



## PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 11, 2019

12:30 – 2:00pm

Goodwill Community Center

## MINUTES

**Members Present:** Reggie Smith (TCJC), Sherri Cogbill (TDCJ-RID), Michelle Collins (Integral Care), Lauren Dreyer (Integral Care), Darla Gay (District Attorney's Office), Mia Greer (Community Coalition for Health), Darwin Hamilton (RAP Member), Melissa Latta (TRLA), Cathy McClaugherty (TC Justice Planning), Mary Moran (TCSO), Laurie Pherigo (Roundtable Fellow), Jaime Rodriguez (FBOP), Sandra Smith (Via Hope), Don Tracy (ACC), Jennifer Tucker (Goodwill), Pete Valdez (COA Community Court), Sarah Worthington (TRLA)

**Guests:** Jeannie Nelson (Austin Tenants Council), Daniel Armendariz (Austin Tenants Council), Carl Hunter (Recovery People), Dylan Juza (ECHO), David Clauss (American YouthWorks), Lisa Mitchell, Mick Normington (Lee College), Javier Soto (Communities for Recovery), Melissa Klein (Truth Be Told), Amber Warne (Workforce Solutions)

**Support:** Kelly Nichols, Laylee Safa (WNA)

I. **Introductions (Reggie Smith)**

Reggie welcomed attendees and facilitated a round of introductions at 12:35pm.

II. **Vote: February 2019 Minutes (Reggie Smith)**

Darla Gay moved to approve the 2019 minutes. Mary Moran seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

III. **Vote: New Planning Council Members: Marissa Latta (Mary Moran)**

Mary shared the Nominating Committee's recommendation of Marissa Latta as the newest Planning Council member. ACTION: Sarah Worthington moved to approve the nomination of Marissa Latta. Darwin Hamilton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Legislative Update (Laurie Pherigo)**

Laurie provided an overview of the four bills that the Executive Committee would like the Roundtable to take a stand on.

- **ACTION:** WNA will send out for electronic vote on Friday with a quick turnaround due date.

V. **NHCD Consolidated Plan Update (Dawn Perkins)**

Dawn provided an overview of the NHCD Consolidated Plan's background, purpose and impact on reentry populations. She requested that Planning Council members fill out the NHCD survey and encouraged attendees to share the online survey link.

## **VI. Open Space Discussion**

- Reentry service coordination
  - i. Assess provider current providers, inter-agency communication, and collaborations to close gaps
  - ii. Geographic challenges - just outside the jail, multiple locations, etc.
  - iii. Revamp existing infrastructure (ARCH, Workforce Solutions, etc)
  - iv. Look at lessons learned from existing one stops
  - v. Need buy-in from reentering populations
  - vi. Cultural barriers
  - vii. Utilization of peer support
  - viii. Voluntary, not mandatory
  - ix. Host focus groups with folks with lived experience reentering
  - x. Coordinate release times to coincide with one stop shop hours outside the jail
  - xi. Coordinated assessment in the jail – pre-planning on the inside to ease access to services upon release
  - xii. Connect halfway houses to community
  
- Further engaging justice-involved individuals and their families and allies
  - i. Identify current patronships with other organizations that support justice-involved individuals and their families
  - ii. Inside-out communication – start with communication and support for families while loved ones are still in prison.
  - iii. Plug into events hosted by other orgs
  - iv. Create shared online calendar or Facebook group for plugging into events hosted by different community organizations
  
- Behavioral health & substance use peer support practices for successful reentry
  - i. Peer support inside jails - “Hot hand off”
  - ii. Education is necessary as the first step. Via Hope has a Demystifying Peer Support program.
  - iii. Connectivity – provide folks with wraparound services.
  - iv. Follow up with folks.
  
- Reframing reentry language to convey community impact
  - i. Identify target audience: employers, legislators, general public
  - ii. Use people-first language, reduce “offenders” language
  - iii. Impact of who is conveying message
  - iv. Impact of storytelling

## **VII. Misc. Announcements and Roundtable**

- The second Annual RAP Speaks storytelling event will be held on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm at Impact Hub North.
- Hank Perret will serve as the Roundtable’s Fair Chance Champion for a year through the Leadership Austin Executive Fellowship program. Hank will start at the end of the month and will be introduced at the next Planning Council meeting. The Roundtable would like to thank Leadership Austin for generously lowering the financial barrier for the Roundtable to participate.