

CAN Community Council Notes
 January 27, 2025, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
 Zoom Video Conference

Attendees: Craig McNary, Nancy Gilliam, Ara Merjanian, Sona Shah, Pamela Garcia, Caroline Reynolds, Patricia Longoria

CAN Staff: Jelina Tunstill, Raul Alvarez, Carlos Soto

Guests: None

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 11:36 am. A quorum was present at 12:06 pm.
Community Council Chair’s Report	Summary: Craig shared that he wants to focus on efficiency during his time in chair and finding the balance between ideation and over-ideation. He wants to make sure the council keeps the people they intend to help at the forefront of their work.
Executive Director’s Report	<p>Summary: Raul shared that the Strategic Plan was approved at the past Board meeting. He explained that we will continue our work on language access, mental health, and earn and learn, but the rest of the plan is more inward focused. The Butler Awards doesn’t traditionally recognize CAN members for their work, but this year we created a new category called the “transformational impact” award that’ll allow us to give awards to transformational projects in the community including ones led by CAN member organizations. We are also gearing up for forums that we will be doing for the 30th anniversary; one being the Building a Person-Centered Community Report release. We will also host our first fundraiser this year for the Central Texas Language Access Fund.</p> <p>Comments and Suggestions: Sona asked where the Strategic Plan was posted. Jelina answered that it will added to the Community Council shared folder. Ara asked if there were any changes to the Strategic Plan draft or any major discussion. Raul shared that there wasn’t any discussion or suggested changes from the Board.</p>
Building a Person-Centered Community Report Update	<p>Summary: Jelina shared that the next meeting will be a release event for the Building a Person-Centered Community Report that this group worked on last year. The event will take place on the same day and at the same time as our normal Community Council meeting, February 24th from 11:30am-1pm. She shared that CAN will publicize the event in the newsletter and on social media to invite community members to attend. She also shared there will be no regular business during the February meeting.</p> <p>Comments and Suggestions: Raul asked who is presenting the framework during that meeting. Raul also shared that the Board asked what their role is now that this report is being published if there was a plan for the Community Council to</p>



	<p>challenge CAN member organizations to adopt and utilize these principles. Raul stated that if the Community Council wanted to send that message to the Board, they could. Sona asked if they are a partner of our organization, wouldn't it be an expectation that they operate under these principles. Raul shared that we could create a learning community around Person-Centered Principles similar to the work we did on language access. Ara asked if it would be a virtual event. Jelina answered that it will be virtual. Ara suggested asking One Voice, the PCC Summit, and the Dashboard Steering Committee to optimize the amount of participants. Craig also suggested cross promotion on our Members' websites.</p>
Approval of minutes from the December 18, 2024 Meeting	<p>The December 18, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Ara and a second by Patricia.</p>
Nomination of Vice Chair	<p>Sona Shah was nominated as the 2025 Community Council Vice Chair unanimously on a motion by Ara and a second by Pamela.</p>
2024 CAN Community Dashboard Presentation	<p>Summary: Raul presented the "Safe, Just, and Engaged" section of the 2024 CAN Dashboard" with the dashboard page and the drilldowns. There is a lot of red in this section for the 5-year trend and for being on track to target. He quickly showed the dashboard pages for "Our Basic Needs are Met", "We are Healthy", and "We Achieve Our Full Potential" sections.</p> <p>Jelina led the discussion on selecting a forum topic for "We are Safe, Just, and Engaged".</p> <p>Jelina stated that social capital and social isolation seem to be the topics that there is energy around for our May forum. There was no longer a quorum so there was not a formal vote.</p> <p>Comments and Suggestions: Raul suggested considering the intersection of mental health and criminal justice. He also shared that there isn't a good indicator for civic engagement besides voting, but he stated that we do have community leadership and social capital in our Race Equity Action Framework that we could share as well. Craig suggested the intersectionality of economic opportunity and criminal justice. Sona stated that with the state of Austin right now, she wonders if we should just have something focused on discussing what we mean by "Safe, Just, and Engaged" even means, because it could be different for different communities. Caroline agreed with Sona's statement. Nancy wanted to know the amount of repeat offenders and that shows the effectiveness/ ineffectiveness of systems and if there are better programs that would prevent recidivism. Ara suggested that these indicators are too narrow and we should broaden the topic to social isolation and social capital. He suggested speakers that could speak to building social capital and other indicators of engagement (civic health index or Annette Strauss Institute of Engagement). Sona agreed with the importance to taking on social isolation. Nancy suggested making social isolation a forum of its own. Raul suggested identifying if it will be a fact-finding forum or a forum to see who is working on social capital and isolation in our community.</p>

Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 pm
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