

CAN Dashboard Steering Committee Meeting Minutes, 11/14/2013

Attendees: Lawrence Lyman (Travis County), Leslie Whitworth (Manor ISD), Peter Brodeur (Workforce Solutions Capital Area), Anne H. Harutunian (CAN Community Council Liaison), Shawn Thomas (E3 Alliance), Jennifer Mann (Manor ISD), Tonda Brown (Manor ISD), Ellen Richards (Central Health), Ann Howard (Ending Community Homelessness Coalition), Kevin Brackmeyer (Manor ISD), Patricia Hayes (African American Chamber), Phil Huang (Austin Travis County Health Department),

Unable to Attend: Maureen Britton (Children's Optimal Health), Sue Carpenter (United Way for Greater Austin), Katie Coburn (Central Health), John-Michael Cortez (Capital Metro), Ashton Cumberbatch (Seton Healthcare Family), Frances Deviney (Center for Public Policy Priorities), Frank Fernandez (HousingWorks), Darla Gay (Community Justice Council), Louise Lynch (Austin Travis County Integral Care), Vanessa Metzger (City of Austin), Lesley Ramsey (Texas Civic Engagement Table) Adele Noel (Travis County Air Quality Project Manager), Jeremy Martin (Austin Chamber), Bob Corona (City of Austin), Chris King (Ray Marshall Center), Bill Carijt (Austin ISD),

Staff in Attendance: Chantel Bottoms (Senior Research Analyst), Mary Dodd (Assistant Director), Kevin Paris (Research Assistant) and Vanessa Sarria (Executive Director)

Welcome and Introductions: Mary Dodd called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Review and Approve Minutes of the September 12, 2013 Meeting: No quorum.

Consider and approve a new indicator to replace readiness and a process for assigning a target for the approved indicator: Staff noted that, in the previous meeting, the Dashboard Steering Committee discussed the efficacy of removing the "college readiness" indicator from the CAN Community Dashboard and including it in the drill-down analysis of the "high school graduation" indicator, since it measures the percent of high school graduates who are "college ready." Also, college readiness standards are changing in Texas, due to actions taken by the 83rd Legislative Session. Three alternatives that measure higher education success and persistence were discussed at the September 12, 2013 meeting. Peter Brodeur made a motion to adopt the indicator, "**% students who complete two-year or four-year college degrees within 6 years of graduating from high school.**" Ann Howard seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The Committee discussed the importance of also tracking the % of low-income HS graduates completing college within 6 years of finishing high school. The Committee discussed whether and how to identify an appropriate target for the new indicator. This will be considered by the Committee at its first meeting in 2014.

Update on New Location Affordability Index: Staff shared information on the new [Location Affordability Index](#) released by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. A HUD spokesperson informed CAN staff that the new index of what people pay for housing and transportation combined is meant to provide consumer information and is not recommended as an indicator on which to base policy decisions. While the new portal calculates an index of what the average person in an area pays for housing and transportation costs combined, it does not set a threshold of affordability nor does it estimate the total people in an area that pay more than what they should, such as the HUD housing cost burdened indicator does. The Dashboard Steering Committee has been awaiting this new data point from HUD in hopes that it could substitute "housing cost burdened" and "vehicle miles

traveled” with a new indicator that measured housing and transportation costs together. This would allow room to then add “food security” as an indicator. The Committee discussed the possibility of replacing the “% low-income” indicator with “% who are food insecure” and also discussed asking the Board of Directors whether they would consent to add a 17th indicator to the Community Dashboard.

Review data updates to indicators for 2014 report and discuss ascribing status to indicators: The Committee reviewed a draft “Dashboard at a glance page from the 2014 report with data updates where available. Staff noted that the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, which is the data source for the mental health, smoking and obesity indicators, and the One-year American Community Survey, which is the data source for low income, housing cost-burdened, and uninsured, often have margins of error that are greater than the variance from year to year. How should a status of “better” or “worse” be ascribed when the movement up or down is within the range of error? The Committee agreed that CAN can use a status icon of “better” or “worse” but that an asterisk be added to the right of the icon with indication that the change is “within the margin of error and may not be statistically significant.” Staff will examine possibility of moving to 3-year ACS data if this resolves margin of error issues for the ACS data point.

Review work being done to expand data and information on vulnerable populations section of dashboard for 2014 report: Consider changing the language of “vulnerable populations.” There was some discomfort by some members in labeling some populations as “vulnerable.” Also, populations that are “vulnerable” are left off the current list. The Committee agreed to discuss further at a future meeting.

Communications plan update: CAN staff have been making dashboard presentations and have been featuring indicators in CANews.

Adjourn: Lawrence Lyman adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting of the Dashboard Steering Committee will take place in 2014.