

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

TEXAS INTERAGENCY COUNCIL
FOR THE
HOMELESS

Room 124T
Texas Workforce Commission
1117 Trinity Street
Austin, Texas

April 30, 2019
10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MIKE DOYLE, Chair
D.J. BINGLER
VALINDA BOLTON (via telephone)
BROOKE BOSTON
MARQUS BUTLER
NAOMI CANTU
CARISSA DOUGHERTY
SHERRI COGBILL by JUAN DINARES
HELEN EISERT by LINDSEY VARGE
CLAIRE IRWIN (via telephone)
CAL LOPEZ
JOYCE POHLMAN (via telephone)
JOE A. RAMIREZ

ADVISORY MEMBERS:

JANA BURNS (absent)
DARILYNN CARDONA-BEILER (absent)
SAMANTHA FOSS
CHRISTINE GENDRON
DAVID LONG (absent)
MONA MURO (absent)
DENNIS M. SCHOLL (via telephone)
ERIC SAMUELS by JENNIFER POHLSON
JEANNE STAMP
MOLLY VOYLES (via telephone)

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:

ELIZABETH YEVICH (TDHCA)
MEAGAN MOORE (TDHCA)
JEREMY STREMLER (TDHCA)

ON THE RECORD REPORTING
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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. DOYLE: Let me call this meeting of the
3 April 30th meeting of the Texas Interagency Council to
4 order. And we will note that we have a quorum present. I
5 don't really have any remarks, other than I again, thank
6 you for trusting in me to chair this one more time.

7 And I apologize to be running late. My wife
8 and I thought we left in plenty of time, the same time we
9 always leave, but for some reason -- but I want to
10 introduce you to my wife Kay, of 51 years this month.

11 And since that's about my only remarks, we will
12 ask for approval of the minutes that Elizabeth sent us.
13 Thank you for doing that, Elizabeth.

14 MS. BOSTON: Move to approve.

15 MR. DOYLE: Move to approve by Brooke. Is
16 there a second?

17 MS. LOPEZ: Second.

18 MR. DOYLE: Members. Okay, Cal. Cal seconded
19 it. And are there any corrections or discussions about
20 those?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. DOYLE: All in favor, say aye.

23 (A chorus of ayes.)

24 MR. DOYLE: Opposed same sign.

25 (No response.)

1 MR. DOYLE: Those do pass. So updates. Some
2 of them are either vacant or empty, but does anybody have
3 any information that Eric sent them about the annual
4 report?

5 MS. POHLMAN: I do.

6 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Great.

7 MS. POHLSON: I am Jennifer, Jennifer Pohlson.

8 MR. DOYLE: Hi, Jennifer. Good to see you.

9 MS. POHLSON: All right. So I will --

10 MR. DOYLE: Jennifer, let me just -- who just
11 joined us on the phone?

12 MS. BOLTON: Valinda.

13 FEMALE VOICE: Hi Valinda. Thank you.

14 MS. VOYLES: Molly with the Texas Council on
15 Family Violence.

16 MR. DOYLE: Hi, Molly.

17 MS. IRWIN: Claire with Aging Services
18 Coordination at Texas Health & Human Services.

19 MR. DOYLE: And, Dennis, you are still there?

20 MR. SCHOLL: Yes. And I found the mute button.

21 MR. DOYLE: Good.

22 MR. SCHOLL: Thanks, Mike.

23 MR. DOYLE: Anybody else? Valinda, Molly,
24 Claire, and Dennis.

25 MS. POHLMAN: Joyce Pohlman, HHSC Medicaid and

1 CHIP.

2 MR. ALANIZ: Arnold Alaniz, Texas Veterans
3 Commission.

4 MS. NEVILLE: Hi. Veronica Neville, HHSC,
5 Medicaid, CHIP.

6 MR. DOYLE: We should have just had this
7 meeting on the phone.

8 MS. BOLTON: There we go. I think, the
9 weather.

10 MR. DOYLE: Yes. Welcome to everyone. Just
11 for your benefit, those of you on the phone, let's do go
12 around and say who we are, so you will know who you are
13 talking to.

14 And I am Mike Doyle. And I represent the
15 Governor's Office and chair the Interagency Council.

16 Elizabeth?

17 MS. YEVICH: I am Elizabeth Yevich, Director of
18 the Housing Resource Center at TDHCA, and temporarily
19 doing administrative support for the TICH.

20 MR. STREMBLER: Jeremy Strembler, Housing
21 Resource Center administrator, TDHCA.

22 MR. BORREGO: Carlos Borrego, Management
23 Analyst at Department of Housing and Urban Development.

24 MS. FOSS: Samantha Foss, Statewide Initiatives
25 Coordinator at Texas Homeless Network.

1 MS. MOORE: Meagan Moore, VISTA program manager
2 at Texas Homeless Network.

3 MS. LOPEZ: Cal Lopez, McKinney-Vento State
4 Education Coordinator with Texas Education Agency.

5 MR. DOYLE: Go ahead, Jennifer.

6 MS. POHLSON: Okay. Jennifer Pohlson, the
7 Director of Development and Communications, THN. I am
8 filling in for Eric Samuels.

9 MS. VARGE: I am Lindsey Varge with HHSC, State
10 POP Coordinator. I am filling in for Helen Eisert.

11 MS. DOUGHERTY: Carissa Dougherty, Senior
12 Advisor, Health and Human Services Commission.

13 MR. DINARES: My name is Juan Dinares. I am a
14 manager for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice,
15 Reentry and Integration Division. And I am sitting in for
16 Sherri Cogbill.

17 MR. DOYLE: Great.

18 MS. CANTU: Naomi Cantu with the Texas
19 Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

20 MS. BOSTON: Brooke Boston, with Department of
21 Housing. I am a director of finance.

22 MS. BINGLER: D.J. Bingler with Texas Workforce
23 Commission.

24 MR. DOYLE: And in the back, who do we have
25 visiting?

1 MS. STAMP: I am Jeanne Stamp. I am with the
2 Texas Homeless Education Office.

3 MS. MORGAN: Alena Morgan, multifamily housing
4 specialist, TDHCA.

5 MR. BEAUCHAMP: David Beauchamp with HHSC,
6 Office of Aging, Aging and Disability Resource Center.

7 MR. SHEA: I'm Danny Shea. I am an attorney
8 with [inaudible] with HHSC.

9 MR. DOYLE: Great.

10 FEMALE VOICE: I am [inaudible], sitting in for
11 Molly, with the Texas Council on Family Violence.

12 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Did you hear that, Molly?

13 MS. VOYLES: I did not. I can't hear the
14 people in the back.

15 MR. DOYLE: She is with your organization,
16 filling in for you, so she is here. So don't count her
17 absent.

18 MS. VOYLES: You know what, she is not filling
19 in for me. She is now going to replace Nona Murrow.

20 MR. DOYLE: Thank you very much.

21 Jennifer, now go right ahead with Eric's
22 update.

23 MS. POHLSON: So Eric did reach out to Dennis
24 and Michael to schedule a meeting. And he's traveling
25 this week, so he expects to have some changes made by the

1 end of this week. And yeah, so I think they have set up a
2 schedule to work on the annual report.

3 MR. DOYLE: Good. Anything on the Data
4 Committee? Has anybody been invited to or do I need to
5 appoint a chair to that, still?

6 MS. YEVICH: I think we had talked about --
7 because Cate Tracz was doing that. And then there was the
8 transition to Kaylee. And now there is the temporary
9 transition to me. So until the position is filled
10 permanently, that one will be on hiatus, I believe.

11 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Okay. Great.

12 MS. BOSTON: It should be soon.

13 MR. DOYLE: Good. This is just for your
14 information. But I have actually been asked to go to the
15 White House tomorrow to speak on data collaboration
16 between state and federal governments, so about how they
17 can get data from all the federal agencies and trickle
18 that down to all the state agencies, so they can be on one
19 page.

20 It is called -- I went to Haltom High School,
21 which is another real great high school in Fort Worth.
22 But taxonomy, and so they are talking about these
23 taxonomies. So I am just going to tell them, we are
24 working on that at the Texas Interagency Council.

25 MS. YEVICH: Okay. No pressure.

1 MR. DOYLE: But remember -- y'all remember Mark
2 Dole [phonetic] told us once that this can be fixed. It
3 just takes money.

4 MS. YEVICH: That sounds like Mark, and it's
5 true.

6 MR. DOYLE: Yes. So anyway, the data thing is
7 a big piece, even federally now, because they are looking
8 and understanding that if they can make the right
9 decisions across those lines of policies and things that
10 we faced with education and definition of homelessness and
11 the HUD definition of homelessness for so many years,
12 until the HARP Act came out.

13 Then there is better collaboration in talking
14 to each other. And you are already seeing collaborations
15 between Labor and Justice in some of the grants that are
16 coming out, and HUD and Justice, and other things. So it
17 is going to be a good discussion, I think.

18 Okay. I have tabled Item 5. We had no
19 nominations, so I am just going to appoint somebody, after
20 conversation with them.

21 And so we are going to go on to Number 6.
22 Member updates. Cal, do you want to start us off?

23 MS. LOPEZ: Sure. And I am trying to calculate
24 something, because in true Cal style, I was making sure I
25 had my handouts and I forgot my own talking points. So I

1 am making a couple of quick notes here, to make sure I
2 have the right numbers.

3 So I have a couple of handouts today. As I had
4 shared with you, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education
5 Program is housed in the Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student
6 Division in TEA.

7 And we released our first quarterly newsletter,
8 and it will have updates for all our Highly Mobile
9 divisions, which is foster care, McKinney-Vento Homeless
10 Education, our military-connected students, who also face
11 housing issues as well; our teen pregnancy programs.

12 And so I am providing the web link and the
13 screen shot of where you could go to TEA to sign up for
14 these newsletters, and for other divisions within the
15 agencies. So we will be providing this newsletter
16 quarterly. And we just released one in April.

17 In addition to that, we will also now have a
18 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education newsletter. So we are
19 very excited to announce that. That will be coming out in
20 the next two to three months. So we are trying to get as
21 many people signed up for our listserv as possible, to
22 kind of share that resource.

23 MR. DOYLE: Wonderful.

24 MS. LOPEZ: Then the next thing is I wanted to
25 also give an update on our funding. We received an

1 increase in funding from the U.S. Department of Ed. We
2 received \$8.8 million for the upcoming year.

3 And so as I had shared, we have 76 school
4 districts and or Regional Education Centers that have
5 grants. And so we will be -- we are in year two of our
6 grants, and we will be giving an estimated \$6.6 million
7 out in grants to these grantees.

8 And I have another little handout that we can
9 pass out too, that kind of shows the impact on that. We
10 were able to increase the allocation from \$75 per student
11 to \$95 per student. And so we have four of what we call
12 our Regional Education Centers that have 51 districts --
13 school districts that are a part of that, and then our 72
14 other school districts. So we have a total of 123
15 districts that are receiving part of the \$6.6 million.
16 And so we are very excited to share that amount.

17 Usually, the U.S. Department of Education gives
18 us a projected amount, and so we wanted to get this money
19 out as soon as possible.

20 So I was telling our grant department, you
21 know, I think this projection is solid, and let's go with
22 this. I was making them very nervous. But I came in
23 within \$124 of the actual grant.

24 MR. DOYLE: Wow.

25 MS. LOPEZ: So I am very excited that I didn't

1 have to go alter anything once we did get the final. And
2 so our continuation application has been released. It is
3 due May 21st. And so the districts can see the increase
4 in funding for the next year, so we are very excited about
5 that.

6 I can't guarantee that we will see the same
7 increase for the next year, from the funding charts, but
8 we have seen an increase for the past few years. So as
9 soon as we see that, we want to make sure that the money
10 gets into the hands of the school districts to use it.

11 MR. DOYLE: Refresh our memory. That \$75 soon
12 to be \$90 a day goes to the district for what?

13 MS. LOPEZ: So all the districts submit grants,
14 and they have different projects regarding increasing
15 attendance, increasing academic monitoring.

16 MR. DOYLE: For homeless?

17 MS. LOPEZ: For homeless students, for their
18 identified homeless students, ensuring, you know, working
19 with tutoring. So each grant is unique in its own way,
20 and provides unique services.

21 We are actually in the process right now with
22 the Texas Homeless Education Office and Jeanne's team, on
23 working on the mid-year survey and review, in which we are
24 getting some data to look at where they're at on
25 identification and working with them to see if they need

1 to make any amendments to their funds for year one, and
2 then working with them on completing the year two
3 application.

4 And then when we come to the third year --
5 because it is a third year grant cycle -- then we will be
6 talking again about competing out that grant again. So
7 very excited to share that information, that increase in
8 funding from \$75 per student to \$95 per student.

9 So for some districts that was a very big
10 increase, especially our larger districts, such as
11 Houston, Dallas, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, and Austin.

12 That was a very large jump in their grants. And we are
13 excited to see what they are going to do with those funds
14 through the continuation application.

15 MR. DOYLE: Now, is that grant for every day
16 the student attends? Is that just a one-time grant?

17 MS. LOPEZ: So the grant funds, they have the
18 funds for the whole school year. And so the student is
19 identified as homeless. They receive those support
20 services from the school district, so they are eligible
21 for those services throughout the year.

22 MR. DOYLE: And the amount of those services
23 would be \$90?

24 MS. LOPEZ: That is just the funding that we
25 look at. We look at the number of students that they had

1 identified when they -- the formula for when they applied.

2 And then we applied that \$75.

3 Oftentimes there are services that most
4 probably some districts are very good about how to utilize
5 their funds. And so some of the services they provide
6 really go above and beyond that amount.

7 So our districts are very good at looking at
8 the resources they have and utilizing them, especially for
9 summer enrichment, assistance with summer school as
10 well -- I'm trying to think, as I am screening through the
11 grants in my head -- and providing some opportunities.

12 At times, if identification has changed, we
13 look at them and see; they have the opportunity to amend
14 their grant at any point during the year up until June.

15 So if there is new needs that have arised, they
16 can change that grant. Our whole intention at the
17 agency -- we understand that needs change, and we
18 encourage our subgrantees to do a needs assessment on a
19 regular basis and provide the services that they need at
20 that point in time.

21 MR. DOYLE: So if I am understanding this
22 correctly, these are just theoretical numbers. If there
23 are a hundred homeless students in the district, they are
24 now going to get \$9,000 or whatever that --

25 MS. LOPEZ: 9500.

1 MR. DOYLE: -- to help whatever needs. But it
2 is not allocated by child.

3 MS. LOPEZ: No.

4 MR. DOYLE: That is your bucket.

5 MS. LOPEZ: Yes.

6 MR. DOYLE: So if somebody needed a uniform --

7 MS. LOPEZ: Yes.

8 MR. DOYLE: -- they could use that for a
9 uniform.

10 MS. LOPEZ: Yes.

11 MR. DOYLE: Okay. And that is on a case-by-
12 case basis. We let the districts determine how they can
13 better use their funds. We encourage them.

14 They also have other buckets of money that they
15 can use as well. One of them is called Title I, Part A
16 set-aside. We worked with them, working with donors as
17 well, so that those grant funds can go as far as possible.

18 And that is something that we are going to
19 continue to build training on. Jeanne and I have talked,
20 that we will be developing more of a needs assessment
21 training to kind of really go over how to utilize those
22 resources and which ones have the most flexibility when it
23 comes to looking at the funds and what they can do with
24 it.

25 So that is something that we are discussing for

1 the upcoming school year, to provide that training. And
2 that we have heard from our districts that they would
3 appreciate that training as well.

4 MR. DOYLE: Do you and Jeanne have any sense of
5 what the districts are saying? I mean, I am not -- I know
6 they are saying there is not enough money.

7 MS. LOPEZ: Right.

8 MR. DOYLE: That is one of the points. This
9 doesn't fix any problems, really. This helps fix the
10 problems, but it doesn't solve them. But is there any
11 data on what really the schools are saying, what we really
12 need is?

13 MS. LOPEZ: More staff.

14 MS. STAMP: Yes. I would think they -- you
15 know, the project [inaudible] --

16 MR. DOYLE: Come here.

17 MS. LOPEZ: Come sit by me, Jeanne.

18 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

19 MS. LOPEZ: Which is -- while Jeanne is
20 moving -- I did have the opportunity to attend a
21 conference in which we had 25 of our current grantees and
22 to kind of talk to them about it. And one thing that did
23 come up about their grant funds was could they hire more
24 staff with it? Which is an option; they can use that for
25 additional staffing.

1 Now that you have got here, I will let you go
2 on, then.

3 MS. STAMP: Yes. So what I was going to say,
4 probably the most effective use of the funding is
5 dedicated staff, because if you don't have dedicated staff
6 to really work with those kids, work with those families,
7 track their attendance, track their school work, it just
8 falls through the cracks.

9 It becomes nobody's job. So that is really one
10 of the most effective things to do. So many times,
11 districts will use it for that. But of course, the
12 concern is how do we sustain that --

13 MS. LOPEZ: Exactly.

14 MS. STAMP: -- if there is a drop in money or
15 we don't get the grant the next year, because it is a
16 competitive grant every three years. So there is always a
17 little bit of concern about that.

18 But I also wanted to add, for all of you here,
19 one of the major things is that schools have really
20 learned that they have to work with their community
21 service providers within their community, because that
22 really expands what they are able to do: the services
23 they are able to provide, products, mental health
24 services; you know, working with the housing to help these
25 families find housing, that sort of thing, is really

1 important. And schools can't do it all alone.

2 So more and more, we are getting them connected
3 to their coalitions in their community and their service
4 providers. And they are finding that that really is
5 helping to expand those dollars and put them to use.

6 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

7 MS. LOPEZ: So what I wanted to share in
8 addition to that, I actually had one specific subgrantee
9 ask me that she wanted to add a full-time staff member.
10 And she wanted to know what the projection looked like for
11 next year.

12 And I said, we can't go on the projections. I
13 can't guarantee the same amount of funding for every year.

14 I can just guarantee when we know we have it, we get it
15 out to you.

16 But then we are also looking for districts to
17 be innovative and think out of the box when they come to
18 supporting our students. But we are always hoping that
19 they will use the funding for additional staff, because
20 what Jeanne says is correct. As a former homeless
21 liaison, I can attest to always needing more staff, from
22 being out in the field at that point.

23 But also for looking at opportunities for
24 students to experience, like a summer camp or a spring
25 break camp. You know, there are many districts that have

1 their own community education classes that are like a
2 science camp or a computer camp, and they also can use
3 these funds to pay for students to attend to these camps.

4 And so we also highly encourage to look at the
5 outside of the box, of creating your own. We have one
6 district who has what is called a TAP camp. It is in
7 spring break. It is one of our subgrantees that does
8 great things.

9 And it is for one week. And they invite the
10 students, and they just talk about how the students walk
11 around later, just, you know, their buckets have been
12 filled, and they are so excited.

13 So we do work with them, again, to stress -- I
14 always ask what does your needs assessment say, and I know
15 I am preaching to the choir when I talk in this room about
16 that. But they know their students need the best, and
17 what resources they have. But we do stress to work with
18 the community in looking at all resources to support them.

19 MR. DOYLE: Are the programs through TEA
20 available to all school districts?

21 MS. LOPEZ: So they are available to all school
22 districts. In the conference I was at, I actually had
23 several districts that asked me, you know, we have to wait
24 until the next, the third year, which is -- we'll be
25 competing it in 2021.

1 I highly encourage them to go -- so on the TDA
2 grants opportunity page, you can actually see the
3 application from the '18-'19, school year. And you can
4 actually go on and see all the applications that were
5 awarded, so they could get ideas and start developing
6 their grant.

7 So I walked several school districts, who had
8 questions about that, and showed them the resources, so
9 they could do that. So we are always promoting for more
10 school districts in our state.

11 MR. DOYLE: And then the school district writes
12 the grant.

13 MS. LOPEZ: Uh-huh.

14 MR. DOYLE: So there is -- that will be
15 hundreds and hundreds of school districts in Texas.

16 MS. LOPEZ: 1,200.

17 MR. DOYLE: 1,200, and you are going to award
18 25 grants with all the resources we have, toward the
19 grants. Is that right?

20 MS. LOPEZ: So we have over 1,200 school
21 districts. If you are a very small school district, we
22 kind of set a level of -- if your grant is going to -- if
23 you are eligible for less than \$5,000, that then you work
24 with one of our regional educational centers, because it
25 may be a lot for a very small school district.

1 So we have a regional center, probably 214, it
2 is in Abilene. They have 20 districts with them that are
3 very small that all apply together. And so the staff
4 member there at our Regional Educational Service Center
5 writes the grant in partnership with them.

6 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

7 MS. LOPEZ: Because we want to ensure that we
8 have districts of all sizes participating in the grants.
9 So we would love to see all districts apply for the grant.
10 That hasn't happened before.

11 But we were definitely trying to advertise it
12 now, moving forward, to hopefully get more districts to
13 participate. And so which leads into the next couple of
14 updates; it's actually great segue.

15 So I know at the last meeting, I talked about
16 the way we are doing our McKinney-Vento Homeless Education
17 posters, and so we should have some to bring to you all at
18 our next meeting in July.

19 So we are very excited about that. I've got
20 the final edits to do the review before we send it to get
21 it printed, and they will be ready for the school
22 districts to have for the fall of the school year.

23 And then I am looking here to make sure I don't
24 forget anything, since I left my notes at the office, I'm
25 sure on the printer.

1 The last thing I also wanted to go ahead and
2 discuss is our statewide conference. First, I wanted to
3 thank Jennifer Pohlson, who we have partnered with for
4 several years; the Texas Homeless Network, in having our
5 conference.

6 But the Agency has decided that they would like
7 us to bring the conference back in house, from feedback
8 that we have received from our school districts, our
9 Regional Education Centers, and our stakeholders. And so
10 the Texas Education Agency will have a grant that will be
11 going out for our conference.

12 The Agency would like to increase the
13 attendance of school districts and our Regional
14 Educational Centers and also have them more as presenters
15 and expand the educational tracks, but also have more of a
16 TEA presence in the conference and as presenters.

17 We will definitely be looking toward several of
18 the collaborators in the room to come present, when we do
19 release our Request for Presentations, but also to help
20 support networking opportunities.

21 And we are thinking that the target date for
22 the conference will be in the spring this year. That
23 hasn't happened before. We are going to be off a little
24 year. But also, following that, and I think I announced
25 this before, we will have our national conference coming

1 to Dallas 2020.

2 And so that will be our statewide conference
3 for us. And so we look forward again to several people
4 who are currently here in the audience to look at
5 presenting as well for the national conference, since it
6 will be here in Dallas 2020.

7 So we are very excited to announce that. Once
8 that grant goes out -- we are targeting that the grant
9 will go out in mid to the end of June, from our grants
10 opportunity page.

11 So I encourage you to go and sign up for all
12 those updates, especially grant updates, because that is
13 when you will get notifications of all the grants that are
14 available.

15 MR. DOYLE: This is a general closing
16 statement. Homelessness among students, up, down, stable?

17 MS. LOPEZ: So for the '17-'18 school year, we
18 saw a huge increase due to Hurricane Harvey. We
19 identified an additional 120,000 students, which means
20 that 4.1 percent of the students enrolled in Texas schools
21 were identified as homeless.

22 When we looked at our -- we have something
23 called snapshot data. That is data that school districts
24 submit the last Friday of every school year. We were at
25 about -- and I am trying to remember -- about 80,000.

1 So that is significantly lower than Hurricane
2 Harvey. But when we look at the year prior, to when there
3 was no disaster, it's slightly increased, I think, by
4 3,000.

5 So in October, we were about 1.6 percent of all
6 students enrolled in the state of Texas. So a great
7 question.

8 MR. DOYLE: 1.3 percent of all students
9 enrolled --

10 MS. LOPEZ: 1.6.

11 MR. DOYLE: -- meet the definition of
12 homelessness?

13 MS. LOPEZ: And I will say that for the
14 2017-'18 school year, what we did see was an increase also
15 in our unaccompanied youth, which are our students who
16 have lost their housing and not in the physical custody of
17 a parent or guardian.

18 We have been consistently around 17,000, and it
19 increased to over 19,000. So that's just something to
20 look at.

21 MS. BOSTON: Are those students all in district
22 schools, or would that include charter?

23 MS. LOPEZ: That would include charter. It's
24 all schools. So we are curious to see what the data looks
25 like for this year, given that we did not have hurricanes.

1 But our goal is to increase the number of
2 school districts that are identifying homeless children
3 and youth. For the 2016-'17 school year we had 278
4 districts that identified zero homeless students.

5 And so that is -- we believe that there are
6 homeless students in every area, and so that will be part
7 of the push, to drive training to see more districts
8 identifying students, because we do believe that there is
9 under-identification occurring. And we feel that even
10 during Hurricane Harvey, we still had huge under-
11 identification that occurred.

12 MR. DOYLE: This brings up a topic that has
13 been around for a long, long time. And we won't address
14 it today, but do you feel like some of those districts --
15 we know there is homeless students there -- that it's a
16 stigma?

17 MS. LOPEZ: Yes.

18 MR. DOYLE: That they don't want to say that we
19 have got homeless children in our district --

20 MS. LOPEZ: Yes.

21 MR. DOYLE: -- because of the stigma around
22 homelessness?

23 MS. LOPEZ: I think that is one of the
24 reasons. I think Jeanne would concur with me on that.
25 Definitely there is a stigma still tied to that.

1 MS. STAMP: Yeah. And of course, sometimes,
2 maybe some families don't want to self-identify because of
3 that stigma.

4 MS. LOPEZ:

5 MS. STAMP: And if you are an unaccompanied
6 youth, there is a lot of fear about getting involved with
7 CPS or the police, you know, if you left home without
8 permission, if your parents kicked you out.

9 So many times they don't want to self-identify
10 either. So there are lots of reasons why there is under-
11 identification.

12 And of course, you all know that the education
13 definition is a little bit different than the HUD
14 definition, and so that doubled up, and a substandard
15 housing definition that is part of the education
16 definition gets missed a lot.

17 MR. DOYLE: So we are still focused on, in
18 their mind, the homeless are the ones that they, in the
19 larger community, they see down by the shelters, living in
20 tents. That is their thinking around -- that is what the
21 homeless look like, when really they are in some housing
22 program, shelter plus care, or rent-free housing, or
23 something, trying to get better.

24 MS. STAMP: Yes. And it depends, when you are
25 saying that's what they're thinking, who is the "they."

1 Generally speaking the homeless liaisons know those
2 definitions and are really good about identifying.

3 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

4 MS. STAMP: But sometimes other district staff
5 are not. And then we are finding frequently that their
6 district -- whole district programs that are not very
7 knowledgeable, and we need to get that information out to
8 them.

9 And I will give you an example. We did a big
10 research study down in the Valley, which is Region 1
11 education service center. And we worked a lot with some
12 of the migrant programs down there.

13 And after going through the training, many of
14 those people that are working with migrant families said,
15 oh my gosh, I have so many people on my caseload who are
16 actually homeless and have no idea, and they haven't been
17 brought to the attention of the homeless people at the
18 school district. So we think there is a lot of work to be
19 done.

20 MS. LOPEZ: And so Jeanne brings a great point.

21 So the migrant education program at the Texas Education
22 Agency is in a highly mobile division.

23 I had showed them some data that showed that
24 only -- when we are looking at homeless students who are
25 homeless and identified as migrant, that is only .5

1 percent; that's not even 1 percent.

2 And so we know that there is very low
3 identification there. And so we at the agency starting
4 from the top on down are looking at more ways to
5 collaborate and to identify the students that we know
6 should be identified and are not. There is a huge gap
7 there.

8 And so moving forward, there will be some more
9 collaboration, starting at the state level with the
10 migrant education program on down. And actually,
11 yesterday, I had the great opportunity to provide a very
12 high-level summary of our program to our TEA leadership
13 and reviewed identification and some of our numbers with
14 our other highly mobile division members.

15 Migrant being the next -- I was sandwiched
16 right after migrant, and we did that for a specific
17 purpose, to show that we knew that we have a lot of
18 students that aren't being identified.

19 And when it comes to federal funding and grants
20 from the Department of Education, migrant gets like five
21 times more than we do, so we need to work with them,
22 because they have got a lot more funding than we do. I
23 believe they have something like -- they get like \$40
24 million from the U.S. Department of Education to recruit
25 and find these students.

1 So moving forward, we are actually the only two
2 programs within our division that get any type of federal
3 funding. All of the other programs have no federal
4 funding tied to it.

5 So we will definitely -- one of the suggestions
6 was that we partake more in their conferences and start
7 presenting in their conferences to work with their
8 recruiters to help find our students.

9 MR. DOYLE: And I would assume your homeless
10 liaisons hopefully are talking to their school boards.
11 And in our local area, a former school board member asked
12 me, are there any homeless in our local school district?
13 And I said, yes.

14 The last time we found, it was like 124, and
15 this was two or three years ago. And he said, Impossible,
16 impossible; I've only seen two or three on the corners.

17 And I said, they're not there; that's not the
18 ones we are talking about. We are talking about the ones
19 that are in what we used to call transitional housing, but
20 all over the city. And they didn't realize it.

21 And so I am going to assume that the liaisons
22 and the reason that you hope they staff up to do that is
23 they can inform their school boards that that is not a
24 stigma. These folks are trying to get better.

25 This isn't the homeless living outdoors. This

1 is the people that are trying to get better. And then
2 school boards won't have such a stigma around that.

3 MS. LOPEZ: Right. Well, we are very lucky
4 that TASB, the Texas Association of School Boards, does
5 work with school districts regarding their district
6 policy, especially with transitional services for our
7 students regarding attendance and awardable credit.

8 So they do make them aware of that. Not all
9 liaisons, I'm sorry to say, are created equal. They may
10 not all have the autonomy to go to their board, but it's
11 often that through their leadership, they are able to do
12 that. And that varies from district to district.

13 MS. BOLTON: Mike?

14 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

15 MS. GENDRON: Thank you. I've just got a quick
16 question for Cal. Is the National Conference the NAEHC
17 Conference?

18 MS. LOPEZ: Yes. The National Association for
19 the Education of Homeless Children. Yes, NAEHC.

20 MS. GENDRON: Okay. Thank you.

21 MS. LOPEZ: And that was 2020. This year they
22 are having their conference in Washington, D.C.

23 MS. GENDRON: Okay.

24 MS. LOPEZ: And then next year, it will be
25 Dallas.

1 MS. GENDRON: And that one is in spring?

2 MS. LOPEZ: It is always in the fall.

3 MS. GENDRON: Oh, that one is in the fall.

4 MS. LOPEZ: End of October.

5 MS. GENDRON: So you are doing the November
6 conference in the spring yourselves, and then have the
7 national conference in the fall?

8 MS. LOPEZ: Right. And we are going to tie
9 part of our training into that.

10 MS. GENDRON: Okay. I see. Okay.

11 MS. LOPEZ: So we are going to -- we are
12 telling our school districts that instead of us having the
13 state, we would rather you attend the national conference
14 in Dallas 2020. And then if you are a subgrantee, we will
15 have an additional day of training.

16 Yes, sir.

17 MR. BORREGO: Have you identified any single
18 moms that are going through to finish high school?
19 Because I know up in Fort Worth, we went to visit with
20 CCC, And they contacted us about, you know, they had
21 homeless single moms going through, and what could we do
22 as part of HUD?

23 So we got with our TIH, and then they worked
24 with the City of Fort Worth, actually they had vouchers
25 for the housing to help those single moms.

1 MS. LOPEZ: Yes. We have a lot of single moms
2 who face homelessness. And often when they do get back on
3 their feet, they meet a certain income level and then lose
4 a lot of benefits. And so they are always kind of in a
5 little Catch-22.

6 It is heartbreaking at times to hear that.
7 They want to be self-sufficient, but they lose a lot of
8 benefits when they reach a certain criteria, and that
9 makes it really hard for them. So that is a great
10 question.

11 I also wanted to share that, you know, ESSA was
12 a game changer and that it also requires --

13 MR. DOYLE: Now, explain ESSA.

14 MS. LOPEZ: I am sorry. Every Student Succeeds
15 Act is the legislation that -- sorry, you got to remind me
16 about that.

17 But we are also able to track more academic
18 data for our students on our state report cards, including
19 our four-year cohort graduation and dropout rates. And so
20 that was some other information.

21 So it is putting more of a focus on our
22 students also academically and how they do compare to
23 their non-homeless peers. And so we will be providing
24 more training and walking through that for our districts
25 to use, because we often share with our districts. The

1 data tells our story. And oftentimes, it is the data that
2 speak to those in leadership, when decisions need to be
3 made, because you can't refute data. It is out there.

4 And so at the conference that I was at, we
5 walked with several of the school districts to show them
6 how they could look up their district's graduation rates,
7 compared to their students who are not homeless and those
8 who are. So we are very excited to share that. And that
9 all can be found on our TEA website.

10 MR. DOYLE: Great. Okay. Any other questions
11 for Cal?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. DOYLE: Thank you very much.

14 MS. LOPEZ: Thank you.

15 MR. DOYLE: Good information.

16 Okay. Naomi?

17 MS. CANTU: Yes. I have. So my name is Naomi
18 Cantu. I am with the Texas Department of Housing and
19 Community Affairs. I have just a few updates.

20 One is on the Ending Homelessness Fund. So
21 that is the fund that went into effect, I believe two
22 years ago, and it's voluntary contributions, when
23 someone registers a vehicle, it goes into these funds.

24 And so it is not quite General Revenue. It is
25 not quite -- it is not federal funding. And it is for

1 ending homelessness. And we have averaged about, well,
2 between 10,000 and 13,000 per month, so that is a good
3 chunk from the generous people of Texas.

4 And we have accrued about 177,000 in that, and
5 we are working on an application to get that out. We did
6 adopt rules governing the fund, and so these funds would
7 go to existing homeless housing and services program
8 subrecipients, and Emergency Solutions Grant subrecipients
9 that are cities and counties. And cities or counties
10 because the legislation ties it specifically to cities or
11 counties.

12 MR. DOYLE: Now, tell me where do you -- where
13 is that homeless fund money generated? Is that where you
14 check, give a dollar?

15 MS. CANTU: That is correct. When you register
16 a vehicle, you can voluntarily donate to certain causes,
17 and the Ending Homelessness Fund is one of those causes.

18 MR. DOYLE: I just registered three vehicles,
19 and I didn't get that option.

20 MS. CANTU: Did you do it online or --

21 MR. DOYLE: At the courthouse.

22 MS. YEVICH: I think it's on the back.

23 MS. CANTU: Yes. It is on the back. You have
24 to flip it over.

25 MR. DOYLE: So if I am just taking a title of

1 transfer thing up there and I am registering the vehicle,
2 I have got to tell them to flip that thing over on the
3 back and check my -- is that the way?

4 MS. YEVICH: I think you said it is on the back
5 of the form.

6 MS. CANTU: Sometimes it is. I don't remember.
7 I had to do it online in order to donate.

8 MR. DOYLE: Oh, really?

9 MS. CANTU: I think I did. Yeah.

10 MR. DOYLE: So maybe I should just have our
11 staff do them online.

12 MS. CANTU: Do them online. I think it's
13 supposed to be on the back, but when I registered mine, I
14 think -- I would have to look again. But I didn't notice
15 it. It is definitely not on the front. Because there are
16 a number of organizations to donate to.

17 MR. DOYLE: Yes. And that is separate from the
18 driver's license, because I just renewed my driver's
19 license online, and I had options. And I looked all over
20 the thing, and homelessness was not one of them. And so
21 it is just registrations.

22 MS. CANTU: Yes.

23 MR. DOYLE: I don't want to have to chew out
24 anybody else.

25 MS. GENDRON: Naomi, are there cities and

1 counties that get ESG directly awarded to them?

2 MS. CANTU: They are -- because we do not have
3 an active contract with TDHCA, they are not what the rule
4 has identified as eligible for Ending Homelessness Fund.

5 MS. GENDRON: Okay. Because I think, did you
6 say that the funds have to go to cities and counties?

7 MS. CANTU: That is correct.

8 MS. GENDRON: The ESG -- so it is just HHSP
9 subrecipients, right?

10 MS. CANTU: HHSP subrecipients. And then I
11 believe we have one ESG subrecipient through TDHCA that's
12 a city.

13 MS. GENDRON: Oh. So ESG does sometimes go
14 directly to a city.

15 MS. CANTU: Yes.

16 MS. GENDRON: I didn't know that. I thought it
17 only went to providers.

18 MS. CANTU: So ESG is Emergency Solutions
19 Grants.

20 MR. DOYLE: Go ahead.

21 MS. CANTU: And the Texas Department of Housing
22 gets a certain portion. Approximately half, a little less
23 than half; that goes to Texas. And then some of those
24 funds go directly from HUD to cities or counties. So that
25 is what the confusion here was. We fund some cities and

1 counties, but also HUD does. So that was --

2 MR. DOYLE: Okay. So and Fort Worth is also
3 our Community Action Agency, the City of Fort Worth. So
4 it would go to them?

5 MS. CANTU: It would have to go to a city or
6 county, yeah, not a community action agency. It is a
7 nonprofit.

8 MS. BOSTON: It doesn't automatically go to
9 Austin or Dallas.

10 MR. DOYLE: So if the City of Fort Worth gets
11 it, what are they going to do with it? I mean, are
12 they -- now it's a separate pot of money for them?

13 MS. CANTU: So it probably would look like a
14 separate contract. It would be a separate contract in our
15 housing contract system. And the way the rule is written
16 is that they use it for similar activities in their
17 existing grants, because we are talking about very small
18 chunks of money when it is divided up.

19 MR. DOYLE: Right.

20 MS. CANTU: So we are looking at existing
21 subrecipients that we have a contractual relationship
22 with. So we always have all their administrative forms.
23 And then we execute that contract when they pass certain
24 administrative requirements.

25 MR. DOYLE: So it would just be a supplement to

1 the HHSP contract?

2 MS. CANTU: Basically.

3 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Because I have never heard
4 our city talk about that at all and just was curious.

5 MS. CANTU: Yes.

6 MS. BOSTON: And then when an EH fund reaches
7 an amount, what is the threshold amount?

8 MS. CANTU: I think it was 500,000.

9 MS. BOSTON: I think so. We came up at some
10 point when the money reaches a certain threshold, then we
11 will be doing something else with it that doesn't only
12 focus on ESG and HHSP subrecipients.

13 But this let us go ahead and start using it
14 without waiting, while not having to create a whole new
15 program that needs an information for \$150,000.

16 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

17 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

18 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

19 MS. BOSTON: And that was all through the
20 rulemaking process as well. Yes.

21 MS. MOORE: So it is not like when like over
22 time it has reached \$500,000? It is that if at any point,
23 we haven't used enough of that funding and it gets to
24 500,000? Is that correct?

25 MS. CANTU: I would have to look exactly at the

1 rule. Yes.

2 MS. BOSTON: Yes. I get that if you keep
3 spending it, it will never get there.

4 MS. MOORE: Yes.

5 MS. BOSTON: We need to look exactly at the way
6 it is written and see. Yes.

7 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Any other questions on the
8 Ending Homelessness Fund for Naomi?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. DOYLE: All right. ESGP programs?

11 MS. CANTU: Yes. The Emergency Solutions
12 Grants. So again, this is a federal grant from HUD.
13 About half comes to the State of Texas and the rest goes
14 to cities and counties around Texas.

15 We got a slight bump in 2019 allocation, so we
16 have about \$9.1 million to competitively award. We are
17 looking to take our Notice of Funding Availability to the
18 main Board meeting at Texas Department of Housing and
19 Community Affairs, so we are looking to release that NOFA
20 soon.

21 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Any questions for Naomi
22 about either one of those topics?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. DOYLE: Any other updates, Committee
25 members?

1 MS. BOSTON: A couple.

2 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

3 MS. BOSTON: You know, we kind of intentionally
4 didn't do an addendum item on here that was for
5 legislative updates. But there are a few bills that
6 definitely would directly impact the TICH and or TDHCA. I
7 thought I would just mention those.

8 MR. DOYLE: Sure.

9 MS. BOSTON: So the first is House Bill 2564 by
10 Representative White. This one actually specifically
11 revises the TICH statute language. It specifies that when
12 we do our State Low Income Housing Plan, which is a data
13 analysis document that the Agency produces, that we would
14 also look at homeless data when we compare that plan, as
15 one of the main subpopulations.

16 So and then it also -- right now, there is
17 language -- you guys may remember over the last couple of
18 years, that we had had revised -- or, I shouldn't say we.

19 That in general, it was revised to the statute
20 that specified that we can contract directly with THN, and
21 there is language revising that.

22 But it also indicates that we could contract
23 with any other statewide network who has a network of
24 providers for homeless youth, so essentially, I think the
25 implication is that we would be able to contract with

1 TNOYS for items like that.

2 MR. DOYLE: And that is HB 2124?

3 MS. BOSTON: 2564.

4 MR. DOYLE: 25.

5 MS. BOSTON: Yes. And right now, and that one
6 did not have a fiscal note. And as of right now, the
7 community substitute has been sent to local and consent,
8 on Friday. So that one looks like it is actually
9 potentially got some movement.

10 The next one is HB 3180. That one looks at a
11 centralized homelessness crisis response system. For
12 anyone who read that one, it is a really big bill in terms
13 of what it was looking to have developed. The fiscal note
14 on it exceeded \$4 million for the biennium.

15 And I think essentially -- and this is me
16 paraphrasing a lot, but several years ago, we worked on
17 trying to do a capital budget item through the TICH, at
18 TDHCA, specifically to try and come up with a response
19 system for data sharing among the COCs.

20 The concept was that, and I don't know as much
21 about it. I think this was Eric of THN working with the
22 member. I think he had indicated to me that he thought it
23 would kind go out as a pilot. The bill that was drafted
24 and proposed was not a pilot, which is probably why the
25 fiscal note was so big.

1 In any event, that one right now has not had a
2 substitute filed in any way. And the last action it had,
3 was being left pending in committee on April 11.

4 MR. DOYLE: Is that good or bad; pending in
5 committee?

6 MS. BOSTON: According to Michael Lyttle, our
7 lege director, he would tell you that if it is still
8 pending in Committee at this point and it has not gotten
9 out of its house of origin -- out of the Committee in its
10 house of origin, then it is unlikely probably to pass by
11 the end of session.

12 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

13 MS. MOORE: That is what we are thinking right
14 now, and we'll talk about it when we get to that.

15 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

16 MS. BOSTON: Okay. The next one is HB 4394 by
17 Johnson. And this is the one that would just revise the
18 HHSP program to clarify that it would also include
19 prevention based on homelessness that resulted from
20 displacement due to economic development activities.

21 Specifically, what he had been having concern
22 was that in certain areas, let's say, people were choosing
23 to no longer rent the houses. Let's say they have rental
24 homes and they had chosen to stop renting those so that
25 the area could be redeveloped.

1 And then that was displacing people who had a
2 pretty affordable rent somewhere. So I don't know that
3 HHSP couldn't be used for that, anyway. You know, I feel
4 like the authority for what it could be used for is pretty
5 broad. But this clarifies it in statute to make sure that
6 if this were passed, that for sure could be an activity
7 that any of the HHSP recipients could use it for.

8 MR. DOYLE: Okay. So explain that to me one
9 more time.

10 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

11 MR. DOYLE: So HHSP can be used to pay the
12 rents of --

13 MS. BOSTON: It's not that specific. The
14 wording in the bill is just that the local programs for
15 preventing and eliminating homelessness, and the addition
16 is including the prevention of homelessness that results
17 from displacement due to economic development activities.

18 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

19 MS. BOSTON: So there is that thought --

20 MR. DOYLE: So there is an older
21 neighborhood -- I'm just -- older neighborhood somewhere.

22 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

23 MR. DOYLE: And the developer comes in, tears
24 it down, and he displaces people who had affordable
25 rents --

1 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

2 MR. DOYLE: -- at the time. This thing says
3 this could be used to help subsidize the rent someplace
4 else.

5 MS. BOSTON: Correct.

6 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

7 MS. BOSTON: That was the member's concern, is
8 that type of population.

9 MS. LOPEZ: Would it also include, which is
10 happening a lot in this area, where there are duplexes and
11 rental homes, that they're really -- they are just
12 increasing the rent, or they are renovating it and then
13 jumping up the rent?

14 MS. BOSTON: I don't know that that would be
15 considered economic development. We had several members
16 ask TDHCA about this and kind of how we would implement
17 this.

18 And what we have said is, if this were to pass,
19 we will take our HHSP rule back up for comment and define
20 what this looks like, and therefore, we get comment from
21 everyone in the industry, kind of on how far that
22 parameter can go.

23 MS. LOPEZ: Okay. That is what is happening in
24 a lot of the areas. The duplexes and the rental homes may
25 be very old. They are coming in, they're renovating them,

1 and then the rent skyrockets. So that is putting a lot of
2 our families out of their rentals right now.

3 MS. BOSTON: Yes. Yes.

4 MR. DOYLE: You know, let me just give you --
5 and I'm sorry to do this, but I am trying to get it sure
6 in my mind. Let me give you a hypothetical. It is not
7 hypothetical, but let me give you a hypothetical.

8 There is an older area of town. A developer
9 comes in, buys out all the property in this area of town.

10 A city council member says, I am not going to let you do
11 that, because you are displacing people who have low
12 rents. The developer now, if this passes, can come back
13 and say, but there is money in HHSP that might help them
14 pay their rent someplace else. Is that --

15 MS. BOSTON: They could say that. I don't know
16 that this helps or has any obligation to still go along
17 with it. But yeah.

18 MR. DOYLE: But that is a light, maybe a hope
19 that if there are people displaced, that there is going to
20 be a remedy for that --

21 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

22 MR. DOYLE: -- under this.

23 MS. BOSTON: Yes. Now, it would not require
24 any of the HHSP recipients to program their funds this
25 way.

1 MR. DOYLE: Right.

2 MS. BOSTON: It gives them the option but not
3 the obligation.

4 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

5 MS. BOSTON: Yes. Just one more, I just wanted
6 to mention is --

7 MS. MOORE: Can you do Johnson's number one
8 more time?

9 MS. BOSTON: Yeah. Johnson's is HB 4394.

10 MS. MOORE: Okay. Thank you.

11 MS. BOSTON: And then the last one is on the
12 Senate side, is Senate Bill 1019. And this one, the
13 background of it is definitely homeless correlated,
14 although it was not written in a way that is only limited
15 to homeless activity.

16 So this is one that we had talked to Eric
17 about, even before session. The idea is that an
18 individual who has a voucher, whether or not it was a
19 voucher from, you know, public housing or from a VASH
20 voucher, maybe a temporary rental assistance activity
21 under rapid rehousing.

22 In any event, they have that. They find a
23 unit, and when they go out to the unit, it doesn't meet
24 standard. And so THN was interested in trying to find a
25 way, how can we get that unit fixed up quickly so that the

1 person can be housed there.

2 The bill proposed. SB 1019 by Alvarado, I don't
3 know that it does quite that. I know that that is Eric's
4 vision for it. It is a hard activity to try to wrap
5 around, because you are ending up helping the landlord in
6 return for wanting to get the immediate assistance for the
7 household, whether all that could happen in enough time to
8 really immediately help that household with the voucher.

9 The other thing, it is written as a grant,
10 which is great, but so then you would be giving assistance
11 to -- let's say Joe Landlord owns a fourplex. He signs
12 up, he's willing to do it.

13 You fix up his units, and make them meet HQS.
14 As soon as you do that, assuming that we put a lending
15 restriction on the property to make sure he serves who he
16 just promised to serve, we then have to go out and monitor
17 for that.

18 So it is not a little thing, even though in
19 fact the actual expense for the rehab could be \$1,500.
20 You know, so it is a cool idea. I don't know -- I mean,
21 it will be an interesting one to have to implement, if it
22 comes along. It will be a cool challenge. So that is
23 that one.

24 Right now, that one is -- no substitute has
25 been submitted, and the last action just shows that it was

1 referred to Committee in March. It does not show even
2 that the Committee has heard it. Right. So I think this
3 is a tough one.

4 MR. DOYLE: Would it be your preference to pass
5 that down to a local Community Housing Development
6 Organization, or contract with somebody local so you
7 wouldn't have to go out and monitor all of that mess?

8 MS. BOSTON: Of course, I am going to implement
9 whatever the member passes.

10 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

11 MS. BOSTON: I don't know. You know, I think
12 it just will take -- I mean, on a pilot basis maybe,
13 testing it locally would be a good way to get our foot wet
14 with that.

15 You know, for me, my only reason that I am not
16 a big fan of trying things locally right off, at least in
17 only one local area, would just be there is need
18 everywhere. And so I think that one area would miss out.

19 Yeah, I mean, it may just be one that we need
20 to -- if it didn't pass, you know, for next session, if
21 that member chose to still try and proceed, you know, just
22 trying to work through the detail more, to make sure.

23 And it also had a fiscal note with it. Because
24 it said it needed to come from -- I think this one said it
25 needed to come from the Trust Fund, and all of our Trust

1 Fund funds are spoken for, so I think we will just have to
2 work through.

3 MS. FOSS: If it ever gets heard, we would ask
4 for it to come from General Revenue, because we realize,
5 it was written by a committee, not THN. So we did not get
6 that say. But, yeah, that was like, okay. Cool. What
7 are we supposed to do with that?

8 MS. BOSTON: Yes. I mean, I love the idea.
9 But it is just, wow, this is kind of hard to implement.

10 MS. FOSS: Yes.

11 MS. BOSTON: And how do you make sure that the
12 real person you want to see get the help ends up helped?

13 MR. DOYLE: That is right.

14 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

15 MR. DINARES: I have a question.

16 MS. BOSTON: Yes.

17 MR. DINARES: Have you guys have considered --
18 have put in like a return-on-investment period type of
19 frame. Like, if you assist a landlord, right, fix up his
20 property and say, hey, you can't sell this, or you can't
21 do anything for, say, ten years. If you do so then you
22 have to pay back that grant. So have you guys --

23 MS. BOSTON: Yes. I think that for such small
24 grants, that would basically make them not participate,
25 would probably be the unintended consequence.

1 The other thing, as you know, in Texas, there
2 is no protection for voucher holders, and so it is going
3 to have to be really tied to them making sure they don't
4 turn away a voucher holder, because those aren't protected
5 under any Texas law right now.

6 Yeah. In terms of just like pay for
7 performance or return on investment type stuff, I know of
8 other folks in the homeless community who have dealt a lot
9 with that. TDHCA right now doesn't do anything like that
10 yet.

11 And then the only other update I wanted to
12 mention is not legislatively related. Our CSBG program
13 has a discretionary pot of funds. And that program, every
14 two years, we take a plan to our board, they approve it in
15 draft, it goes out for comment, and then it is adopted and
16 submitted to U.S. HHS.

17 Historically over the years probably as far
18 back as ten or twelve years, if not longer, we
19 occasionally put funds in there for homelessness
20 activities.

21 Right now in the current plan, there was
22 \$50,000 a year for funds to go to THN to help support just
23 continuum of care, balance of state activities and other
24 data-related projects that they may work on.

25 We are increasing that in the draft plan that

1 our Board approved this past Thursday, from 50- to 75-.
2 So it will go out for comment. We haven't heard any
3 reason to think that the action agencies who sometimes
4 would be the ones who might not agree with activities in
5 the plan going to anyone but them -- we don't have reason
6 to think that they are going to disagree with this.

7 I think it is a small enough amount that they
8 are okay with it. But while it is small, you know, it is
9 another half an FTE a year, so it is not nothing.

10 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

11 MS. BOSTON: So, yeah, it is exciting.

12 MR. DOYLE: Good.

13 MS. SYLVESTER: I have one thing.

14 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

15 MS. SYLVESTER: There is an FAQ that HUD
16 released last week, I think, regarding the CDBG
17 entitlement program, and that stands for Community
18 Development Block Grant. And that goes to cities
19 generally that are over \$50,000.

20 They clarified that -- so one of the things you
21 can do with that money, you can help certain special
22 populations, and you can do things with funds that
23 otherwise you would not be able to do.

24 And they clarified that a community can adopt
25 its own definition of homelessness. It is not tied to the

1 general HUD definition of homelessness.

2 MR. DOYLE: Really?

3 MS. SYLVESTER: Yes. And that was the
4 understanding of the CDBG program before the con plan
5 regulations were rewritten in 2004, to include that
6 definition.

7 And then there was some thought that the con
8 plan definition then tied the hands of CDBG program
9 entitlement communities to use what we would call HUD's
10 definition of homelessness in the CDBG program.

11 So they just released an FAQ that said that is
12 not the case, that entitlement communities may adopt their
13 own definition of homelessness. So I just thought I would
14 share that.

15 MR. DOYLE: Interesting, interesting.

16 MS. BOSTON: And for those on the phone, that
17 was Megan Sylvester; for the court reporter.

18 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

19 MS. SYLVESTER: Sorry.

20 MS. BOSTON: Okay.

21 MS. YEVICH: And, Lindsey, did Helen have any
22 updates? She had mentioned she might. And I know you are
23 sitting in for her. Did she have anything or not?

24 MS. VARGE: I don't think so.

25 MS. YEVICH: Okay.

1 MS. VARGE: I can quickly tell you that SHRA,
2 which is the Supportive Housing Rental Assistance program,
3 is expanding for the new fiscal year to 36 sites. And
4 that funding will be ongoing. It is about \$3 million, so
5 we are really excited to get it expanded.

6 MS. YEVICH: Wow.

7 MR. DOYLE: How would I say this, Megan.
8 Cities may be able to make their own definition of
9 homelessness under --

10 MS. SYLVESTER: In their CDBG program.

11 MR. DOYLE: CDBG program.

12 MS. SYLVESTER: So like I said, there are
13 some -- there is a whole bunch of -- CDBG is a very
14 flexible source of funds, and communities go through an
15 action plan planning process. And through that action
16 plan, they can choose to spend money on homelessness,
17 certain homelessness prevention activities.

18 But that -- this clarification is those
19 activities no longer have to be tied to HUD's definition
20 of homelessness. That community can adopt its own
21 definition through its action plan process.

22 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Ballpark --

23 MS. SYLVESTER: It could adopt the educational
24 definition of homelessness if the community wanted to and
25 went through the action plan. And then it could spend

1 funds under that category for that population.

2 MR. DOYLE: Ballpark figure, there are 42
3 cities in Tarrant County. Some of them are right around
4 that 40,000 to 50,000, 55,000, 60,000. What are the --
5 how much money is in the CDBG program for somebody that
6 meets that guideline of 50,000 people? Are we talking
7 about --

8 MS. SYLVESTER: I think you would have to go
9 and -- I don't know those numbers off the top of my head.
10 I can look it up real quickly.

11 MR. DOYLE: 10,000, 100,000?

12 MS. SYLVESTER: No. There is usually a minimum
13 threshold. When HUD does those formula, there is usually
14 a minimum threshold that they have. I just can't -- we
15 get such a small portion of the CDBG money --

16 MR. DOYLE: Sure.

17 MS. SYLVESTER: -- and we're the state. So it
18 is like a different set of regulations.

19 MR. DOYLE: Okay. I can look it up.

20 MS. SYLVESTER: But you can look it up. HUD, on
21 its CPD webpage, has like a section called Budget. And
22 you can click on Texas. And it will tell you both this
23 year, 2019 allocations, which were just announced a couple
24 of weeks ago, for all of the entitlement communities in
25 Texas that receive CDBG, ESG, HOPWA, HOME and the state's

1 National Housing Trust Fund allocation.

2 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Great. Thanks.

3 Okay. Christina.

4 MS. GENDRON: Christine.

5 MR. DOYLE: Christine.

6 MS. GENDRON: So the Statewide Workgroup on
7 Youth Homelessness: We've been playing with changing the
8 name to Statewide Collaborative on Youth Homelessness. We
9 are in a quarterly meeting schedule, and we've had three
10 meetings, so this summer, we will hit the one year mark.

11 We have got participation from, I believe, all
12 of the relevant state agencies at this point. So TDHCA,
13 TEA have participated; TJJD, DFPS, Workforce, HHSC, the
14 Governor's Office Child Sex Trafficking Team, and also the
15 Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission; also
16 providers, some of the COCs, some of the advocate
17 organizations. And then what is most exciting to me is
18 that we have young adults who have lived experience with
19 homelessness help facilitating the group.

20 The purpose at this point is really information
21 sharing. I think it is to be determined if there would be
22 like a project or something specific like that, at a later
23 date. But it's a format similar to this one. And I think
24 it has benefitted different participants in different
25 ways.

1 We had at the last meeting, the Austin ECHO and
2 Lifeworks shared what they have learned through the youth
3 homelessness demonstration project. We have also had
4 people sharing ideas about legislation and then during
5 session, kind of updates on what is happening.

6 And we've had our state agencies give updates
7 on the work that they are doing relevant to youth
8 homelessness. And so one of the ways that this has
9 benefitted TNOYS is that we heard from the Department of
10 Family and Protective Services about the work that they
11 are doing to prevent youth from running from foster care.

12 But one of the things they shared with that,
13 it's not just about changes in their own agency, right.
14 It's all of these community providers that have kids have
15 to change. So we are now partnering with them to host
16 events on preventing youth from running from foster care.

17 And we have our third one tomorrow. And these
18 are trainings that are taught by young adults who have
19 experienced running away from foster care. And they are
20 really powerful.

21 And TJJD is now sending their staff, because
22 they are dealing with runaways as well. And so there is
23 one in San Antonio tomorrow, if anybody is interested. We
24 have done them in Houston and Fort Worth so far.

25 But the youth lead the whole thing. And then

1 we also have some providers, and they're talking about
2 innovative things that they do. And then the Department
3 talks about what they are doing at the statewide level to
4 address this issue.

5 So that's made the group exciting for me. I
6 think different participants have gotten different things
7 out of it. But we hope that those of you who have been
8 involved will continue participating.

9 And if anyone has ideas of something for us to
10 take on, let us know. I mean, at this point, we know
11 everybody who is in the room is doing their own work related
12 to this issue, and so it is really an opportunity to
13 collaborate and to share information about that work.

14 But we might find that it makes sense to dive
15 into a specific project and look at creating some
16 workgroups, which is why we changed it from statewide
17 workgroup to collaborative, so we can have workgroups
18 within the group.

19 MS. MOORE: Is the audience for the trainings,
20 are they foster care people? Are they community
21 organizations running foster care? Who is actually --

22 MS. GENDRON: Great question. So the trainings
23 were designed for foster care providers and CPS case
24 workers. However, we have had -- we have already trained
25 probably 250 people. We're having to turn people away,

1 because we now have TJJD staff, probation officers, CASA
2 volunteers. It's all over the board.

3 MR. DOYLE: So have you identified any gaps in
4 the service array system for foster parents to keep
5 somebody from saying, I can't do that because?

6 MS. GENDRON: That is a good question. I mean,
7 I think the gap that we see is it is about organizational
8 culture. So there are kids running from foster family
9 homes. But more often they are running from facilities.

10 And in these facilities, some of these are just
11 bad facilities. Some of these, you have really well
12 intentioned people who are doing a good job but not
13 necessarily building a relationship of trust with the
14 youth.

15 And so one of the things that came up at one of
16 these events is, we have some caseworkers who were really
17 honest and were just saying, Look, sometimes I won't tell
18 a kid that I am going to move him because I don't want him
19 to run before I can take him to his next placement.

20 And the youth are saying, well, then we know we
21 can't trust you, so not only are we going to run, but we
22 are never going to come back. If we know you are going to
23 move us, maybe we will run, maybe we won't. But then when
24 we are in trouble, we will call you, because we know that
25 we can trust you.

1 And so there has been a lot of really good
2 discussion, and I think from the TNOYS perspective and
3 what we hear from the youth is that the big issue is about
4 helping people collaborate with kids. Right? And that's
5 something that sounds obvious, but it's actually really
6 hard to practice every day, especially when you have a kid
7 coming in who is new, you don't know them very well, their
8 behavior is really difficult, you are trying to keep them
9 safe. They might be engaging in behavior that is not
10 safe.

11 And so that is what we are trying to bring in
12 youth and providers who can help everybody kind of learn
13 strategies.

14 MR. DOYLE: Any guesses -- and I'm sure it
15 would just be speculation; maybe not -- but on your
16 group's part on what would they not run from? What is the
17 perfect scenario that they would -- and you may not have
18 refined it. But if you know what it is, you can build
19 toward it.

20 MS. GENDRON: Yes.

21 MR. DOYLE: So what is the perfect scenario for
22 somebody to not run.

23 MS. GENDRON: So what they have been telling us
24 at the event -- so our trainers are young adults who have
25 lived experience running from care. They are now in their

1 early 20s. The Department is also bringing in youth who
2 are currently in care to participate in the discussions.

3 And what we hear from all of them is that they
4 want to feel normal. They want to be allowed to go to a
5 friends house and play video games. They want to be able
6 to go outside and take a walk, which if they are in a
7 foster home, they can probably do those things, but not
8 necessarily if they are in a facility.

9 FEMALE VOICE: They want their phone.

10 MS. GENDRON: They want their phones.

11 MR. DOYLE: Is that -- would foster parents and
12 facilities limit that?

13 MS. GENDRON: It depends on the facility, yes.

14 But most of them do, because they worry the kid could be
15 texting with a trafficker. Right? So there is a safety
16 issue.

17 But at the same time, if the kid feels that
18 they are isolated, they can't be normal. They are
19 miserable, they have no power, they have no rights, they
20 have no choice. They are going to leave, and then you
21 have a bigger safety issue.

22 So those are the discussions that we might
23 have, but I think normalcy is one of the main things we
24 hear, and knowing that somebody actually cares about
25 them -- right? -- just feeling loved, feeling heard.

1 There was a youth on one of the panels, I think
2 it was one in Houston, who says she is not allowed to
3 get -- she's in a foster home situation. She is not
4 allowed to get a bowl of cereal without permission.

5 And there are a lot of good foster homes. I am
6 not trying to make them all sound bad. But there are a
7 lot that aren't as good, especially when it comes to
8 giving youth a voice and a choice.

9 MR. DOYLE: Do they understand -- I mean, they
10 want normalcy. Normalcy is very vague, you know.
11 Normalcy to me is you are going to obey my rules. And I',
12 sorry, but that's just the way it is because you are
13 living in my house.

14 MS. GENDRON: Sure.

15 MR. DOYLE: Normalcy to somebody else may be
16 you do whatever you want to do.

17 MS. GENDRON: Sure.

18 MR. DOYLE: So do they understand that with
19 normalcy comes responsibility and discipline, do you
20 think?

21 MS. GENDRON: I think some understand that
22 better than others.

23 MR. DOYLE: Or are they of the age, that they
24 think, I want my own deal, and leave me alone.

25 MS. GENDRON: Yes. I think some understand

1 that better than others, some probably don't understand
2 it.

3 But it is also you have to keep in mind that we
4 might raise our own kids one way, but these aren't our
5 kids. They are coming in with trauma. They might be used
6 to taking care of themselves. They are used to being the
7 adult. They are not used to being cared for by an adult.

8 And so the way in which we have to engage them is a
9 little bit different.

10 And at one of these events, there was a man
11 there who had opened an RTC recently. He comes from a
12 military background. And he had a very hard time with
13 what the youth were saying.

14 And it was good that we got to have some of
15 that discussion. There are different ways to work with
16 kids, and there is not a right way to raise your kid.
17 Right? People raise kids all kinds of ways, and it works
18 out.

19 But we know that youth run from care when they
20 don't feel like someone cares about them and when they
21 don't feel like they have any control over what's
22 happening to them.

23 MS. MOORE: Yes. I would say rules with love
24 are very different than rules without feeling.

25 MR. DOYLE: Right.

1 MS. MOORE: Right.

2 MR. DOYLE: The difference in discipline and
3 punishment.

4 MS. MOORE: Yes.

5 MS. GENDRON: Yes. And in light of --

6 MS. BOLTON: And arbitrariness.

7 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

8 MS. GENDRON: Yes. And one of the things that
9 the youth have talked about is collaboration. Right. So
10 if the rule is you can't have your phone, it's one thing
11 to say you can't have your phone because I said so. It's
12 another thing to say you can't have your phone because I
13 am worried about what is going to happen to you and who is
14 going to contact you. It's just about --

15 MS. BOLTON: And I think more broadly, when you
16 talk about normalcy, some of it is those kinds of rules
17 and expectations in a living environment. But it is
18 broader than and encompasses like being able to do normal
19 things that normal kids do within age appropriate and
20 physical abilities and limitations.

21 And so, you know, one kid's ready to play
22 T-ball at four, and another kid is not ready to play
23 T-ball at four. Right? But whether or not you are a
24 foster kid should not be what makes the decision whether
25 or not you get to play T-ball.

1 MS. GENDRON: Yeah.

2 MS. BOLTON: So it's that kind of, you know --
3 they want to be -- if there is such a thing as a normal
4 16-year-old --

5 MR. DOYLE: In their situation, yes.

6 MS. BOLTON: -- they want to be a normal 16-
7 year-old.

8 MR. DOYLE: What are the economics behind
9 foster parents? What do they get paid per child?

10 MS. GENDRON: It is very low. You probably
11 know; I don't know the numbers off the top of my head.

12 MS. BOLTON: I don't know the exact numbers
13 right now, and it may change by the end of the session,
14 although I don't think so.

15 MS. GENDRON: I want to say it is between 20
16 and \$30 a day.

17 MS. BOLTON: For a basic --

18 MS. GENDRON: Which sounds like a lot.

19 MR. DOYLE: So \$600 a month or so.

20 MS. GENDRON: Which it might -- it sounds like
21 a lot to some. And those over here at the Legislature
22 that if you think about taking in -- you know, a lot of us
23 could maybe have an extra child in our household for that
24 price. But a lot of these are youth where you can't even
25 work full time they need so much attention.

1 MR. DOYLE: Right.

2 MS. GENDRON: Like they have very, very high
3 levels of need.

4 MR. DOYLE: So do you see people saying, hey.
5 I get \$600 a month per child, and I take five, that is
6 \$3,000 a month, I can make this thing work. I will just
7 provide very little service and just let them have it.

8 MS. GENDRON: There are people making money.
9 There are people making money off of it. And you have to
10 do a very, very poor job to make money off of it.

11 MR. DOYLE: That's my concern. So it's not
12 enough money that you can do a good job at doing what may
13 need to be done with each particular child, if you had
14 five, for example. You don't have the time or the
15 resources to take five foster kids. Is there a limit?

16 MS. GENDRON: There is a limit. Yes.

17 MS. BOLTON: There is a limit. And some of the
18 state and federal legislation is putting some more limits
19 on that, like how many children of different need levels
20 that you can take into your home.

21 And we also see a bigger push to keep sibling
22 groups together, so that could be three or four or more
23 kids. So trying to keep them together might then
24 preclude, you know, having other kids not part of that
25 sibling group in group homes.

1 There's a lot of changes that are coming down
2 the pike in congregate care, lots of kids, from federal
3 legislation. It might be something -- we have, you know,
4 a team of people.

5 It's the Family First federal legislation that
6 was passed last year, and it may be something that we
7 might want to have a presentation on at one of these
8 meetings, because it is going to impact -- maybe not
9 exactly directly, but it is going to impact like
10 congregate care and what kinds of facilities and things
11 that are going to be allowable.

12 And it might have, you know, a ripple effect on
13 youth homelessness. So we might want to look into that,
14 just for an educational purpose for the TICH.

15 MR. DOYLE: Would you say that most -- there
16 went Naomi. Most of the families --

17 MS. GENDRON: It's okay, Naomi.

18 (General laughter.)

19 MR. DOYLE: Most of the families are doing this
20 out of love and concern for the child, or for the money?

21 MS. GENDRON: I don't know. I know it is a
22 mix.

23 MR. DOYLE: I mean, I'm just concerned. This
24 is y'all's work and not mine, but from the outside, if a
25 loving family is going to understand the needs of this

1 child and maybe even give up a job or take a part-time job
2 and really work with this child to be better.

3 If you take away the monetary incentive to have
4 five of them and I'll make \$3,000 a month and I'll just --

5 MS. MOORE: Well, I think what we are getting
6 is an availability bias here, because we are only going to
7 hear about -- or for the most part, we are going to hear
8 about the worst-case scenarios. That is what makes the
9 news a lot of times.

10 And that is really disappointing, because there
11 are families out there who do really care and wouldn't be
12 able to do this without that monetary --

13 MR. DOYLE: Right.

14 MS. BOLTON: I think that we have foster and
15 adoptive placements, and then we also have kinship
16 placements. And I think probably the vast majority are
17 sort of unsung quiet heroes that do what they do, just
18 trying to make it work.

19 And there were some changes last legislative
20 session in payments to kinship providers, because of a lot
21 of issues around disproportionality and disparity built
22 into the system -- a lot of our kinship providers are not
23 people of means.

24 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

25 MS. BOLTON: And so we have tried to look at

1 that, and we had some improvement last legislative
2 session. I mean, it is enough to help; it doesn't begin
3 to cover all the costs. And, you know, an ever growing
4 percentage of our placements for kids are kinship
5 placements. So we are doing --

6 MR. DOYLE: By that you mean my brother's son
7 is running, and I'm going to take him into my house.

8 MS. BOLTON: It is kin. It is what we call
9 kin, and fictive kin. So fictive kin might not be related
10 by blood or marriage. But like it could be like that
11 person that like, I don't know if you all grew up with
12 people that your parents always called your aunt and
13 uncle, but they weren't exactly; they weren't related.

14 So it could be somebody with a very close
15 connection. It could be a teacher that a child just
16 bonded with. There was a case in Beaumont last year where
17 a teacher adopted a high school student that she had
18 gotten to know through being in the class. So it is kin
19 and it is kinship, which can include like families of
20 choice.

21 MS. BOSTON: What was the name of the
22 families --

23 MS. GENDRON: Family First.

24 MS. BOSTON: Family First. Okay.

25 MR. DOYLE: At what point do you go from a

1 foster home to a foster facility? How many children? How
2 many can I -- for example, I decide I am going to quit my
3 job and take in foster kids. How many can I have? I'm
4 just kidding, Kay.

5 MS. GENDRON: It doesn't quite make sense of
6 the lawsuit, because they are -- you basically can't do
7 that any more. You can be a home, and you have to have
8 under a certain number of kids.

9 MR. DOYLE: How many is that number? That is
10 what I am asking.

11 MS. GENDRON: You can be a facility, it is 25
12 with staff. I don't know how, can you have like six?

13 MS. BOLTON: Because it also varies depending
14 on the -- we have a level system, you know: basic and
15 intermediate and high needs. So a lot of it has to do
16 with like the need level of that child, plus any other
17 children fostered in the home. And so it is -- I can't
18 just reel off the numbers. I would have to pull up our
19 policy manual on our website, which anyone is welcome to.

20 MS. GENDRON: The days of foster parents taking
21 in like twelve kids and basically having a facility in
22 their house are over.

23 MS. BOLTON: Yes.

24 MR. DOYLE: It is just that a lot of us Baby
25 Boomers who are empty nesters now, and we have got

1 additional rooms.

2 And I have heard some of our friends say, Yeah,
3 maybe we ought to adopt a foster child or, you know, do
4 something like that. And from our perspective, a ministry
5 going forward, to help that child get back on their feet.

6 MS. GENDRON: Yes.

7 MR. DOYLE: But I don't know. And I'm just
8 curious. It's not a big deal.

9 MS. BOLTON: I would encourage you would look
10 at, if you are interested in doing that, Google Heart
11 Gallery.

12 MR. DOYLE: Heart Gallery?

13 MS. BOLTON: Heart Gallery.

14 MS. GENDRON: Those are the kids available for
15 adoption. But you're in Fort Worth. So you should look
16 at Our Community, Our Kids, for fostering.

17 MS. BOLTON: Yes. Right. Because in Fort
18 Worth we have community-based care. And Our Community,
19 Our Kids is our SSCC single-source something something
20 contract.

21 MS. GENDRON: But these are the kinds of
22 conversations we are having in this workgroup, so we
23 encourage you guys to be part of it.

24 MS. BOLTON: Yes.

25 MS. GENDRON: And I think the Family First

1 presentation is a great idea for the workgroup.

2 MS. BOLTON: I think it probably is a great
3 idea for the workgroup.

4 MS. GENDRON: Yes.

5 MS. BOLTON: Because like I said, it is not
6 going to -- it will have a ripple effect throughout our
7 system, including around homelessness.

8 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

9 MS. GENDRON: Definitely.

10 MR. DOYLE: Absolutely, yes.

11 MS. GENDRON: So our next meeting is June 27.
12 Our meetings to date have been in Austin.

13 This one will be in Houston, because it will be
14 in conjunction with the TNOYS Annual Conference. And the
15 Homeless Youth Network in Houston, and their COC, the
16 Houston Coalition, have been working together on a
17 coordinated plan to end youth homelessness in Houston and
18 will be presenting on that plan.

19 MR. DOYLE: Great. Thank you all so much.

20 All right, ladies. I have seen you all getting
21 ready over there. So let's hear from THN.

22 MS. MOORE: All right. I'll go first. I'm
23 Meagan Moore, VISTA program manager at Texas Homeless
24 Network.

25 We have a really big update for you on our

1 project. Our first member has completed her year in
2 Tarrant County. Laura Hopkins finished out her project
3 just actually last week. We are really excited for her.

4 They basically are going to have a fully
5 functioning system where a client experiencing
6 homelessness will walk into any of their points of entries
7 for a coordinated entry and have an income conversation,
8 where they can be referred to a source specialist,
9 vocational rehab, Workforce Solutions, or other resources,
10 to help augment their income, which we are really excited
11 about.

12 The biggest accomplishment there was actually
13 getting vocational rehab at the table and getting them
14 involved in the solutions, which was a bit of a challenge,
15 initially. But they are there at the table now, and that
16 is really exciting.

17 Laura also did a really great job of setting up
18 workgroups, so that, as she transitions to her new
19 position within the coalition, there will be workgroups
20 helping to sustain this project moving forward.

21 MR. DOYLE: And what is the name of that
22 project?

23 MS. MOORE: Oh, boy. That one, I don't know,
24 because in my mind, I just always call it the TICH
25 project. So that doesn't help you all.

1 MR. DOYLE: And speaking of that, as long as
2 D.J. can get Commissioner Hughes to continue to fund that
3 \$10,000 a year, which she told me she would, by the way.

4 MS. MOORE: She did? Awesome.

5 MR. DOYLE: Keep that on your radar. I would
6 like to know more about that, because I serve as vice
7 chair of the Workforce Board on Workforce Solutions, and I
8 would like to know -- all of that is going to come through
9 my committee. I just would like to know the name of that
10 project.

11 MS. MOORE: Yes.

12 MR. DOYLE: At some point. Not right now.

13 MS. MOORE: Okay. Yes. I will look at my
14 email and get that for you.

15 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

16 MS. MOORE: And then our project in Austin is
17 going a little bit slower. Just to give you some context,
18 Tarrant County had some interactions with their Workforce
19 Commission or their local workforce board starting the
20 project. And they were -- like they had a presence on the
21 income workgroup before the project started.

22 Austin had -- did not have that at all, so
23 things are going a little bit slower, because they are
24 actually having to build that relationship from the ground
25 up. But real exciting news: They are arranging for a

1 cross-training.

2 So Austin is also approaching this project
3 quite differently than Tarrant County, and that is why we
4 did it in multiple cities. We wanted to see how different
5 communities might approach getting people experiencing
6 homelessness jobs and career paths.

7 So they are going to do a cross-training with
8 Workforce Solutions. So Workforce Solutions Capitol Area
9 will have case managers trained and working with people
10 experiencing homelessness and local resources available
11 here in Austin.

12 We also -- our VISTA member is also working on
13 a self-help workbook for people experiencing homelessness.

14 So if they maybe don't feel comfortable talking with
15 someone or want to explore how they can kind of work on
16 getting a job themselves without that case management,
17 will have some of their own resources as well.

18 And we are hoping to make that accessible, I
19 think, via the ECHO website, but that is also very much a
20 work in progress. And this member will end in August, so
21 she still has just over three months left of her project.

22 Just general VISTA updates, because I can't
23 turn down an opportunity to talk to all of you: THN is
24 about to start recruiting for quite a few different
25 positions. I think right now we are on the verge of

1 having 13 open positions.

2 So these are all throughout the state of Texas,
3 literally from El Paso to Texarkana. If you have someone
4 or if you are meeting people out in the wild, and they
5 seem like they might be interested in working for a very
6 low stipend but for a very good cause, please send them to
7 the THN website.

8 We have all our positions listed there and very
9 detailed application instructions. And then we do still
10 have two open project slots. We are really hoping to fill
11 those in the smaller non-urban and rural counties or
12 regions even, if you will.

13 So if you are out there with a small county,
14 and they really need help for just about full time, a
15 VISTA member that will work for an entire twelve months
16 for just \$6,000, please send them my way. I have cards
17 here.

18 If you have any ideas, we are happy to work on
19 something, you know, if we don't have to go through like
20 Workforce Solutions does. But if there is like a
21 McKinney-Vento Act that they can't do direct service, but
22 they can build up projects.

23 MR. DOYLE: Capacity.

24 MS. MOORE: Build up that capacity. So if
25 there is ever process needing enhancements, new projects

1 needing enhancements, please come my way. Even if you are
2 not in a rural area, we can work something out. Thank
3 you.

4 MR. DOYLE: And I will just put in a plug for
5 VISTA. We had a VISTA at one point who was dissatisfied
6 with where they were placed. They came to finish their
7 term with us.

8 She said, I wanted to write a grant. And I
9 said, well, get after it; just go write a grant, for a
10 medical clinic. And she got us, over the three-year
11 period, \$560,000.

12 So they are very valuable for \$500 a month.
13 You just can't beat it.

14 MS. MOORE: Yes. We have had a VISTA raise
15 over \$100,000 in cash and non-cash donations in just the
16 span of a year. And they were also reoccurring donations
17 that developed relationships within that community.

18 MR. DOYLE: A good program. Thank you very
19 much, Meagan.

20 MS. MOORE: Thank you.

21 MR. DOYLE: Samantha.

22 MS. FOSS: Yeah. So I am Samantha, and I have
23 quite a few points that Eric wanted me to go over, the
24 first one being an update on our Data Sharing Network.

25 We are in the point where we have progressed to

1 the proof of concept with Amazon Web Services. We have
2 taken data from the Houston, Harris County, Fort Bend,
3 Montgomery County continuum of care, and the Texas balance
4 of state, and we have taken both of those data groups for
5 two years. It is from June 2016 to May 2018, and we put
6 them into an Amazon Web Services cloud.

7 Both continuums of care uploaded them, and they
8 are protected. They anonymized the data and now they are
9 in a data lake that Amazon Web Services and Texas Homeless
10 Network can use to analyze, and so that is currently where
11 it is at.

12 We are analyzing and working with the data
13 points we currently have. We anticipate that San Antonio
14 will come on board. They have said they were interested,
15 so we will see where that goes.

16 The other thing is the HB 3180 is the bill that
17 we have been working on. One correction from earlier is
18 that there was a committee sub submitted that took it into
19 an actual pilot program for two years, and it was a
20 \$500,000 fiscal note, not the 4 million mentioned earlier.

21 It's still pending. It is quite likely not
22 going to go anywhere. But we have options that we have
23 been talking about with the representative about attaching
24 it to the budget in another way, once the budget moves.

25 We have also become consultation with Boston's

1 continuum of care. They use open source data in their
2 house. And we are talking to them about how we work with
3 a vendor and seeing if we could replicate that. It seems
4 like a cost effective way. We are just still working to
5 see if it is something that could be done at the scale of
6 Texas.

7 MR. DOYLE: Are you thinking that data alone --
8 when you started talking about all of that stuff, when you
9 mentioned Amazon, it just went right over my head.

10 But are you saying that -- and the thing I
11 remember is that the confidentiality of the data was so
12 critical. Are you saying that if you somehow move it to
13 the cloud, you can do away with that problem?

14 MS. FOSS: So it is all anonymized. So in
15 theory, yes. We are working with a few different people.
16 So Community Solutions, CSH, Amazon Web Services are all
17 providing technical assistance to us, around making sure
18 that we are creating MOUs that people feel comfortable
19 engaging in.

20 And so at this point, we feel really confident.

21 It is things that have been replicated in other
22 communities doing the work on making sure that that data
23 is saved.

24 MR. DOYLE: Who are -- can you give the name of
25 a community, its acronym?

1 MS. FOSS: Boston is one of them. There is one
2 in Fort Bend, Colorado that is doing it, as well. And so
3 there is a few different ones that we have been talking
4 to, on making sure that we are protecting the data in a
5 way that would feel safe to any continuum of care.

6 Because the long standpoint is for not only for
7 it to be continuums-of-care engagement but for it to be
8 cross-sector. So eventually the goal would be that
9 whether it be criminal justice or health services or
10 communities overall would have access to making sure that
11 they are providing the best care and not redundant care,
12 especially for migration patterns of people experiencing
13 homelessness.

14 So we want to make sure that if they come from
15 Houston to Austin, that we can effectively pick up where
16 they left off in Houston and not replicate services that
17 don't work for them.

18 MR. DOYLE: I've got you. That's a good idea.
19 Great plan.

20 MS. FOSS: Thank you.

21 MS. BOSTON: The Texas analysis you guys are
22 going to try and do, to see the two data sets that are up
23 there. Like, what are some of the things you are looking
24 to try and find, you know, like what are you -- what is
25 the analysis trying to focus on?

1 MS. FOSS: So a few different things. One of
2 the things we were looking at and were interested in is
3 around specific population, of saying is a community that
4 has actively worked on veteran homelessness or it has a
5 large subgrant for veteran services. Do they actually
6 need it, or is it an outside area? Are we actually
7 targeting the areas that need it?

8 We're looking at to see if the migration
9 patterns mean that there's pieces missing. And if there
10 are services -- like if there is an abundant amount of
11 services in, say, Abilene for example, are we having
12 enough people go there to get those services, or are
13 services not actually being utilized?

14 MR. DOYLE: So you are thinking about if there
15 is more resources in Abilene than there are in Midland --

16 MS. FOSS: Yes.

17 MR. DOYLE: -- should you maybe move some
18 people from Midland or encourage people to go from Midland
19 to Abilene?

20 MS. FOSS: Well, because the reason and
21 inspiration behind this, at least, I know that we have
22 worked on it in the past, long before I was here -- but
23 one of the reasons Eric got re-impassioned about it was
24 Harvey, of seeing those gates open, in which we were able
25 to place people. And not even the most effectively,

1 right, but more effectively, because you could say, we
2 have this spot open here, we have this spot open here.

3 So if someone is waiting in Houston desperately
4 for supportive housing and has been on a waitlist for 13
5 months, if they could communicate more readily with other
6 systems and be able to transition that person to another
7 place, if they are open to moving, that would hopefully
8 make us not have housing sitting in the middle of nowhere
9 that someone would take up on if they knew it was
10 available.

11 MR. DOYLE: So welcome to Fort Worth. We are
12 full. I mean, just theoretically.

13 MS. FOSS: Yes.

14 MR. DOYLE: Come to Fort Worth, we're full.
15 But I can tell them theoretically, in Abilene, there is
16 plenty of vouchers.

17 MS. FOSS: Yes.

18 MR. DOYLE: If you are willing to move to
19 Abilene, we can get you in tomorrow.

20 MS. FOSS: Yes.

21 MR. DOYLE: That kind of thing.

22 MS. FOSS: Uh-huh.

23 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

24 MS. BOSTON: Are you able to, even though --
25 you're are still carrying out for instance Joe in COC A

1 with Joe in COC D.

2 MS. FOSS: Yes.

3 MS. BOSTON: So are you able to -- do you think
4 you guys are going to be able to have like -- if for some
5 reason you are able to see results that in a given COC,
6 they're getting -- I don't know. Like they are getting
7 timely off the street or no longer considered homeless for
8 less money than --

9 MS. FOSS: That's -- yes. And that is the real
10 pitch of it, right, is it would be the most cost effective
11 way to make sure that Joe is getting the best services.

12 MS. MOORE: And I think we could have much
13 better outcome data. When someone -- for a couple of
14 years, I have noticed there is a lot of, my shelter time
15 here in Austin is going to run out. If I go back to
16 Houston, I can have -- my shelter time is reset there.
17 And I will stay there while -- until I can come back to
18 Austin.

19 And it's just this constant like moving back
20 and forth to like accommodate the rules. And I think like
21 every time someone would just up and leave, like the COC
22 didn't know what the outcome was; they didn't know if they
23 were becoming stably housed.

24 If we could have a little bit more of that
25 information on a statewide level, of who -- where people

1 are going, I think that would be really helpful in having
2 outcome data. And then I think last year you mentioned
3 why can't we use HMIS data to really say how much people
4 are actually -- how many people are actually experiencing
5 homelessness in the state of Texas.

6 And that is because we have no way to de-
7 duplicate people who are in multiple COCs and using
8 services in multiple COCs. And this would be another path
9 towards that, eventually.

10 MS. BOSTON: Yes. It's interesting. One of
11 the things that we are seeing with the 811 program, which
12 has ended up being probably two-thirds of those we assist
13 are homeless, is that as we are giving people the choice
14 to move to any other metropolitan area, kind of in the
15 vein of what you are saying, like, oh, well, we actually
16 have a unit up here, and you are on a list in Austin, but
17 those lists are not going to have an opening for, you
18 know, 14 months.

19 They are moving, but because the services are
20 voluntary, they aren't signing back up for services, and
21 they are not succeeding. And so we have been -- that has
22 been one of our newest challenges with 811 that we've been
23 trying to work out.

24 MS. MOORE: And I think we should also approach
25 this with an understanding that not everyone can move.

1 Even if you can't immediately get housing, if your family
2 is in the city and they can provide some support, whereas,
3 you could go into a place where you have no family, that
4 poses a lot of challenges.

5 So I think there still are some things that
6 need to be figured out, but adding options can't be bad.

7 MS. BOSTON: Right. Totally. Yes.

8 MR. DOYLE: A lot of fingers there in that pie.

9 MS. BINGLER: I wonder if you could tell me
10 where I could find the substitute bill?

11 MS. FOSS: It should be --

12 MS. BINGLER: I see TLO, but I don't see the --

13 MS. BOSTON: It is not filed. That is I wanted
14 to say. It is not a filed bill on TLO, the sub.

15 MS. FOSS: Okay. I can get it to you, though.

16 MS. BOSTON: I think we saw it. And you guys
17 saw it, I am sure. I don't know that it was ever filed in
18 committee.

19 MS. FOSS: Okay. I can ask about it, too. But
20 I can send it to you, regardless of what we submitted. I
21 don't know why it is not on TLO.

22 MS. BOLTON: The Committee substitute, the
23 text, gets substituted for that bill in TLO. So it won't
24 have a separate number.

25 MS. FOSS: Right. But it should have a

1 separate text, a document.

2 MS. BOLTON: Right.

3 MS. FOSS: It should show that.

4 MS. BOSTON: It is not there.

5 MS. BOLTON: Yes.

6 MS. FOSS: Okay.

7 MS. BOSTON: And usually, what I have seen, at
8 least when I have been watching for subs to come out, is
9 we will hear in a hearing that there is a sub.

10 MS. FOSS: Yes.

11 MS. BOSTON: But it may take weeks for it to
12 ever show up on TLO. And I don't know -- if they don't
13 ever file it out of committee, I don't know that the sub
14 is ever considered -- really substitute.

15 MS. BOLTON: I did find one the other day. I
16 went in and looked at the Committee report for the bill,
17 because the bill got voted out of Committee. So I pulled
18 up the Committee report, and the substituted text was in
19 that.

20 MS. BOSTON: Oh.

21 MS. BOLTON: It can take -- yes.

22 (Several people talking at once.)

23 MR. DOYLE: Well, let's jump to the update on
24 the five-year continuum -- thank you very much, ladies.
25 Very informative -- for the consolidated plan consultation

1 process.

2 Jeremy, you're speaking.

3 MR. STREMBLER: No problem. So as many of you
4 may or may not know, TDHCA coordinates the preparation of
5 what will be the 2020 to 2024 Consolidated Plan. So this
6 is one of HUD's major planning requirements of
7 subrecipients, including TDHCA and other state agencies
8 that administer funding through HUD's Community Planning
9 and Development Division.

10 Every five years, a new Consolidated Plan is
11 required to be produced. So today's meeting is really one
12 of our first opportunities for input on the State's next
13 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, coordinated by TDHCA.

14 And this plan will lay out the major ways that
15 our state will use its HUD funds. The General Land
16 Office, the Department of State Health Services, Texas
17 Department of Agriculture, and Texas Department of Housing
18 and Community Affairs are the state recipients who
19 disburse federal funds for Community Development Block
20 Grant, CDBG, disaster recovery programs; Housing
21 Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS, HOPWA; HOME;
22 National Housing Trust Fund, and Emergency Solutions Grant
23 programs.

24 So we wanted to use input from this meeting
25 today. We have already spoken about -- and any additional

1 comments you may have around -- to help influence not only
2 policy and training efforts for the future, but also be
3 considered as consultation as it relates to our formation
4 of the State of Texas 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

5 So with all of that said, if anyone would like
6 to give input on to how the state should spend its HUD
7 funds, you are welcome to do so.

8 MS. BOSTON: And just to kind of shed some
9 light on that, too. So Naomi updated you guys on ESG,
10 which is one of the funds, and we talk to you about that
11 pretty regularly.

12 So you know more or less kind of what is going
13 on with that and something about it. And if you think
14 there's room for improvement, you know, this would be a
15 good time to mention it.

16 The other fund at TDHCA that is covered in
17 there is HOME. And we don't tend to update you guys on
18 that a whole lot. Right now, our HOME funds are primarily
19 to be divided into single-family and multifamily.

20 The multifamily funds are released for loans.
21 It's almost predominantly rural. And a focus -- it is
22 usually layered with tax credits, so it would be a focus
23 on gap financing for rural rental properties that are
24 going to be reserved for low-income households.

25 There is a preference in there for supportive

1 housing, so that is kind of a set-aside with the funds,
2 not only with the HOME funds, but with other loan sources
3 we have as well, but it includes the HOME funds. And
4 there is also a preference for preservation.

5 So that is kind of the gist of where the rental
6 HOME funds go, if that is something that you think should
7 veer differently. I think the fact that it has an effect
8 on supportive housing is awesome. I mean, so if it is
9 just that you like that and want to continue to see that,
10 making comments in that vein is a good thing to hear.

11 On the single-family side, our HOME funds are
12 used for tenant-based rental assistance, and then also
13 homebuyer rehab; sometimes down payment assistance.
14 There's a small pocket then that we use for single family
15 development. And then we are actually rolling out a new
16 activity with our HOME funds, the --

17 MR. STREMBLER: Housing Assistance for New
18 Construction.

19 MS. BOSTON: Thank you. I just call it HANC,
20 and I don't even remember the acronym most of the time.
21 And that one is actually going to have the draft rule go
22 out for public comment starting in May.

23 So that one, there will be an opportunity to
24 comment. None of those, would I say -- probably the one
25 that most directly would affect homelessness would be the

1 TBRA. A lot of the independent living centers and
2 nonprofits in communities tend to go after those, and we
3 are administrators.

4 We allow the TBRA funds to be used for a bridge
5 so that if someone has a project access voucher or is on
6 the waiting list for a project access voucher, they can
7 actually hopefully exit with a HOME administrator into a
8 TBRA voucher temporarily so that they don't have to wait
9 as long to get housed. And then when the project access
10 voucher becomes available, they are able to shift to a
11 permanent voucher, instead of being on a temporary.

12 So those are the kinds of things we are doing.

13 So if that is good, then yay. And if not, then give us a
14 clue.

15 MR. DOYLE: Where do we go, to your website to
16 give input?

17 MR. STREMBLER: You can tell us now, or you can
18 email Elizabeth or myself.

19 MR. DOYLE: Yeah, and I don't think we have
20 time to start that discussion today, but we would love to
21 have input. We can just email you? Okay.

22 MS. BOSTON: Well, and the timing of the --
23 remind me. Would the timing of the process allow us to do
24 this again at the next meeting?

25 MS. YEVICH: I was getting ready to say, yeah,

1 the July meeting --

2 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

3 MS. YEVICH: -- we can definitely. Yeah.

4 MR. DOYLE: Okay. So bring your input to the
5 July meeting about where you would like to see these
6 funds.

7 MS. MOORE: Can the email that goes out ahead
8 of time remind us?

9 MS. YEVICH: Yes. Yes. I will make sure of
10 it.

11 MS. MOORE: Especially like what programs are
12 looking for comment. Because I know ESG, but --

13 MS. YEVICH: Right. Yes. Right. Yes, because
14 there is quite a few.

15 MS. BOSTON: Yes. And we can give a little
16 summary, kind of like I did of just what it is currently
17 used for, so you know what you are commenting on. I mean,
18 I think it is always helpful to know, if I say this, what
19 is going to lose out?

20 MR. DOYLE: Yeah.

21 MS. BOSTON: Yeah.

22 MR. DOYLE: Great. Okay. Is there any public
23 comment? Anybody have any public comment they would like
24 to make?

25 (Pause.)

1 MR. DOYLE: All right.

2 MR. SCHOLL: Hey, Mike. This is Dennis down in
3 Somerset.

4 MR. DOYLE: Hi Dennis.

5 MR. SCHOLL: Hey, I'll try to be real quick,
6 because I know we're about out of time. I did give a
7 brief written thing in to Elizabeth to share with you on
8 three topics.

9 One dealing with my interest in seeing if the
10 agencies could submit to you some opinion about the impact
11 of the escalating sort of uncontrolled immigration upon
12 homelessness programs continuing to pursue their goals,
13 and some brainstorming about, brainstorming about
14 solutions. Are you still there?

15 MR. DOYLE: We are here.

16 MR. SCHOLL: Okay. My spouse was calling on --

17 MR. DOYLE: You might be in trouble, buddy.

18 MR. SCHOLL: I will worry about that later.

19 The second one has to deal with any interest in there
20 being some statement of an enforceable priority of access
21 to limited social resources.

22 I know one thing that I will hear from friends
23 who are veterans for example is dismay that here we have
24 homeless veterans, but we are spending perhaps -- or maybe
25 we should be -- spending tens of thousands if not millions

1 to house individuals who come from failed countries south
2 of us. So whether or not there is a way to state what our
3 priorities for investments in shelter might be, and how to
4 handle that.

5 And lastly, I just wanted to give a quick
6 update on a nonprofit that I have been working with for a
7 while. This veteran-focused nonprofit and affordable
8 housing system living on my little 55-acre ranch in South
9 Bexar County.

10 My personal investment has been in excess of
11 \$10,000 at this point. But I am waiting for the final IRS
12 vote of approval of the 1023 application.

13 And then with that, we hope to have our group
14 including a sergeant first class, a fellow who is a good
15 horse handler. We are going to do some equine therapy for
16 some veterans who want to be in rural South Texas.

17 And I can tell he's -- the nature of his
18 background. He is about the age of my oldest daughter,
19 but his email address has been Humveedoc. He maintained
20 Humvees in Warsaw for -- during his career. So a heck of
21 a good guy. That is where we are at right now.

22 And then my last comment is I did get myself up
23 to the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health. Robert B.
24 Southerland's seminar. That was in Bastrop.

25 I want to recommend it, especially to those who

1 aren't let's say, kind of bound by being members of
2 agencies. There is a book by Frances Dunn Butterfoss
3 called *Ignite: Getting Your Community Coalition Fired Up*
4 *For Change*. And if there is some way to share that book,
5 a smaller version of her large book that the academics
6 use, with the various communities who care about
7 sheltering the homeless, that would be a good thing to
8 distribute.

9 She gave a dynamite presentation that was well
10 worth it. And if you all monitor the Hogg Foundation
11 website, they have the presentations online there. I'd
12 encourage you to see that.

13 And with that, I will kind of wrap up. Thank
14 you all for letting me take part, Mike.

15 MR. DOYLE: Thank you for your comments. And
16 good luck on the new tactics thing.

17 MR. SCHOLL: Yes. I have got my fingers
18 crossed and my checkbook is still open.

19 MR. DOYLE: Thank you very much.
20 Any other comments?

21 MS. GENDRON: So Greg asked me to share one
22 more --

23 MS. VOYLES: This is Molly. I would just want
24 to caution any discussions that might leave vulnerable
25 Texans like immigrant survivors of abuse with less access

1 to resources.

2 MR. DOYLE: Uh-huh.

3 MS. VOYLES: We are already seeing a lot of
4 fear for those survivors thinking about reaching out. So
5 just be really considerate of that.

6 MR. DOYLE: Thank you, Molly. Good point.

7 MR. SCHOLL: Molly, this is Dennis. Just a
8 quick question. One thing a guy like me has inquired
9 about is a place to go to find out for those whose hearts
10 sometime lead their logic.

11 How can an individual who cares to help some of
12 these immigrants, how can we do that and make sure we are
13 doing something that is legal, both from state and federal
14 levels, and we are not doing something that would get us
15 in a bind.

16 If there is a site that you could send me to
17 find out how to do that, I would appreciate it.

18 MS. VOYLES: There are certainly a number of
19 those, federal and state sites that support and enhance a
20 comprehensive access to all immigrant survivors. And we
21 can work with our team here to share that.

22 We want to make sure that those survivors who
23 fled violence and came to violence have a place to go.
24 And we would be more than happy to share any of that
25 information with you, for sure.

1 MR. SCHOLL: Terrific. Thanks a lot.

2 MR. DOYLE: Thank you. Well, our next meeting
3 is July 30.

4 MS. YEVICH: Tuesday.

5 MR. DOYLE: It is a Tuesday. And do we know
6 where yet?

7 MS. YEVICH: We don't. D.J.? I think
8 everybody sort of likes this room. I know I did. It is
9 close by. But it was easy to set up and it's conducive,
10 you know.

11 MR. DOYLE: Yes.

12 MS. YEVICH: So perhaps if the Council is open.

13 MR. DOYLE: We will assume here. If it
14 changes, y'all let us know. But July 30, mark that on
15 your calendar. And be sure and bring your recommendations
16 for how to -- where you want TDHCA to spend the HOME
17 funds.

18 MS. GENDRON: So I was just asking to give one
19 more update.

20 MR. DOYLE: Okay.

21 MS. GENDRON: So we have \$3 million in the
22 House budget to add to HHSC. And it would be earmarked
23 for youth and young adults who are homeless.

24 MR. DOYLE: Well, good. Good.

25 MS. GENDRON: Yes. We are hoping it will make

1 a difference.

2 MR. DOYLE: Would it be distributed with the
3 same formula through all the cities?

4 MS. GENDRON: Yes.

5 MR. DOYLE: Okay. Great. Anything else?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DOYLE: Thank you all for coming. Have a
8 great weekend.

9 (Whereupon, at 11:46 p.m., the meeting was
10 concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

MEETING OF: Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless
LOCATION: Austin, Texas
DATE: April 30, 2019

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages,
numbers 1 through 97, inclusive, are the true, accurate,
and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording
made by electronic recording by Nancy H. King before the
Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless.

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/s/ Carol Bourgeois
(Transcriber)

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