



**Thursday, November 9th, 2023 | 4:00 pm- 5:00 pm
Hybrid Meeting**

Agenda

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|-------|---|----------------------------|
| I. | Welcome & Approval of Minutes | Bob Troyer- COL |
| II. | Introductions | Bob Troyer- COL |
| III. | City of Lewisville Economic Development | Christina Williams-COL |
| IV. | EM Pathways Implementation | Shelby Redondo- UWDC |
| V. | Backbone Support Updates | |
| | • Child Care | Shelby Redondo- UWDC |
| | • Economic Mobility | Roxanne Del Rio- NCTC |
| | • VITA | Shelby Redondo-UWDC |
| | • Family Justice Center | Shelby Redondo- UWDC |
| VI. | Leadership Team Updates | |
| | • DCHLT | Olivia Mata Williams- UWDC |
| | • DCBHLT | Shanan Spencer-UWDC |
| VII. | Public Comment | Bob Troyer- COL |
| VIII. | New Business | Bob Troyer- COL |
| IX. | Adjourn | Bob Troyer- COL |

**Next Meeting Date:
Thursday, December 14th, 2023 | 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | Hybrid Meeting**



Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team
4:00 pm Thursday
October 12th, 2023
Hybrid Meeting

Welcome and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Troyer calls the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The meeting minutes from October were approved by Dr. Del Rio and seconded by Mr. Troyer.

Target Occupation List Findings

Ms. Redondo shares findings from the Target Occupation List (TOL). She introduces a list of the occupations on the TOL that pay above an ALICE wage, the employers of these occupations, and the training pathways available in Denton County for these occupations. Ms. Redondo shares a best-case scenario case study of a potential client. Through the training pathways listed, the client is able to work while obtaining a certificate. Once the certificate is obtained, the client can work at a higher-paying job and work towards completing their associate degree. Possible changes to the list of employers and training courses include adding which employers are easily accessible to public transportation and childcare, which employers are senior-friendly, and creating an employee-friendly version of the list with links. The leadership team discussed the usefulness of the list for case managers, the accessibility of the list, and when to update the list so it represents accurate information.

University of North Texas – Community Health Certifications

Dr. Mukherjee shares a new grant that the University of North Texas (UNT) has received for Community Health Worker certifications, apprenticeships, and continuing education. Community Health Workers currently work under a variety of labels in many different agencies. UNT has received \$1.8 million from the Department of Human Resources & Services for this grant to last until 2025. This grant program partners with the UNT Health Service Center and recruits members of the community directly. The grant program fully pays for an individual's certification and gift each individual in the program a \$7500 stipend for other expenses. The certificate is available through a self-paced, online, 8-week course. The goal for this certification course is to train individuals in clinical communication and atmospheres, but they will not be qualified to make clinical decisions. Dr. Mukherjee also shared UNT is looking to partner with local agencies to provide apprenticeship programs for this program. While the apprenticeship is optional, it will allow individuals already working at agencies to immediately upscale themselves as Community Health Workers and complete a one-year paid apprenticeship. Dr. Mukherjee shared that the UNT College of Public & Health Services is providing free continuing education modules to Community Health Workers to ensure that these individuals remain certified. Dr. Mukherjee emphasizes that these Community Health Workers will provide more jobs, free up master's level students to do other work, and will be cost-effective for agencies. Dr. Mukherjee is continuing to advocate for more

insurance opportunities for Community Health Workers and looking for new partners in the community to partner with this grant program.

Backbone Support Update

Ms. Redondo informs the group that the Community Foundations of Texas grant was submitted last week with the goal of recruiting childcare centers to create more subsidized seats. The grant will be awarded in December.

Dr. Del Rio updates the group on the economic mobility workgroup. The workgroup is currently working on a tracking system with Workforce Solutions of North Central Texas to integrate communication with clients. The workgroup is also designing a brochure to layout pathways for employment. The workgroup discussed "Train the Trainer" among case managers to train others how to use the people and programs that already exist. The leadership team is informed that Dr. Roberts has agreed to chair the economic mobility committee.

Mr. Yan shares that volunteer recruitment has begun for VITA. Info sessions and early training will continue through late October. He is contacting past and prospective sites, including Carrollton and The Colony. Mr. Yan shares that a United Way intern is working on creating economic mobility resources, which focus on individuals, households with children, and seniors, for the tax preparation waiting areas. Mr. Yan shares that United Way was awarded a \$83,000 grant from the IRS for VITA.

Ms. Redondo updates the group about the family justice center. She attended a national conference with the Office of Violence against Women at One Safe Place, which is Fort Worth's family justice center. The conference focused on how to obtain sustained funding and partnerships. The family justice center is currently trying to diversify the response team and increase partnerships. There will be training in December for partnerships and buy-ins from the community.

Leadership Team Updates

Ms. Mata-Williams reports on her presentation about collective onboarding training at the Texas Homeless Network Conference. Ms. Mata-Williams shares that the training is a supplemental resource for agencies to retain employees. The Texas Homeless Network Conference showed a need to strengthen landlord engagement in Denton County. Ms. Mata-Williams shared that for the PIT Count volunteer and funding there is a need to connect volunteers with agencies.

Ms. Spencer informs the group on the success of the Recovery in the Park event that occurred on September 17th. She is facilitating a partnership with Solutions of North Texas and Texas Health Resources for a two-week non-medical detox for women. The need for crisis stabilization units in Denton was discussed during the last listening session with Representative Stucky. Ms. Spencer reminds the group about the veteran's clinical counseling program and Denton County Public Health's partnership with Credible Mind for non-professional mental health resources.

Public Comment

Ms. Shehan shares that the public comment period for \$10 million in affordable housing for the City of Lewisville closes on October 26th. The public hearing for affordable housing will be on October 17th. Ms. Shehan shares that Lewisville will be releasing NOFA for \$47500 for non-profits providing backbone support to citizens of Lewisville.

Ms. Douangdara shares that the public hearing for the City of Denton's \$10 million grant for affordable housing will take place on October 18th.

Councilmember Troyer shares that there is the City of Lewisville workforce development summit on October 18th.

New Business

None

Adjourn

Councilmember Troyer adjourns the meeting at 5:04pm.

Ling Jeng

Ling Hwey Jeng, Ph.D.
DCWSLT Secretary