



CAN Board of Directors Meeting

12/12/25 Minutes

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Present: Celso Báez III, CapMetro; Megan Cermak, Central Health; Chris Cervini, Austin Community College; Aaron DeLao, United Way for Greater Austin; Simone Talma Flowers, Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT); Hal Katz, Integral Care; Laura La Fuente, Austin Public Health; Yael Lawson, Workforce Solutions Capital Area; Jeremy Martin, Austin Chamber of Commerce; Craig McNary, CAN Community Council; Pilar Sanchez, Travis County; Jeffrey Travillion, Precinct 1 Commissioner, Travis County; Fernando de Urioste, Board of Trustees, Austin ISD; Kori Hattemer, St. David's Foundation; Sona Shah, CAN Community Council.

Other guests: Korey Darling, Travis County; Ara Merjanian, CAN Community Council; Leah Meunier, Workforce Solutions Capital Area; Jasmine Stoughton, City of Austin.

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

Call To Order, Welcome: Executive Director Raul Alvarez called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and welcomed folks in attendance.

Minutes: The October 10 Board Meeting and November Retreat minutes were approved after a motion submitted by Chris was seconded by Aaron. The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Raul summarized the topics discussed at the November Retreat and what that meant for the 2026 Work Plan. A detailed list is available in one of the handouts. The 2025 Community Dashboard Report release date has been rescheduled to Wednesday, January 21, 2026. Some factors that influenced this decision included updated health indicator data that were released unexpectedly in October while we worked on the Economic Mobility Report.

Community Council Report: Incoming Chair Sona Shah mentioned that because the Council hosted the Building Community Forums in September and October, a formal Council meeting hasn't taken place since August. The next meeting, scheduled for Monday, will include discussion on 2026 plans. Sona also encouraged Board members to provide her with contact information for any folks who may be a good fit for serving on the Community Council.

Presentation & Discussion, Raising Travis County Initiative: Korey Darling, Pilar Sanchez, and Leah Meunier presented on the Raising Travis County initiative. Beginning with voter approval in 2024, the work focuses on increasing access to high-quality and affordable childcare and out-of-school time services in our community. Topics covered in the presentation included the goals and strategies of the fund, community advisors, short-term investments, the data-informed decision-making processes used in transitional planning, long-term investments & implementation plan, and staying connected.

Presentation & Discussion, Gen ATX Initiative: Jasmine Stoughton, of the Office of Mayor Kirk Watson shared background information. Seed funders included Texas Mutual, HEB, United Way, Wells Fargo, and others. Three pillars support the Gen ATX movement: healthy kids, safe kids, and happy & successful kids. However, there is room for growth in terms of: a coordinated strategy, sustaining momentum, metrics to track progress, a focus on youth and community service, and a shared understanding of how Austin compares to peer cities. They are taking an approach in three phases (discover, design, and deploy). Stoughton also discussed an agreement that the City obtained with Bloomberg Philanthropies that resulted in a dashboard that measures basic local metrics such as housing, economics, health, and public safety. Jasmine also shared an image of a heatmap that shows where households with children are concentrated, together with an overlay of "3rd places" (places where children can spend time that are not home or school, such as libraries, recreational center, parks, etc.). The map shows that many, if not most, of our local "3rd places" are concentrated in the areas that today have lower rates of households with children.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:56 pm.