



# CAN Board of Directors Meeting

## 06/14/24 Minutes

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Present:** Celso Báez III, CapMetro; Chris Cervini, Austin Community College; Liz Johnson, St. Edward's University; Patricia Longoria, CAN Community Council; Jeremy Martin, Austin Chamber of Commerce; Pilar Sanchez, Travis County; Matt Thompson (for Ingrid Taylor), Ascension Seton; Jeffrey Travillion, Commissioner, Travis County, Susanna Woody, Del Valle ISD Trustee

**Other guests:** Ara Merjanian, CAN Community Council

**CAN Staff in attendance:** Raul Alvarez, Jelina Tunstill, Carlos Soto

**Call To Order, Welcome, and Introductions:** CAN Chair Liz Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm and welcomed folks in attendance. Members introduced themselves.

**Minutes:** The May 10, 2024, Board meeting minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.

**Community Council Report:** Patricia Longoria mentioned that outreach to local school districts has taken place in anticipation of the next meeting. Ongoing conversations include person-centered frameworks and how they are implemented and utilized in organizations during and post-covid focus. Of particular interest are the permanent strategies that organizations have utilized, or should utilize, to incorporate person-centered frameworks into their operations. This is part of an effort to update some of our resources and research on the topic, which we have worked on for almost 8 years.

**Executive Director's Report & 2024 Work Plan Adoption:** Our engagement for the Language Access Project for Mental Health is in the final phases. The Spanish mental health toolkit was completed in October, which has generated a high level of interest from the community. Since then, with the help of community engagement partner Leonor Vargas, we have carried out over 50 training sessions around mental health and wellness in English and Spanish and reached over 500 people. The challenge is that the grant will end, so we will not be able to keep Leonor as a community engagement partner, at least not at the same level. We are still in the research phase for Regional Summit follow up, work includes creating more profiles of earn & learn programs, scheduling online forums on expanding opportunity using earn & learn programs. The strategic planning discussion at the most recent Board meeting got us off to a good start on updating our strategic plan, with members showing special interest on the topic of working regionally and what that might mean. These conversations will feed into the retreat in the Fall, when we will discuss revising the Strategic Plan. Finally, at the most recent Executive Committee we mapped out which partners with whom we may want to have one-on-one meetings and with which partners with whom we might like to do small meetings to get feedback on the strategic plan.

**Mental Health First Aid Challenge:** A subcommittee meeting took place last week which included work on proposals for next steps. As of April 2024, we have had over 1400 CAN-affiliated individuals participating in Mental Health First Aid training. Although we have met our goal, the challenge around mental health persists. Options for consideration include extending the challenge to the end of calendar year 2025 and setting a goal of training 3000 individuals. Another option is to adopt option 1 for the training goal and add the goal of having 50 new people become trained to be MHFA trainers between now and the end of calendar year 2025. Partners would have to commit to fund 3 "train the trainer" opportunities. Members were interested in the idea and supportive. Some suggested reducing the number in Option 2 to 30 instead of 50. Others added that, in the long run, it would be a good idea to see partners integrate this into their own employee training.

**CAN 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Some of the proposed engagement activities for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary include a data round-up where we "corral" data as a way of making it easier for community to access, a "CAN Through the Years" series where we hold sessions to discuss our evolving approach for our evolving community, a CAN Community Council reunion, holding a fundraiser for CAN's language access fund, and a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary bash. Members discussed several ideas for each one of these options, including how to more efficiently organize and fund them.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.