

**Texas Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC)
Minutes of Meeting Held Thursday, June 8, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

Teleconference from Texas Health and Human Services Commission, 4900 North Lamar Boulevard, Robert Bernstein Building, Room K-100, Austin, Texas 78751.

MS Teams link: https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_NGQ5ZWUyNGUtOGU2MC00M2YzLTIjZmQtNWQ1YTIiMGFhYWZI%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%229bf97732-82b9-499b-b16a-a93e8ebd536b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2236c3ca0e-1ad0-41aa-a46e-071919243834%22%7d

Call-in Number: +1 (512) 580-4366

Access Code: 705 864 276#

Members Attending

Aelia Akhtar, MS
Carol Boswell, Ed.D., RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN
Ken Holland
Emily Hunt, D.N.P, APRN, CPNP-PC/AC
Elizabeth Mayer, M.P.Aff.
Elizabeth Protas (Chair), P.T., Ph.D.
Melinda Rodriguez, D.P.T, PT
Cheryl T. Sparks, Ed.D.
Cheletta Watkins, M.D.
Yasser Zeid, M.D.

Members Absent

Jimmy Blanton, M.P.Aff. (Excused)
Chelsea Elliott
Courtney Harvey, Ph.D., MA
Quincy C. Moore, Ph.D. (Excused)
D. Bailey Wynne R.Ph., M.H.A. (Excused)
Kimberly N. Haynes, D.M.D. (Excused)
Tamara Rhodes, MSN, RN

Staff Present

Lisette Curry, Ph.D., Program Specialist, Health Professions Resource Center
Kayla Davis, MS, Research Specialist, Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies
Kristina Juarez, MPH, Research Specialist, Health Professions Resource Center
Abigail Melick, Government Affairs Specialist
Cheyenne Neese, MPH, Research Specialist, Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies

<p>1. Chairman’s Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>Dr. Protas called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Dr. Curry announced that members should state their name for the record when making comments and to mute themselves when not speaking. Dr. Curry reminded the Council to keep their cameras on to maintain quorum if attending virtually.</p>
<p>2. Establish a Quorum – Roll Call and Possible Action to Approve Excused Absences</p>	<p>A quorum was established. Jimmy Blanton, Kimberly Haynes, Quincy Moore, and Bailey Wynne requested an excused absence. A motion to approve all requested excused absences was made by Dr. Melinda Rodriguez and seconded by Dr. Carol Boswell. The motion carried.</p>
<p>3. SHCC Discussion and Possible Action to Approve March 2, 2023, Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>A review of the March 2, 2023 minutes elicited no revisions. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Carol Boswell and seconded by Dr. Cheryl Sparks. The motion carried.</p>
<p>4. Presentation by Anja Taylor, Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network, on the implementation of a statewide homeless data-sharing network to assist in emergency situations</p>	<p>Anja Taylor, project manager for the Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network (THDSN), introduced Eric Samuel, Texas Homeless Network’s (THN) CEO, and Ian Kozak and Angela Gougherty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THN, funded by HHSC, is the statewide hub for information resources and data on homelessness. They serve 11 homeless response systems. • THN is also the lead agency for the Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC). • Data from eleven homeless response systems is uploaded into THDSN’s database. • Their goal is to have case managers use this data to better serve clients and to work with health systems. • THDSN is an open-source software, which allows communities to adapt this system to their needs. • Anja shared that 9 out of 11 (93%) Texas CoCs have agreed to participate in the project • All 9 CoCs are uploading and contributing data to THDSN Data Warehouse. Data is collected from case managers. • They are actively working with San Antonio and Wichita Falls to get them onboard with the project. They also have a recent partnership with Superior Health Plan. • Data Dashboard is on THN’s website. It gives live update to the public on the total number of people experiencing homelessness. THDSN Data Dashboard – Texas Homeless Network (thn.org)

Questions:

- Dr. Protas asked how they define homelessness for their database and how they get information? She also asked about how they maintain privacy for individuals.
 - Anja responded that data is gathered by case managers working with individuals at local level using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Eric explained that they use the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of homeless. Eric also shared that data is not collected on victims of domestic violence or data on families that are doubled up. There is also a release form that clients fill out and sign.
- Dr. Protas spoke about the large number of families that are technically homeless within the Galveston Independent School District. She asked if these families are not being captured in the population.
 - Eric answered that a portion of those families are included with HMIS and that THN works closely with Galveston County, Galveston city, and the Gulf Coast region. They work with the homeless liaisons within those school districts.
- Dr. Rodriguez asked if they collaborate with the Texas Veterans Commission.
 - Eric said that they do work closely with the Texas Veterans Commission and are non-voting members. They also have members from the Commission that are participating in THNs monthly data sharing calls.
- Dr. Zeid thanked THN and THDSN for their work and talked about how important this work is. Dr. Zeid asked how this is impacting ER visits and care for the population in general. Dr. Zeid asked if they are tracking improvement and or deterioration of the care and is AI helping in their data software development and data sharing.
 - Anja answered that they have access to recent ER visits through their partnership with Superior Health Plan. They are making plans to go through client lists to see where they can potentially intervene or connect clients to resources and limit health care utilization as much as possible. ER visits and other medical services are being reduced.
- Dr. Zeid asked if there are any resources to help individuals enroll for Medicaid if they are homeless. He stated that there may be other managed care Medicaid

	<p>providers in the state besides Superior Health Care. He mentioned that there might be a missed opportunity to connect this vulnerable population with other managed care providers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eric said that they hoped this project would show someone is eligible for Medicaid and get them enrolled in Medicaid. They don't have business agreements with other managed care organizations, but these organizations are aware of what THN is doing.● Dr. Zeid spoke to how important this issue is and that this is something that should be fixed. He suggested that someone from HHSC might be helpful to Anja and her team.● Dr. Sparks asked how they are getting information from rural areas.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eric answered their agency works with homeless response agencies to implement HMIS. When these agencies use the HMIS, the data is centralized to the homeless response system.● Dr. Sparks said there is not a lot of collaboration between entities in rural areas and asked if there is a model they could suggest to rural areas.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eric shared that they advocate for communities to form local homeless coalition models. This requires collaboration between faith communities, local government, law enforcement, and nonprofits to come together.● Dr. Sparks stated that homelessness is a big concern for the state and that there has been an increase in homelessness.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eric Samuels mentioned that some of the increase may be attributed to a better job of counting people. Another reason for the increase could be the rising cost of housing. They are working with nonprofit housing developers and other groups to build more affordable housing.● Ken Holland spoke about homeless individuals that call the police department for non-urgent issues. Ken Holland asked if there are resources outside of the police department that might be helpful in these cases. Mr. Holland also asked if there is anything he can do with the staff at Huntsville Independent School District to collect data on the homeless student population.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eric responded by saying it is a bit harder in Mr. Holland's community. He suggested looking at
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	<p>placing a community coordinator that can coordinate between systems and gather supplies. Eric also suggested putting an AmeriCorps Vista member or a student that can serve them while going to school.</p>
<p>5. Presentation by Dr. Jennie Simpson, associate Commissioner and State Forensic Director, Office of Forensic Coordination, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), on the behavioral health services available to justice-involved individuals</p>	<p>Dr. Jennie Simpson presented on the behavioral health services available to justice-involved individuals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The office of forensic coordination improves forensic service and prevents reduce justice involved populations. They focus on five key pillars: state and local planning, policy and staffing for joint committee on access to forensic services, training and technical assistance, research and data analysis, and engagement education and coordination. • Dr. Simpson went over key statistics for mental illness and substance use in jail. • Individuals with mental illness tend to experience longer criminal justice involvement. Jails and prisons also lack resources to support continuity of care. • The Sequential Intercept Model shows how people move through the criminal justice system in predictable ways. It illustrates key points or intercepts. Dr. Simpson went over each intercept and its key features and best practices. • Dr. Simpson spoke about the Texas Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan and the work done by the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council. <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Boswell stated that they have done a community assessment in Andrews County. Dr. Boswell stated that the police department is overwhelmed because behavioral/mental health is placed on their department. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Simpson commented that Andrews County did a sequential intercept model mapping workshop and developed priorities with the police and sheriff's department. • Dr. Aktar stated that the DSHS Office of Public Health Policy is implementing a health disparities grant for Texas. She asked what kind of coordination Dr. Simpson's office does with re-entry taskforce. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Simpson answered that she sits on the re-entry taskforce. They interact a lot with local mental health authorities. There is a connection with HHSC and TDCJ at local level. • Dr. Sparks said she would be interested in discussing what kinds of trainings community colleges could do in

	<p>the community to try and build up mental health understanding in the state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Simpson stated she has worked with Navarro Junior College and can connect Dr. Sparks with people at Navarro Junior College. Dr. Simpson also suggested incorporating education around justice involvement for students in health care professions. ● Dr. Protas asked what kind of resources Dr. Simpson has on individuals with traumatic brain injuries in justice involved system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Simpson stated that they do not have a lot of good research on this topic, and she would be interested to see what research is being done at UTMB Galveston.
<p>6. State Health Plan update topics and timeline review.</p> <p>Break at 11:47. Resumed at 12:01</p>	<p>Dr. Curry gave an update on the SHP update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Curry went over the timeline for the update and a summary of topics that were discussed in previous meetings. ● Dr. Curry recommended including a section on health literacy. ● The first draft of the SHP will be ready by the Spring 2024 meeting. By the October 5, 2023 meeting, topics will need to be finalized. ● A poll will be sent out to council members to choose their top five topics before the October 5, 2023 meeting. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Protas spoke about the importance of discussing the fentanyl crisis in the SHP update. She also promoted the social drivers of health as a potential topic for the SHP update. ● Dr. Sparks asked if it would be better to focus on just a few topics to help push those along. ● Dr. Protas commented that some of the previous topics have been addressed by legislation. She also mentioned that many of the topics are ongoing issues. ● Dr. Sparks asked if it would be possible to get a crosswalk on what the SHCC has recommended and what the outcome was. ● Dr. Curry responded by saying HPRC will work on a crosswalk showing the previous recommendations made and any outcome that came of them. ● Dr. Protas spoke briefly about health literacy being a potential topic talked about health literacy as both a topic and an example of an item that has generated legislation in the past.

<p>7. SHCC Agency Representatives' Reports</p>	<p>a. Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): Dr. Harvey with HHSC was not present to give an update on the Behavioral Health Services Department. Jimmy Blanton with HHSC's Medicaid Program was not present to give an update.</p> <p>b. Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Aelia Akhtar with DSHS gave an update on the agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The health disparities grant, also known as the Community Conversations on Health Grant, runs through May 2024.• DSHS had to renew contracts with grant partners. The process has been completed and grant partners are now ready to go.• Since the last SHCC meeting, they have collaborated with Robert Dole at HHSC Behavioral Health Services.• The 2022-2023 Texas Public Health Fellowship Program cohort graduated on May 31st. The 2023-2024 cohort just started June 1st.• In next 12 months, DSHS will work with partners to build up sustainability plans. <p>Abigail Melick of DSHS Governmental Affairs gave a Legislative Session update on legislations passed affecting public health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bills affecting public health included topics covering: Medicaid coverage for post-partum mothers, an EMS rural telemedicine training project, COVID mandates, food allergen awareness in food service establishments, and patient transportation by firefighters. <p>c. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB): Elizabeth Mayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elizabeth Mayer provided information and details on funding for grant programs.• THECB is in the process of putting together documents that show the funding increases for the grant programs. They will be shared when they are finalized.• THECB is also working on a study on health care professions. They have met with the Center for Health Statistics and Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies. Legislation directs the board to make recommendations establishing any new programs and expansion of current programs to meet the increased need for health professions in the state. The report will likely go to the October board meeting.
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<p>8. Update on SHCC Representation on the HHSC E-Health Advisory Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Holland was appointed to the e-Hac. Their next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2023.
<p>9. Health Professions Resource Center and SHCC Coordinator's Report</p>	<p>Dr. Curry provided an update on the Health Professions Resource Center (HPRC) and SHCC activities. She discussed the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPRC attended the AAMC conference. • They have completed all factsheets on health professions, and the factsheets are on the website. • They have completed all the supply tables on health providers. • HPRC is currently working with TCNWS on updating supply and demand projections for physicians, oral health providers, nurses, and behavioral health providers. • HPRC is working on creating a dashboard on their website.
<p>10. Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies Report</p>	<p>Cheyenne Neese provided an update on the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) and discussed the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TCNWS has finalized and published the 2022 Nursing Education Program Information Survey reports for vocational, professional, and graduate level nursing education programs. • TCNWS has been working on updating nursing education dashboards with 2022 data. • They have reconvened the School Nurse Taskforce to revisit the survey instrument that had previously been developed. They plan to implement the survey in the fall and collect information on school health nurses. • They will reconvene the Workplace Violence Against Nurses Taskforce to revisit the individual nurse survey. The taskforce will be meeting later in June and a timeline is being developed for the implementation of this project. • TCNWS is working with a contractor to update supply and demand projections for nurses. • The 2023 Nursing Education Program Information Survey will be collected in October and in the fall TCNWS will also kick off its work on the 2024 Employer Nurse Staffing Surveys. • The next TCNWS Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 4th.

SHCC Meeting Minutes June 8, 2023

11. Administrative Items and Next Steps	SHCC tentative meeting date: October 5 th , 2023.
12. Public Comment and Adjourn	<p>There were no public comments.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Sparks and seconded by Dr. Rodriguez. The motion carried.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.</p>