# Community Action Network
## Dashboard Steering Committee
## 03/07/2011 Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Louise Lynch (ATCIC), Bob Rutishauser (Workforce Solutions), Laurie Najar (APD), Suzanne Hershey (Ready by 21), Ashton Cumberbatch (Seton), Carolyn Hanschen for Bill Caritj (AISD), Ellen Richards (Central Health), Lawrence Lyman (Travis County), Kimberly Pierce (Travis County Criminal Justice Planning), Jasmine Griffin (Workforce Solutions), Tonya Mills (Travis County Criminal Justice Planning), Mary Rolle (Travis County), Philip Huang (Austin Travis County Health and Human Services), Frank Fernandez (Green Doors), Sheryl Reese (Travis County Tax Office), Tina Morton (Travis County Tax Office), Frances Deviney (CPPP), Yuki Myamoto (APD), Bill Gill (CAPCOG), Amy Wong-Mok (KUT)
**Staff**: Chantel Bottoms, Mary Dodd, Cristell Laurel, and Vanessa Sarria

**Unable to Attend**:

- **Welcome and Introductions**: Ashton Cumberbatch, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

- **Role of Dashboard Steering Committee:**

    i.  To promote the sustainability of the dashboard over time
    ii. To make recommendations to the CAN Board of Directors to improve the relevance and usefulness of the Community Dashboard for community planning

- **CAN Community Dashboard: Overview of how it was created and how it has helped to guide collaborative action among the CAN partner agencies:** Four years ago the CAN board had a desire to focus the community in taking action. Spent 2008 working with various CAN participants to develop a common community vision. In 2009 dashboard steering committee was created to select the small dashboard of indicators of community well-being. In 2010 community council had presentations from community experts on each of these indicators. This year the CAN board has asked the DSC to think about setting goals and targets for each of the indicators. Then we can begin examining key strategies and what we can do to realize our goals and targets. This year we are releasing the updated report and will have an extensive website with drill-downs on each of the indicators, www.cancommunitydashboard.org. this dashboard is also tied to other dashboard in development in the community such as the mental health, RTCC, Ready by 21, etc. these community-wide indicators are not such that a single community partner is held accountable for moving the needle, rather community stakeholders must work together to make a positive impact. There are 16 indicators on the dashboard currently. The DSC has the ability to reanalyze the validity and importance of indicators, recommending new indicators or removing indicators when appropriate. Lessons learned from community council forums, low-income are more likely….etc. In 2011, CAN is supporting workforce solutions "Pathways to Prosperity" collaborative initiative, convening housing stakeholders to promote collaboration and planning across the housing continuum, and convening mappers and planners to analyze demographics and inequities. Community dashboard 2011 will be released in april. DSC will set goals/targets, recommend benchmark cities, make recommendations to improve the relevance and usefulness of the community dashboard for community planning.
Travis County Criminal Justice Planning may be able to link juvenile arrest data as part of the arrest disproportionality indicator.

- **Community Dashboard 2011: For Informational Purposes Only:** Elliott Naishtat stated that in 2003 Texas has a $9.9 billion shortfall.

    i.  Draft 2011 Community Dashboard Report – share feedback with Mary Dodd off-line
    ii. Will launch extended website: www.CANcommunitydashboard.org

iii.    Press conference April 8th 12:30 p.m. at City Hall – all DSC members are invited!

- **Consider adoption of new homeless indicator, as requested by ECHO:**
  *Based upon ECHO's annual point-in-time count for Austin/Travis County -- the total of the unsheltered persons, plus the number of persons in emergency shelters.*
  There is no good count of homelessness in our community. No matter the measure there will be difficulties with the data. The group voted to recommend this indicator to the CAN Board of Directors despite data concerns as it was proposed by ECHO, the community experts on this issue.

  The dashboard steering committee also supported moving forward with voter turnout by age, rather than voter turnout by race.

- **The CAN Board of Directors has directed the Dashboard Steering Committee to begin the process of setting goals and targets for each indicator. We would also like each group to consider a short list of communities, to which we can compare, or benchmark, our performance.**
  o   Goal – the overall direction we want for the indicator
  o   Target – a specific rate or percent by a specific time
  o   Proposed default target – We will achieve the national rate within five years of 2012 report (2017)
  o   For what jurisdiction are we setting goals and targets? Each indicator specifies its jurisdiction – most are Austin or Travis County. Bob – in setting goals, we need input from those doing the work to move the indicator or we won't have buy-in in achieving goals. Ellen – will we be provided with a list of tasks that we need to accomplish in our individual groups. Concern about targets where local efforts cannot impact an issue. Lawrence – is this the way we want things to be or is this the way that we are going to make them. Ashton – the dashboard is an opportunity to educate folks about what our goals are and why or why not we may be meeting these goals. Why are things the way they are? Ellen – concern that an across the board approach may not work for each indicator. Tina – in voter turnout proportionality is not something that should be a goal, its not something that we can necessarily impact. Ashton – this is more of a tool for sharing data with folks. Difference between being a champion of sharing the data and being a champion of moving the data. Suzanne – where is the emphasis on this, is it in moving the indicators in the right direction, is it simply the trend behind the data. Laurie – we put data out there, but is it good or is it bad. Perhaps it is good to begin with the benchmarking to add context to help us get us to a target. Lawrence – what is most important is whether we are getting better or worse. Chantel – the intent of the dashboard is to have an at-a-glance view of how the community is doing, the reason we are having this discussion is so that the process of determining if we're doing well or not is scientific and not based on a person's opinion. Louise – in the end this discussion does depend on the indicator which does complicate things. For some of these indicators setting a goal or target can be a doable process, while for others things are infinitely more complicated. Frank – there is hesitancy around setting particular targets because of accountability issues and because of lack of local control to move indicators. We want some aspirational targets, maybe from there we can drill-down to the specifics of what needs to be done. Bob – hope we are flexible in modifying indicators as we go along, because there are national impacts.

- **What recommendations do you have for the CAN Board of Directors to improve the relevance and usefulness of the Community Dashboard for community planning?**

- **What recommendations does the committee wish to make to the CAN Board of Directors?**

- **Adjournment:  The next Dashboard Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for June 6th from 3 – 4:30 p.m. at Seton Administrative Offices.**

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