions from TSAHC. So those will be reflected in future
17 versions of the plan, and then of course, the Section 811
18 PRA Program which Spencer Duran is going to talk about here
19 in a bit as well.

20 So does anybody have any questions on that
21 section?

22 MS. EISERT: I think -- this is Helen. So I
23 think we'll be able to add in the online modules that are
24 being created for all the QMHPs at all of the local mental
25 health authorities across the state, as well as contractors

1 that do supportive housing.

2 So HHSC is developing those, in collaboration
3 with University of Texas Health San Antonio. So they're
4 slated to be done this fiscal year, and then they would
5 roll out some time after that. So I don't know if you
6 wanted -- if you'd want something like that, if it's in
7 development and will go out, or do you want to wait until
8 it's actually rolled out?

9 MR. SHEA: I mean, I think part of the -- you
10 know, some of this is retrospective, looking at what folks
11 have already been working on, but the document is a
12 planning document. So I would --

13 MS. EISERT: Okay.

14 MR. SHEA: -- be happy to include it. We can
15 see what other folks think. Yeah, and so that's the kind
16 of thing that I know, you know, a lot of member agencies
17 are doing really great work in this area. And so you know,
18 we definitely want to make sure that things are included
19 like that so we can highlight that.

20 And, Helen, you actually provided a very good
21 segue because the centralized training infrastructure and
22 all that is we did include in the suggested data sources
23 for the performance measure section.

24 So the other section here that I wanted to
25 highlight was the performance measure section. So for a

1 bit of background, again, for folks who may be new to the
2 Council, Council's enabling statute does require Council to
3 develop performance measures to track progress in four
4 areas.

5 So the reduction of elimination -- reduction or
6 elimination of barriers in creating service-enriched
7 housing, increasing coordination between state agencies,
8 increasing the number of state housing and health services:
9 staff educated in both areas and, then again, the
10 provision of technical assistance to local providers.

11 So Elizabeth mentioned, I came on board about a
12 year ago. Around that time we did a review of Council's
13 statute, activities that Council has done over the past 10
14 years or so, and this was one of the pieces identified as
15 kind of outstanding tasks left for Council to work on.

16 And so over the past year, we have been working
17 on developing suggested performance measures to cover these
18 areas. You'll see they're highlighted, but obviously, that
19 hasn't happened yet. But we will look at that.

20 So the most interesting thing, especially for
21 anyone who might be familiar with, like, the standard
22 performance measures used -- at the State, used by the
23 LBB -- statute is really not prescriptive in any way in
24 talking about and defining these performance measures, of
25 how they should be suggested.

1 So no specifics about how they should be
2 written, or how or even if they should be reported, and so
3 that's kind of been an ongoing conversation about, what
4 does that look like? You know, these are going to be
5 different from a lot of agencies' standard performance
6 measures.

7 But you know, we want to make sure that they
8 are, you know, providing good information and are relevant
9 for folks. And so internally at TDHCA, we decided -- we
10 took a look and thought that it might be best to do a mix
11 of quantitative and qualitative measures, just kind of
12 depending on what each performance measure is asking for,
13 is looking to track.

14 And then also, that it might make the most sense
15 to suggest that member agencies track these annually and
16 share those with the Council. But then the measures for
17 each year, for both years in each biennium, can be included
18 in the biennial plan or report. So kind of just trying to
19 work that into the structure that Council is already
20 working.

21 So we can kind of look at this on here. The
22 first one, reduction or elimination of barriers in creating
23 service-enriched housing, you know, thinking about kind of
24 what would the outcome of reducing or eliminating those
25 barriers be?

1 This one, we thought that to measure the number
2 of clients housed in service-enriched housing, kind of
3 duration of time that clients have remained housed by
4 programs, and reporting that annually, that we would be
5 able to measure the impact of those efforts, to measure the
6 impact of reducing or eliminating those barriers.

7 And so producing these performance measures, we
8 have kind of suggested some possible data sources. This is
9 another piece that I would really invite, especially our
10 agencies, to reach out about. If there are programs that
11 you think would capture this point of information, if you
12 think you would want to share that and have that provided,
13 let me know, and we can definitely add that.

14 And you know, we really tried to work these so
15 that, like, most of these should be data points that
16 agencies are already capturing. So we want to make it an
17 easy list, but still to compile information in a way
18 that -- I mean, it's helpful and interesting for those.

19 Second measure, increasing coordination between
20 state housing and health services agencies. We, I think,
21 have had an effect of producing qualitative description of
22 participation and workers like these that, for anyone who's
23 not familiar, these groups are often covered in an earlier
24 section in the plan, and then Joyce may actually be talking
25 about a couple of them in a bit as well here.

1 Increasing the number of state agency staff
2 cross-educated or who have expertise in housing and health
3 services. We are still maybe kind of working through this
4 one. I think Joyce had suggested maybe some more kind of
5 quantitative measures for measuring, like, staff time, or
6 like -- I don't know -- agency staff who have attended a
7 minimum number of workgroup meetings, where all of these
8 workgroups are touching kind of on housing and health
9 services, supportive housing, service-enriched housing,
10 that kind of thing.

11 And then the last one here, providing technical
12 assistance. That will be training. Again, I kind of
13 talked about all those initiatives that some of our member
14 agencies are working on, and so just capturing that
15 qualitatively would be a good way to kind of compile all
16 that information for folks.

17 So again, this is all going to be going out. I
18 would invite people to provide feedback, ask questions, all
19 of that in the coming weeks, but also, we might stop and
20 see if there are any questions or comments right now.

21 Okay.

22 MS. EISERT: This looks really good, Danny.

23 MR. SHEA: Thank you. So if not, I think we can
24 move on. Again, I'll send that out and just invite folks
25 to share their feedback or questions in the coming weeks,

1 and then we'll work on the final draft of the plan.

2 MR. WILKINSON: Thank you, Danny. That was
3 great.

4 MR. SHEA: Thank you.

5 MR. WILKINSON: Next one is Item 5, the Update
6 on the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program, by
7 Spencer Duran.

8 MR. DURAN: Hi. Can you guys see me okay?

9 MR. WILKINSON: We do.

10 MR. DURAN: Great. So thank you, Bobby. Thank
11 you, Danny. My name is Spencer Duran, and I am director of
12 the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program, and I
13 wanted to just kind of provide a brief overview of where
14 the Section 811 Program is.

15 We have traditionally reported out to the
16 Housing and Health Services Coordination Council on our
17 progress with 811 because it really embodies a lot of the
18 ideals that Danny was just talking about, cross-training
19 staff who have expertise in housing and health services.

20 And so we specifically serve people with
21 disabilities with the Section 811 Program, and we've had a
22 lot of success so far. I'll give just a quick overview by
23 the numbers, and if anybody has any questions or wants to
24 take a deeper dive into any of the areas, just please let
25 me know.

1 So proudly we have housed a total of 483
2 households throughout the state of Texas, and we operate in
3 the eight largest metro areas, so we have a pretty good
4 geographic distribution for the program. Currently housed
5 are 355 households.

6 We have a fair amount of turnover through
7 attrition and the natural churning of the rental market,
8 but we have, you know, definitely exceeded our goals in the
9 number of people we are going to be serving. So right now,
10 just the issue that we're really working hard on are
11 working on the budget.

12 We have spent our first \$12 million. Our first
13 grant award funds have been fully committed, and we are
14 really close, probably 30 units away from fully committing
15 our second award, what we call the FY '13 award. And we've
16 also paused our referrals while we take a deeper look at
17 our budget.

18 We want to make sure that we don't over-commit
19 our \$24 million award, but that we're fully maximizing it.

20 So the way that most rental assistance programs work or
21 voucher programs work, you are given money and not
22 necessarily a fixed number of vouchers, so there's always a
23 little bit of work to convert money into households served,
24 because we pay, you know -- the market rents are variable.

25 The tenant portion of rent that they can afford

1 to pay is variable. So it's always a little difficult to
2 create a perfect projection. So we have some great folks
3 at TDHCA that have been working really hard on trying to
4 create that projection.

5 We have a lot of really good partners as well,
6 but we -- no matter, you know, how -- this exact number we
7 end up with, we're going to be fully committing our funds
8 for both grant awards in the next couple months. So it's a
9 huge victory.

10 We're really excited about that part. The other
11 thing I want to mention is that we are going to be rolling
12 out the landlord mitigation fund, which is funded by the
13 Money Follows the Person Program, and that will pay for
14 damages to apartment complex units that is caused by the
15 811 tenants.

16 We haven't had a huge problem with this, but it
17 just provides additional comfort to the property managers
18 who are participating, and we have had a few incidences
19 where we could have used a little bit of money to make the
20 participating properties whole when we did have damages.
21 So we work really hard with the 811 Program staff and even
22 HHSC and Joyce was involved with this idea from the very
23 beginning.

24 So we're just really excited to keep trying to
25 bring more resources to the program. And obviously, we're

1 super thankful for our partnership with HHSC, being a
2 grantee of their Money Follows the Person funds.

3 And then lastly, we had applied for fiscal year
4 '19 funds. We requested \$7 million. We have not heard
5 back from HUD whether or not we were successful in our
6 application, but we hope to hear something soon. Section
7 811 is not a block grant or something that is automatically
8 allocated to states or governments.

9 This is something that we choose to pursue at
10 the Department. It's just kind of part of our values, to
11 really focus on serving people with disabilities across the
12 state of Texas. So we're always having to apply for and
13 need more money than we want.

14 There is also some CARES Act funds. Our CARES
15 Act funds, we have not heard about how that money is going
16 to be allocated, but 811 was definitely part of that kind
17 of stimulus effort. So that's it.

18 If anybody has any questions, I can --

19 MR. STREMLER: Spencer, it looks like Jean
20 Langendorf submitted a question asking, how long do you
21 think you will have the referrals paused?

22 MR. DURAN: Yeah. That's a good question. So
23 it's probably going to be just a couple more weeks. So all
24 the FY '12 properties, we're essentially one in, one out at
25 this point. So we've ended up housing 270 households with

1 FY '12, and so that's probably going to be the level that
2 we settle on.

3 So that will just be filling units based off
4 turnover, the natural churning that occurs in those
5 properties. But we still have quite a bit of ways to go
6 before we max out our FY '13 award. So we'll be un-pausing
7 FY '13 in the next couple weeks to make sure that we're,
8 you know, fully committing our funds and housing everybody,
9 not losing any money on the table, but also not over-
10 committing our award.

11 MS. BOSTON: This is Brooke. Just to clarify,
12 Spencer, though -- that does not mean we're reopening the
13 waiting list in the areas that are full. It just means
14 we're going to get back to working down the waiting list,
15 but we won't be accepting new referrals.

16 MR. DURAN: Yes, correct. There's a difference
17 between pausing referrals to properties because we've
18 committed all of our money versus opening up waiting lists
19 to bring in new applicants. Those are two separate
20 activities, right.

21 So we're currently -- we currently have the
22 waiting lists closed in Bexar County, Dallas County, Travis
23 County, and Nueces County. And that's because we have --
24 the ratio of units to people on the waiting list is
25 excessive, and so we just don't, you know, see a point in

1 adding more and more people to those waiting lists.

2 So Brooke, you're exactly right. Pausing
3 referrals to properties while we reconcile the budget to
4 make doubly sure we've not over-committing is a separate,
5 you know, activity than accepting new referrals in over-
6 subscribed areas.

7 MR. WILKINSON: Any further questions for
8 Spencer?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. WILKINSON: Spencer, good job, buddy.

11 MR. DURAN: Thank you.

12 MR. WILKINSON: Next up, Item 6. We'll have an
13 Update on the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Housing
14 Choice Plan. It's Joyce Pohlman.

15 MS. POHLMAN: Hi, everyone. Thank you so much
16 for allowing me some time on the agenda to just talk about
17 some of the work we're doing at the Health and Human
18 Services Commission. We have a Health Advisory Committee
19 as an advisory council to the Health and Human Services
20 Commission. It provides guidance around our policies for
21 behavioral health services.

22 They have a very active housing subcommittee,
23 and that subcommittee had recommended in the prior fiscal
24 year that HHSC develop something called the Housing Choice
25 Plan. And that Housing Choice Plan would include an

1 inventory of existing housing resources for people who have
2 mental health conditions, substance use histories and/or
3 intellectual and developmental disabilities.

4 In addition to that landscape of existing
5 housing opportunities, we're also looking at gaps and
6 barriers to housing and developing some recommendations for
7 improving housing choice for these populations. So TDHCA
8 and several members of this group are participating in a
9 work group that is developing the plan; HHSC agreed to work
10 on the development of the plan in January.

11 And we've been meeting since then biweekly. So
12 we're getting to know each other really well. And some of
13 the activities that we've accomplished during this time
14 are: we've had some focus groups with individuals who have
15 lived experience, as well as family members, to get their
16 input on what are their housing choices now, what would
17 they like to see in terms of housing choices.

18 We've done interviews, informational interviews
19 with subject matter experts, including people at TDHCA
20 about what they see as the housing needs of these
21 individuals with disabilities. We have done presentations
22 from subject matter experts at other committees.

23 And we're developing drafts of chapters of the
24 report, focusing on housing for persons with mental health
25 conditions and a chapter on substance use conditions, and a

1 chapter on individuals with intellectual or developmental
2 disabilities.

3 We're also doing some special chapters on the
4 special needs of people who often have a criminal justice
5 history and the special needs of individuals who are aging.

6 And we'll be doing a chapter also on persons with physical
7 disabilities.

8 So we're really biting off a lot of stuff here
9 and will be looking forward to working with TDHCA on
10 developing some recommendations for this report. We have a
11 survey that's currently going out. I believe it was
12 distributed to the members of this committee, and we
13 encourage you to complete that survey and to distribute
14 that survey.

15 And perhaps if I can ask a favor of Danny to
16 send out that link again, then remind people to complete
17 that survey. Thus far, we have about 2,300 responses to
18 the survey.

19 It asks about where people are currently living?
20 What are the barriers that they're facing to affordable
21 housing? What are the kinds of support services that they
22 want to see in affordable housing? And various questions
23 that will identify priorities for our recommendations in
24 the plan.

25 Some of the other things that we've been working

1 on outside of the housing choice plan is, as Danny
2 mentioned, we have regional housing summits that we were
3 conducting prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, shelter-in-place
4 requirements. We were doing these housing summits in
5 various locations.

6 We had three of them, one in Houston, one in
7 Temple, and one in Schertz, which is in the San Antonio
8 area. They were well-attended by close to 100 people, each
9 of them, and they were an opportunity to get feedback from
10 a wide diversity of participants on what they see as
11 housing needs and housing priorities in their community and
12 how we can address them.

13 So that has -- that was a very successful effort
14 which we really were not able to continue virtually, once
15 we had the shelter-in-place requirements. So we have had
16 to, unfortunately, stop doing those at this time.

17 So I'll take any questions that people have at
18 this time.

19 (No response.)

20 MS. POHLMAN: Thank you.

21 MR. WILKINSON: Thank you, Joyce. Appreciate
22 it. Next, we have TDHCA COVID-19 Response overview by
23 Brooke Boston.

24 MS. BOSTON: Thank you. So welcome to the new
25 members. I'm our director of programs at TDHCA, and as

1 Danny mentioned --

2 MR. WILKINSON: Brooke, Brooke, Brooke, Brooke,
3 is that your title now?

4 MS. BOSTON: No. I'm our deputy director for
5 programs. Thank you, Bobby.

6 So as Danny was mentioning, part of what we do
7 in this group is just share information and make sure
8 others at the table are aware of what's going on with our
9 programs. And so a big part of that recently for TDHCA has
10 been our response to COVID, the COVID pandemic, and funds
11 we're receiving through the CARES Act. And so I just
12 wanted to give you guys a brief update of what we're doing
13 with that, with a focus on the activities we have that tie
14 in more with supportive housing.

15 Before we even knew we were getting CARES Act
16 funds, we took some steps to try and reprogram current
17 funds of ours that were not from the Act to try and quickly
18 assist. One of those was reprogramming some of our HOME
19 funds for tenant-based rental assistance, specifically for
20 households impacted with COVID -- economically impacted, I
21 should say.

22 And those funds have been reprogrammed to allow
23 from three to six months of rental assistance. And we were
24 trying to work with our existing subrecipients, as well as
25 opening it to new subrecipients, and we have been able to

1 move forward pretty quickly with that.

2 We've already gotten contracts in place with
3 some of the existing subrecipients. The funds are out and
4 available to them. And I believe, you know, by next month,
5 we'll actually start to see some folks being assisted.

6 We reprogrammed some of our Community Services
7 Block Grant funds that were from admin and some
8 discretionary funds that we were in the process of
9 reprogramming for something, and so the timing worked out
10 well. We immediately reprogrammed that to our Community
11 Action Agency Network. That was about 1.4 million, and
12 those funds have already been contracted. They're in the
13 process of being used with clients.

14 And then additionally, a real small amount -- we
15 recaptured some old HHSP, which stands for Homeless Housing
16 Services Program. And that is specifically for homeless
17 activities to the nine largest metropolitan areas, and
18 those contracts are in the process of being executed.

19 So then we also are -- because of the current
20 programs that we already have at TDHCA that made us be
21 designee in those cases, to be the recipient of CARES Act
22 funds, as many of you may know, the way the CARES Act
23 worked is, it took these big chunks of money and put them
24 back out through existing program framework.

25 So for instance, we are the recipient of

1 Community Services Block Grant funds. Some of the CARES
2 Act funds were channeled as CSBG funds. So in this case,
3 for instance, 48.1 million of CSBG through the CARES Act
4 was sent to TDHCA.

5 And each of these funds has similar regulations
6 to what it would normally have, with some exceptions and
7 waivers. So in the case of CSBG, those funds are almost
8 predominantly channeled through our Community Action Agency
9 Network, 90 percent of the funds.

10 They are allowed to help households up to 200
11 percent of poverty. And these are for a variety, whatever
12 the community action agency believes is what's needed for
13 their community and area. Seven percent of the funds are
14 being held in reserve for future emergencies.

15 The nice thing about CSBG is that it's flexible.

16 So we don't want to, kind of, use it all and then wish,
17 you know, a month from now that we had a little bit held
18 aside. And then 2 percent, so about a million, is going to
19 the Texas Homeless Network specifically for two things.

20 One is for them to help provide technical
21 assistance to recipients who are going to get extra funds
22 through Emergency Solutions grant, but maybe are going to
23 struggle with capacity. So they're going to help, in a
24 way, by being our TA provider.

25 And then additionally, the Texas Homeless

1 Network serves as the balance of state continuum of care.
2 And so that's a -- you know, the huge volume of the state
3 falls under their area, and we wanted to make sure they had
4 some extra funds to help households, if needed.

5 The next pot of funds we have from the CARES Act
6 is called LIHEAP, which is the Low Income Home Energy
7 Assistance Program. Again, we have an existing network of
8 providers, and so 90 percent of the funds are going out to
9 them. They will, you know, use it specifically for
10 households impacted by COVID economically. And they --
11 that program pays for utility assistance.

12 Then we have -- a program that we don't
13 typically have at TDHCA, but that the Governor designated
14 us to be the recipient for, is the Community Development
15 Block Grant funds, which is different from the earlier one
16 I mentioned, with is Community Services Block Grant, so the
17 CSBG and CDBG. So in this case, CDBG is coming to TDHCA,
18 at least the first allocation that we know of, which is
19 40 million, and that we're still working with the
20 Governor's Office and other interested parties to try and
21 make sure we're programming it.

22 These are also fairly flexible funds, but
23 they're also allowed to be used for match purposes on other
24 assistance that the State is getting, and so this one has
25 to be very strategically -- so we're still mapping that

1 out. I would note that there is a new listserv on our
2 agency webpage. So if anyone is interested in tracking and
3 keeping up with what happens with CDBG, you can go to our
4 listserv page, and me or Danny can send that out.

5 And for the new Council members, I would say, we
6 have a page on our website where you can go in and add your
7 email address. And when you do that, you can click all
8 these different things that interest you, and from that
9 point forward, you'll get any emails that the agency sends
10 out about that project or program. So we will keep
11 everyone posted about CDBG.

12 And then the -- federally, the CARES Act is
13 releasing some programs in kind of batches or tranches of
14 funds. With the next program, it's the Emergency Solutions
15 grant funds from the CARES Act. We have received our first
16 share of that, which is from the first one billion,
17 nationally.

18 Our portion of that is about 33 million. Those
19 funds -- because we were trying to make sure they get out
20 quickly, we are giving a large portion of those to existing
21 ESG subrecipients so that they can go ahead and just
22 continue to get those out.

23 We're also working with ESG coordinators in some
24 of the continuum of care areas who will help us identify
25 additional recipients, with a focus on those who have

1 received continuum of care funds from HUD. And the reason
2 for all that with this first batch was just to focus on
3 those who already understand ESG rules, understand kind of
4 the infrastructure of what's required, understand COC
5 requirements.

6 As we get sent sources of ESG, we may expand
7 past that. And then, as Spencer mentioned, we expect there
8 will be some Section 811 funds available under CARES,
9 although that has not been announced. TDHCA is also a
10 small public housing authority, and as such, we had access
11 to several of the activities -- several of the funds
12 available through CARES.

13 So as many of you know, over the -- more than a
14 year ago, we had pursued MVP vouchers with HUD, and we
15 received 15 additional under the CARES Act. And so those
16 will be used to assist folks on our Project Access list.
17 Project Access is a program with our Section 8 that gives
18 vouchers to individuals trying to exit institutions and
19 make sure they have a voucher so they have somewhere -- a
20 source of income so they can find a unit in a community-
21 based setting.

22 So giving 15 more vouchers to support that is a
23 great treat out of the CARES Act. We also received about
24 117,000 of voucher act admin, which lets us -- we are using
25 it to both make some upgrades to systems that let us work

1 more remotely with our THA clients, but also we're going to
2 do a landlord incentive payment program.

3 So for anyone who has one of our current
4 vouchers, including the new MVP folks, Project Access
5 clients, they will now be able to have a letter in hand
6 from us that says, if you accept this client, we'll give
7 you an extra month of the contract rent, just as a bonus to
8 take them today. So that's exciting. You know, I think
9 landlord incentive programs nationally are considered
10 effective, and so it was nice that there was this more
11 flexible source of funds that's going to let us do that for
12 our MVP and Project Access clients.

13 And with that, that's an update so far. We have
14 new stuff happening almost daily with the CARES Act funds.

15 So any questions?

16 MR. STREMLER: Hi, Brooke. It looks like Jean
17 Langendorf submitted a question in the box. She said, "Any
18 change to -- chance that CDBG's CV funds would be used for
19 rental assistance?" In parentheses, she says, "Huge need
20 now."

21 MS. BOSTON: Yes. There is a good chance of
22 that. I don't know if Bobby wants to expand on this
23 further, but what do we think about that?

24 MR. WILKINSON: We're working with the
25 Governor's Office and legislative leadership, budget

1 leaders, appropriations, finance, et cetera, on you know --
2 since it's a flexible pot, what can we do with it? You
3 know, as Mike referred, use is relatively [inaudible], and
4 that's what we're asking.

5 But like, you might split it a couple different
6 ways, and in splitting, there's going to be several
7 tranches. The first is, like, 40 or 44 million, and next,
8 it's, like 63.4. So how much will go to rental assistance?

9 I hope the majority, but I just don't know yet.

10 I think it's probably the best use in this environment, at
11 this time.

12 MS. POHLMAN: This is Joyce. I just want to
13 congratulate you all on the great work that you're doing.
14 There's a lot of money, and it's hard to move it quickly,
15 and it sounds like you're doing a really good job. I'm
16 really excited about the landlord incentive payment
17 program.

18 What a great idea. So thank you so much for all
19 that you're doing.

20 MS. BOSTON: Thanks, Joyce.

21 MR. WILKINSON: Any other questions for Brooke
22 about how the agency is responding to the COVID-19?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. WILKINSON: Great. Thanks, Brooke.
25 Appreciate it.

1 Next item on the agenda is public comment. And
2 so, obviously, if you're a Board member, you can speak up
3 and then say whatever you want. And then if you're an
4 attendee, you need to, like Jeremy showed you in the
5 beginning, click the laser hand to get unmuted and speak.

6 So any Board members have any general comments
7 to start off?

8 MS. YEVICH: This is Elizabeth Yevich with HRC
9 again. I was just talking with Jeremy, who is controlling.
10 Some of our new Board appointees -- I believe, it's Dr.
11 Gonzalez and Diana Delaunay -- and I know you're on there,
12 but you can actually share your camera.

13 So if you would, because we actually don't know
14 what you look like, if you wanted to go ahead -- I think
15 you've been sent a reminder by -- there we go. Hi, Diana.
16 Pleasure to see you. And I believe -- I don't think that
17 Derrick Neal, I think he has called in. I don't think he
18 has a video capacity. I could be mistaken on that.

19 And there's Dr. Gonzalez. So I just thought,
20 because these are new members, we have them up there. So
21 not public comment, but I'm going to mute myself again.
22 So --

23 MR. WILKINSON: Thanks, Elizabeth. We'll take
24 it a little slow, so if any attendees have a public
25 comment, be sure to raise your hand and the moderator will

1 unmute you.

2 MS. POHLMAN: This is Joyce. I have a question.
3 I'm very chatty today. I was wondering, we had mentioned
4 in a prior meeting that TDHCA was applying for a Fair
5 Housing grant, and I was wondering if you had heard back
6 from that.

7 MR. WILKINSON: We got it.

8 MS. POHLMAN: Very good. So I was just thinking
9 maybe some of those activities could be included as
10 training and technical assistance activities on your
11 report, because certainly, access to housing assistance is
12 affected by Fair Housing practices.

13 MR. WILKINSON: That's a good idea. Danny,
14 let's think about incorporating some of those Fair Housing
15 activities into the report.

16 MR. SHEA: Yeah. Will do, definitely.

17 MR. STREMLER: Nobody at this time has raised
18 their hand or submitted another question in the questions
19 box to make any public comment.

20 MR. WILKINSON: Okay. Well, thank you for
21 attending, and especially thank you to our new appointees.

22 We've been waiting for a while in regard to filling some
23 of those slots. So hopefully today was informative. You
24 can read over the materials that Danny has sent you, the
25 report and such, offer comments.

1 Maybe view the videos and get an idea of what
2 this Advisory Council has done. And then hopefully, you
3 can learn, over the future meetings, kind of other things
4 that TDHCA does that is not necessarily health services-
5 related, but it all kind of ties together.

6 So you can get an idea of our programs and
7 abilities. Next meeting, sometime in July. Danny will
8 work with everyone to try to find a time that works for
9 everyone. I suspect it's going to be virtual. We're
10 continuing our Board meetings virtual, so a lot of
11 teleworking.

12 So even though there are aspects that have
13 opened up, we'll limit face-to-face meetings at this time.

14 Any suggested agenda items for next time? We can talk
15 about it now. Shoot Danny an email, whatever makes you
16 more comfortable.

17 I think that's about it. Anything -- any
18 comments from anyone?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. WILKINSON: All right. Thank you for
21 joining us today. At this time, we'll go ahead and adjourn
22 the meeting. Y'all have a good day.

23 (Whereupon, at 11:30 a.m., the meeting was
24 adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

MEETING OF: Housing and Health Services Coordination
 Council

LOCATION: via GoToWebinar

DATE: May 28, 2020

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages,
numbers 1 through 52, inclusive, are the true, accurate,
and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording
made by electronic recording by Latrice Porter before the
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

DATE: June 1, 2020

(Transcriber)

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