



CAN Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 01/09/2015

Board Members in Attendance: Dominique Renee Bowman (Senior Development Officer, Huston-Tillotson University), Bill Clabby (Associate Vice President for Global Initiatives, St. Edward's University), John-Michael Cortez (Community Involvement Manger, Capital Metro), Ashton Cumberbatch (Vice President of Advocacy & Community Relations, Seton Healthcare), Jerry Davis (CEO & President, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas), David Escamilla (Chair, Community Justice Council/ Travis County Attorney), David Evans (CEO, Austin Travis County Integral Care), Anne E. Harutunian (Chair, CAN Community Council), Patricia Hayes (Board member, Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce), Peter Kretzschmar (Vice-President for Strategic Initiatives, United Way for Greater Austin), Becky Pastner (Program Officer, Health Policy & Grants, Healthy Living, St. David's Foundation), Erica Saenz (Assistant Vice President for Community and External Relations, University of Texas at Austin), Eileen Schrandt (Vice-Chair, CAN Community Council), Simone Talma Flowers (Executive Director, Interfaith Action of Central Texas), Ann Teich (Board Trustee, Austin ISD), Dan Warth (Board Secretary, Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce)

Proxies in Attendance: Joene Grissom (Board Member, Workforce Solutions – Capital Area), Dr. Matt Snapp, (Board member, Austin Travis County Integral Care), Susan Willars (Vice President of Human Resources, Central Health), Elvis Williams (Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Del Valle ISD)

Staff in Attendance: Hannah Brown, Kevin Paris, Mary Dodd, and Vanessa Sarria

Call to Order and Introductions: Erica Saenz called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. Members introduced themselves. Peter Kretzschmar reminded the board that the ACA enrollment period ends February 15. John-Michael Cortez reminded the board of the new Capital Metro fare changes.

Citizens Communication: Heather Stewart, a volunteer with Beyond Today shared concerns regarding her experience at ATCIC. David Evans thanked her for sharing her concerns and offered to follow up with her directly.

Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2014: John-Michael Cortez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Simone Talma-Flowers seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Updates from CAN Chair: Erica Saenz provided the following updates:

- *CAN Bylaws for approval at Feb. 13 Board meeting* – Changes, especially regarding meeting attendance and proxies, were made in the November and December Board meetings. Action will be taken on these changes at the February board meeting.
- *2015 partner invoices to be mailed in January.*

CAN Board Membership and Board of Directors Statement of Understanding: Erica Saenz presented the updated Board of Directors Statement of Understanding. This statement of understanding will be signed by CAN Partners and Board members at the beginning of each year. It was distributed electronically and is due by the February Board meeting.

2014 CAN Executive Director Evaluation: John-Michael Cortez submitted the CAN Executive Director evaluation for Board approval. Twelve of twenty-five partners and all three staff completed the evaluation. The Executive Director's performance was rated as superior; meaning her work routinely surpassed the standard established. The Executive Committee discussed results at last meeting and accepted evaluation. Additionally, The Executive Committee approved a salary increase for the Executive Director of 3%, effective January 1, 2015 according to the budget approved by the CAN Board in December. It noted that the evaluation is not related to Vanessa Sarria's move from CAN to work for the mayor's office. Ashton Cumberbatch moved to accept evaluation. Second from Ann Teich. Approved unanimously.

2015 Work Plan: Upcoming Meetings: Vanessa Sarria presented an overview of upcoming meetings fulfilling the 2015 Work Plan. The full presentation is available at <http://www.canatx.org/CAN->

[Councils/Board of Directors/](#). The involvement of CAN Partners will be crucial to the success of the Work Plan. Partners are invited and encouraged to participate.

Update on CAN Community Council: Anne Harutunian presented. The Community Council added thirteen new members, bringing the total membership to twenty-nine. Laura Morrison will present at the first meeting on Monday, January 12, 2015. This year, the Community Council will apply the themes of consider my whole family, provide services where I am, and develop a system that works for me, to vulnerable populations. The final product will be a community summit in October sharing findings and best practices. The Community Council will be a standing item at CAN Board Meetings in 2015.

New Poverty and Low-Income Data Kevin Paris presented. The full presentation is available at [http://www.canatx.org/CAN-Councils/Board of Directors/](http://www.canatx.org/CAN-Councils/Board_of_Directors/). The 2015 Dashboard Report will be released in early May. An overview of the change in poverty and low-income data was presented. Based on a five-year trend, both the low-income and poverty percentages are lower than the recession, but still higher than 2000 data. Disparities by race/ethnicity persist. Poverty and low-income data is available by geography, illustrating several trends, including the suburbanization of poverty.

A video by Brookings Institute explaining social mobility was shared. That video can be accessed at the following link: http://youtu.be/t2XFh_tD2RA.

Discussion followed, particularly concerning what changes need to be made if what we've done over the past fifteen years hasn't successfully decreased poverty or low-income. Board members discussed the importance of education, workforce training for the jobs that exist in our community, supports to complete higher education, underemployment of those who have degrees, and generational poverty.

Putting Person-Centered and Integrated Service Delivery into Practice – Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO): Anne Howard, Executive Director, ECHO

The mission of ECHO is to end homelessness, which is done with housing. ECHO is working to develop a system that works for people to move further toward this goal of ending homelessness. ECHO recognized a need for coordinated assessment and an integrated system so there is no wrong door for those living in homeless to access services and supports. ECHO created a new Framework for Housing Stability. Within this framework, agencies utilize a uniform intake system to determine what intervention the client needs and then determine eligibility for all housing programs. Once eligibility is determined, clients are prioritized for available services based on vulnerability. This effort is funded through a grant from Texas DSHS through a partnership with ATCIC, and allows homeless services to function effectively as a system. Eventually, the coordinated assessment and system will be conducted at all housing nonprofits in the community.

Street Health Care, Central Health: Mark Hernandez, Chief Medical Officer, Community Care Collaborative
Historically, healthcare has been provided to the homeless population as if they had homes. This method has proven ineffective. The Community Care Collaborative has created healthcare teams to meet the homeless population where they gather, create relationships, and develop healthcare that works for them in the face of competing priorities, such as life and safety. The annual rate of Emergency Department visits for the homeless population is 5. 80% of visits could be prevented with primary care. Efforts must be combined to effectively provide healthcare for the homeless population.

Discussion.

All CAN Partners will be asked to share at CAN Board Meetings throughout the year regarding how they are integrating the seven person-centered themes.

Open Forum Discussion.

The Executive Committee will discuss a transition plan at their upcoming meeting. John-Michael Cortez recommended CAN retain outside support for the search process. The Executive Committee will propose recommendations to the Board at the February Board meeting.

John-Michael Cortez reviewed recommendations from the Executive Director evaluation as follows: (1) Explore a new organizational model whereby CAN would be more independent. For example, not being dependent on ATCIC for fiscal agent, human resources, health insurance, legal, payroll, and accounting services. Also, become independent from AISD in regard to use of facilities and IT support. (2) Adopt a policy related to employee grievances that would provide an avenue for CAN employees to voice concerns in a protected manner. (3) Provide the CAN leadership with professional development goals of CAN staff to ensure that CAN staff are provided with the opportunities as well as leadership and funding support to develop professionally.

John-Michael Cortez announced there would be a meeting on January 29 at 1:00 PM, at which AGE will present results from a study conducted of national best practices for senior transportation. All interested should contact John-Michael for further information.

The Board thanked Vanessa Sarria for her nearly eight years of service to CAN as the Executive Director.

Adjournment: Erica Saenz, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. Board agendas, minutes and presentations are available online at: http://www.canatx.org/CAN-Councils/Board_of_Directors/. Future 2015 CAN Board meetings will take place the second Friday of each month as follows: February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11, unless otherwise communicated.