CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 9/26/2019

Attendees: Noele Adele, Travis County; **Tracy Ayrhart, Ph.D.,** Central Texas Food Bank; **Alison Bentley**, United Way Success by 6; **Korey Darling**, Travis County HHS; **Nancy Gilliam**, CAN Community Council; **Caitlin Hamrock**, E^3 Alliance; **Brooke W Martin**, Integral Care; Air Quality Project Manager; **Josh Rudow**, City of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Community Development;

Staff in Attendance: Raul Alvarez, Carlos Soto,

Welcome and Introductions: Raul Alvarez, CAN Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 2:09 pm. Members introduced themselves.

Approval of minutes: The 5/02/19 meeting minutes were reviewed. Allison Bentley moved to approve the minutes. Adele Noel seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director Update: Raul Alvarez welcomed members. We are wrapping up the State of the Safety Net forums designed to engage and gather public feedback around the Dashboard. CAN is also focused on a strategic planning process, which includes a survey. We are working to get information together for the retreat on November 10. We are having one on one visits with each partner, to gather suggestions and input. CAN has had to pivot in the past, based on changing conditions. Considering everything that's going on in terms of community mobilization and current circumstances, and given the capacity of CAN, it's important to be strategic in our focus to add the most value. The dashboard helps with identifying challenges in terms of outcomes or trends, and with informing about local efforts. We appreciate your contributions to the effort. The safety net forums have been a successful engagement opportunity. We've had high numbers of registrations, and each forum has had 25-30 people. There are over 50 people signed up for the education forum. The other big event on the calendar is the Regional Summit on October 25 in San Marcos. Workforce Solutions Capital Area and Workforce Solutions Rural Area, as well as a local employer from the San Marcos area named CFAN will present and answer questions from their perspective on issues related to workforce needs. There will also be CTE coordinators from the area present about what schools are doing to prepare students for high demand career opportunities in the area. In response to some of the feedback we have received from previous forums, we have allocated more time for small group discussions.

Justin Hale, who was serving as Communications Specialist at CAN, has moved on after accepting a position at Integral Care. The next Dashboard Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for November 21, where we will be able to discuss the feedback form all four Safety Net forums. In terms of the Dashboard, the Executive Committee has asked that we send any recommendations to them by February so that they can review them in March, in case they have questions or concerns they can send it back before it's sent to the board in April, and finally to the publisher in May. In light of these circumstances, the November meeting will be a time to see how close we are to being done, follow up on the conversations today, and discuss the results of the final Safety Net forum. On the Agenda are possible meeting dates in December, January, and February, in case we need further discussion. Alvarez then provided a brief overview of how the dashboard report as we know it now came to be, beginning with the "Issue Area Reports" published by the Issue Area Groups that collaborated on specific community topics, over 15 years ago. Keep that in mind as we discuss, we can always drill down more on complex issues, but every time there's an increase in research and reporting capacity, there's a decrease in engaging and identifying strategies for addressing the needs.

Much of this reporting on issues is now being done by a number of local organizations that carry out research and publish analysis on a broad range of relevant topics. Success by 6, Learn All The Time, the Children's Mental Health Plan… is it necessary to have a report or is it more valuable

to have a place where all those things are pulled together to make people aware these things are out there.

Part of the response from the Safety Net Forums includes functioning as a repository of local reports and local efforts. Should there be a kind of resource guide or directory of who is doing what on what issues, so it then becomes 2 or 3 separate reports instead of one report, which could then facilitate updating. That function as a data repository might be useful, especially if it crosslinks between sites. Partners have felt increasing pressure from funders to start connecting with cross-sector initiatives and organizations. Is there a more systematic way to build those partnerships? There's a strong cross-sector data sharing movement currently underway at some of our partners, where does CAN fit into that role that we play to complement that. Another type of work that partners are engaged in has to do with connecting activities to the metrics, how does policy connect to some of the changes? For example, changes to the poverty level, or categorical eligibility, maybe we are going to see insecurity rates increase because of that. How do we tie some of that narrative into the changes we see? Now, there are so many APIs where you can plug into the datasource. Would be great to have a place where partners would be able to plug in all those datasets. A website where we could do that would be very helpful.

Follow up: Safety Net Forum #1: Carlos Soto called attention to the 5/02/19 meeting minutes, where notes from the discussion in May highlighted issues such as data regarding substance use, e-cigarettes, and opioids. Texas DSHS has published data on e-cig use that could be used as an indicator or drilldown. We also received feedback requesting more disaggregation in addition to race, such as gender and age (older AND younger). Regarding the format, if it's just an online tool instead of a printed document, it would be simpler to manage and update. Perhaps with a summary or guide of what's there and how to use it. That's something to think about, not do the printed version or make a condensed printed version. Not printing the 28 page document could free up capacity to focus more on understanding the complexities behind the issues and ways to develop, launch, and grow cross-sector initiatives to address the issues. Another issue with the printed version is that once it's printed it becomes out of date. Other feedback is regarding zip codes, is it worth putting all that time to mapping the data by zip codes, for people to then ask "can you map what's going on *within* that zip code? This then comes back to what CAN's goal is for the Dashboard and what is CAN's role in moving the needle on these indicators. In terms of health indicators, youth vaping, opioid use and maternal mortality have also come up.

2019 State of the Safety Net Forum Highlights, Forums #2 and #3: Carlos Soto began with an overview of salient themes from the feedback, including more disaggregation (age, sex, and disability status), data on opioid use, data on access to transportation, and a suggestion that "percent who drive alone to work" could be explained better. There was also an expressed interest in data regarding home ownership, wealth, and jobs. For food insecurity there is a lot of attention on veterans. CTFB might have data on that. Could housing cost and transportation cost be measured together? In the Drive Alone to Work section, we mention the H+T Fact Sheet, which includes a link to calculate housing and transportation costs. There is an issue in that on the Housing Cost-Burdened side it looks like conditions are becoming more affordable because the percentage is going down, but income and job creation data shows that from 2010 to 2017 the population of individuals on the highest end of the economic spectrum grew much more rapidly than other groups. This may have had an effect on the housing cost-burdened rate. Is there a drilldown into mobility in the conversation about housing? We try to show it through mapping, but it's hard to measure with existing public data sources. There's also research that shows that people for whom the Austin metro area has become unaffordable may be relocating to places farther than our MSA. Kory Darling mentioned an analysis of ACS geo-mobility data that might be coming out soon. One way to go about mapping mobility may involve tracking historical addresses… CommUnity Care has data like that, but sharing may be restricted. Homelessness is another one where maybe a deeper dive into the complexities of the issue might be useful.

Criminal Justice, safety, and engagement is the most recent forum, held last week. This section has 3 indicators, and there could be other things we can add related to engagement or criminal justice. Compared to the feedback received for other issue areas, we received less ideas for this issue area. At our board meeting one of the points that were brought up was that efforts focused on reducing the jail population. The result was less people being arrested and booked, but the disproportionality didn't change. So, how do you tell the story of what can you do and what impact is it having? This dynamic aspect is interesting, could be useful to foreshadow report to highlight great change community has undergone. There's some interesting research from Dr. Bixler at the RGK Center, it seems they have data on how informed and involved people are, looking at how much people in the community are actually participating. An interesting measure was the number of people who would give more to charitable efforts if they knew what was needed. This is an incredibly rich document, but it seems like there has always been a challenge in how we relate to the audience to make them feel informed.

There's all this information & data on a number of platforms but the challenge continues to be about reaching people, talking to them, and engaging new people. Another issue that came up, also at the board, has to do with the crime indicator, which reports on violent and property crime. This year, the property crime rate decreased but the violent crime rate increased, and the County Attorney suggested that property crime and violent crime could be reported separately. That might be something we decide to do because it will give more detail. Has CAN ever had or looked at having a Law Enforcement representative as part of the group? Typically it has included a rep from the Criminal Justice Council, which included local law enforcement agencies.

Winter meetings: A poll might be in order, there's a few things we have talked about that may involve further discussion, from tweaking indicators to broader questions about how we produce the report so it isn't as labor intensive. Since we are also working on our strategic plan, if we want to change the approach to the Dashboard for the next 10 years, it's a good time to put something visionary or innovative on the table. Keeping in mind the goal to have the data to activate services and the public, it might be worth it to look at these indicators if these are the best indicators to drive individuals/organization into action. In the past we have talked about working groups to focus expertise on the topics, which would be very useful. In terms of the dashboard side and how we convene around it, we are going through a similar conversation about, for example, Community Council, such as what they are engaged in, priorities, how is their work connected overall with what we're doing, so the diagram helps make sense of that. There is a challenge in that it becomes a balancing act, in terms of research and engagement. We want to get to where we can say, half of our efforts are centered around the data and reporting, and half of our efforts are spent asset mapping, strategic planning around issues, and organizing work groups and action teams around action and policy implementing some of the recommendations that our workgroups have come up with. Especially with this conversation about the increasing number of data sources, the effort around combining, cataloguing, and making available those sources and the convening of people, becomes a lot more important for CAN. The real value of CAN then becomes locating all of this within the region. Do we need to continue printing? If the value is how quick we can update the data, then maybe the resources put behind printing might be better used on more quickly updated data.

Ayrhart 3:38

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.