



CAN Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 10/09/2015

301 W 2nd Street, Boards and Commissions Room 1-3 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: James Bartosh (Deputy Superintendent, Manor ISD), Dominique Bowman (Director of Community Engagement, Huston-Tillotson University), Bill Clabby (Associate VP Global Initiatives, St. Edward's University), Jerry Davis, CEO, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas), David Escamilla (Travis County Attorney, Community Justice Council), David Evans (CEO, Austin Travis County Integral Care), Christie Garbe (VP & Chief Strategy Officer, Central Health), Anne Harutunian (Chair, CAN Community Council), Ora Houston (City Council Member, City of Austin), Peter Kretzchmar (VP Navigation Center & Business Development, United Way for Greater Austin), Jeremy Martin (Senior VP, Strategy, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce), Erica Saenz (Assistant VP for Community & External Relations, University of Texas Austin), Brigid Shea (Commissioner, Travis County), Simone Talma-Flowers (Executive Director, Interfaith Action of Central Texas), Ann Teich (Board Trustee, Austin ISD), Dan Warth (Board Member, Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce)

Proxies in Attendance: Mary Faria (Seton Healthcare Family), Mario Flores (Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce), Stephanie Hawley (Austin Community College), Victor Obaseki (Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce), Matt Snapp (Austin Travis County Integral Care), Elvis Williams (Del Valle ISD)

Staff in Attendance: Hannah Brown and Mary Dodd

Call to Order and Introductions: Erica Saenz called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. Members introduced themselves and shared the following announcements. Huston-Tillotson University will host a series of [Presidential Inauguration events November 5-8](#). David Evans thanked Huston-Tillotson University for hosting the Stepping Up Dialogue. Bill Clabby introduced his guest, the president of the Citizens' Council of Mont Pelier, France. The [Travis County Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition summit](#) is November 5. Chelsea Clinton visited the Austin ISD Ann Richards School on 10/8. Debbie Bresette is retiring from her position as Executive Director of the United Way for Greater Austin at the end of October. Councilmember Ora Houston will host a Town Hall Meeting on October 17th at Doris Miller Auditorium. The iACT Red Bench dialogue last week was attended by over 200 people to discuss Racial Intolerance. iACT will host an [Interfaith Thanksgiving Service and Celebration](#) on November 22. Central Health will host two [Brackenridge Campus Open Houses](#) on October 26th. A large group from Austin and the Austin Chamber returned from their annual city visit in Toronto last week. Presentations from that trip will be posted on the Austin Chamber website. At the Austin Chamber breakfast for major employers on 10/8, Mayor Adler encouraged businesses to sign up for the mobility challenge. Thanks to Jerry Davis and Goodwill for signing up. All employers are encouraged to participate in the mobility challenge. The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities will host the [Cinema Touching Disability film festival](#) November 6-7 at Alamo Drafthouse Village. Remember to vote on November 3rd.

Citizens Communication: none.

Approval of Minutes from September 3, 2015 & September 11, 2015: Jeremy Martin made a motion to approve the minutes with the recommended change. Simone Talma Flowers seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

- Introduction of new CAN Executive Director, Raul Alvarez
- Board Work Session 11/13/15 from 11:30 am – 3 pm at the Austin ISD Performing Arts Center. Lunch will be provided.
- CAN End of Year Reception to follow CAN Board meeting on 12/11/15

Report from CAN Community Council: Anne Harutunian, chair of the CAN Community Council, gave the following report. In September, the Community Council heard from providers who serve persons with disabilities: ARC of the Capital Area and the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities. Building a Person-Centered Community: A Participatory Summit will take place on October 21 from 8-12 at the Austin ISD Performing Arts

Center. The CAN Community Council Membership Nominating Committee was selected and has met to select the new members of the Community Council.

Discussion: David Evans thanked Anne and reminded the Executive Committee and Board that they should keep the work of the Community Council in mind when planning for next year.

Jerry Davis acknowledged the valuable work of the ARC since its beginnings in 1949 and encouraged board members to visit their art exhibit.

Councilmember Houston pointed out that the needs of persons with disabilities are also true for persons who are aging, including the need for housing supports to help people age in place.

Expanding Opportunity: A Central Texas Summit on Bridging the Economic Divide, November 18, 2015 at Bastrop Convention Center: Mary Dodd, CAN Assistant Director

Presentation is available online at: http://www.canatx.org/CAN-Councils/Board_of_Directors/Presentations/.

Thanks to the summit sponsors, the event will be free for all attendees. Thanks also to Diane Miller with Civic Collaboration who has served as our consultant for the summit. The conversations going into this summit began in 2014, with regular planning meetings held throughout the region in 2015 to move toward the summit. In addition to planning meetings, CAN staff have met with leaders throughout the five-county region in preparation for the summit. Mary provided an overview of the summit agenda. All CAN Board members are encouraged to register for the event online at expandingopportunitiesummit.eventbrite.com. We're conducting targeted invitations and CAN Board members are needed to help distribute these targeted invitations to leaders.

Discussion: Event capacity is 200. We want to ensure good representation from all five counties. This event will focus on seeing growth as an opportunity. The challenge will be having good representation from education, faith, and business leaders. Business leaders are the ones who have jobs to impact these economic issues. We need good representation from both geographic areas and specific sectors.

Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative: Maria Valdez (Community & Youth Advocate), Laura Brady (Director of AOYC), Tamara Atkinson (Deputy Executive Director, Workforce Solutions – Capital Area)

Presentation is available online at: http://www.canatx.org/CAN-Councils/Board_of_Directors/Presentations/.

The Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative takes a youth-centered approach to system building to better connect young people in our community to education and employment. Opportunity Youth are defined as 16-24 year olds who are not sufficiently engaged in school or in the labor market.

In 2013, the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions interviewed Austin community representatives regarding opportunity youth. As a result of that meeting, the Aspen Institute invited Austin to join a cohort of communities working to create collective impact for Opportunity Youth issues. Austin is now in the second year of implementation under these resources, in addition to support from local investors. This public-private initiative is focused on connecting systems to support Opportunity Youth. AOYC embraces the Collective Impact Model.

The AOYC is a broad cross-sector alliance focused on reengaging youth by dismantling barriers, aligning existing systems, and doing that with youth at the forefront of all work done. Priority populations include youth aging out of foster care, court-involved youth, parenting youth, and young men of color. There are a little over 26,000 opportunity youth in the Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos MSA.

Workforce Solutions serves as the Backbone Organization for AOYC. Part of their role as the backbone organization has involved creating a Youth Council, the AOYC Ambassador Program. Their guiding principle is "Making No Decision about Youth without Youth". Youth are included in various committees, particularly the Youth Voice Committee, which allows youth to share their voice with organizational leaders in the community. A partnership with

the Texas Network of Opportunity Youth allowed AOYC Youth to advocate at the state capital. AOYC also created a marketing internship for youth.

Youth of color are disproportionately represented within the opportunity youth population, and this disproportionality has increased since 1990. 14.5% of all 16-24 year olds “of color” in the MSA were opportunity youth in 2012. The gap in median hourly wages by race/ethnicity has also increased in the MSA since 1980.

The biggest impact of stability in young peoples’ lives comes by reconnecting to postsecondary education and meaningful employment. The AOYC does this by having the right community leaders, stakeholders, and young people at the table. AOYC has supported ACC in their Transitions to College Success program, a 12-week intensive college readiness course. AOYC is also working with ACAN to better track student data. Workforce Solutions is planning a data research project in 2016 to better understand the Opportunity Youth population in our community.

Discussion.

Board members thanked AOYC for including student voice, not reinventing programs, and working on data sharing. Board members asked how AOYC is helping systems make change. The AOYC staff referenced the ACC Transitions program and policy changes made there to better serve opportunity youth. AOYC has also brought to ACC’s attention the burden of financial holds on student accounts. Additionally, AOYC has supported policy changes that provide alternatives to truancy charges. The upcoming AOYC meeting will include a discussion on truancy and reversing the school to prison pipeline.

AOYC Partners contribute time, funding, and other in-kind supports. The Aspen Institute funding covers all staffing, infrastructure, and coordination costs. Board members recommended AOYC consider partnering with place-based groups and focusing on women and toxic stress faced by youth.

AOYC recruits youth through community partners (including American YouthWorks, Goodwill, CIS, and others), recreation centers, skate parks, etc. Retention is improved by authentically connecting with youth and practicing warm hand offs to programming. The AOYC website, which was designed by youth interns, will launch this fall, along with a social media campaign.

Adjournment: Erica Saenz, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:04 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: November 13, December 11, unless otherwise communicated.