



## CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 8/7/2014

**Attendees:** Michelle Casanova (CAN Community Council), Megan Cermak (Central Health), Tiffany Danielson (Workforce Solutions), Darla Gay (District Attorney's Office-Community Justice Council), Dr. Phil Huang (ATCHHSD), Lawrence Lyman (Travis County), Louise Lynch (ATCIC), Adele Noel (Travis County), Amy Price (United Way for Greater Austin, 2-1-1), Mohan Rao (Children's Optimal Health),

**Staff in Attendance:** Mary Dodd and Kevin Paris

**Welcome and Introductions:** Lawrence Lyman called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm. Dashboard Steering Committee members introduced themselves.

**Review and approve minutes of the 6/5/14 meeting:** Michele Casanova motioned for approval. Amy Price seconded. Minutes were approved.

**CAN Board action (6/13/14) on recommended targets:** The updated recommendation on the college success indicator was taken to the Board of Directors and accepted as proposed by the Dashboard Steering Committee.

**Sharing the CAN Dashboard 2014:** CAN staff have continued to make presentations on the 2014 Dashboard Report. Recent presentations included: ATCHHSD managers, Capital Metro Board, Greenlights Board, Travis County Commissioners Court, and a planned presentation to the AISD Board of Trustees. As a result of the Commissioners Court presentation, a reporter from *The Austin-American Statesman* wrote a report on food security in the community that highlighted many community initiatives and partners.

CAN staff will be presenting at the Community Indicators Consortium conference in October. All presentations tie back to the Dashboard. Because of this, CAN staff will be out of town on October 2, which is the date of the next scheduled DSC meeting. Therefore, the meeting has been rescheduled for the following week: Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 4:30pm in the Pecos Room at Workforce Solutions (6505 Airport Boulevard). The meeting will focus on the 'Full Potential' indicators.

CAN staff members have distributed nearly all hard copies of the 2014 Dashboard Report. Capital Metro will be printing additional copies.

**Review "We are Healthy" indicators, report pages, and drilldown for the indicators:** DSC members discussed and provided feedback on the report and online pages related to the 'Health' indicators. For the three indicators that rely on Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data, we will have data for three years beginning next year, due to changes in the survey methodology in 2011. Indicator-specific discussion included:

- **Health Insurance:** Local initiatives to highlight include: the new medical school and teaching hospital; Central Health's Southeast Health and Wellness Center; and the navigation center being created as part of the Community Care Collaborative. DSC members also suggested highlighting the coverage gap due to State Legislators' decision to not expand Medicaid. About 1 million Texas residents fall into this gap. Staff will add graphs or charts that demonstrate the gap in coverage to the Dashboard site. Central Health's data analyst is working

on a drilldown into the effects of the coverage gap on Travis County. Enrollment in MAP has increased, but this started before ACA enrollment began. The increase could be the result of the increase in local navigators as a result of ACA, though. Travis County Research and Planning also recently released a report on local health insurance coverage.

- **Mental Health:** On the Dashboard, mental health includes Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, but much of what happens in the IDD world sometimes gets left out of the conversation. A new IDD group is working to begin a new community plan for IDD services.
  - ATCIC staff expects that we will see improvement in the mental health indicator, due to the DSRIP projects. The Dashboard should specifically mention CommUnity Care when discussing Integrated Health, as they are an important partner in this effort. Access to medications for mental health conditions is a top concern that should be noted.
  - Seton's Psychiatric Emergency Department has opened and has seen a large number of patients. However, this does not mean that individuals with mental health needs will not continue to seek services at other area emergency departments.
  - The report should also highlight the extended mobile crisis outreach team that is intended to divert people with mental health emergencies from jail and inpatient facilities. Report diversion rates due to these efforts. ATCIC is currently studying the extent to which people who are diverted from jail are people of color, due to attention in other areas to disparities. ATCIC is the front door for inpatient hospital care, and has therefore created an inpatient diversion unit.
  - In the criminal justice system, the proposed sobriety center has dominated much of the recent conversation around the connection between criminal justice and mental health issues. Jails are also working to continue to leverage relationships with ATCIC to continue treatment while patients are in jail. Attention is being paid to the TCDJ halfway house- the stabilization of patients here is not what it is hoped to be. The Restore Rundberg initiative is another program to highlight- much of the initial years have been police-focused, but in the past year, leaders have started to focus efforts more broadly. For example, the City of Austin committed funding for affordable housing in an area where many families were doubled- and tripled-up. The community must get better at doing targeted geographic work. Stakeholders must also educate police on benefits of permanent supportive housing.
  - The Southeast Health and Wellness Center- Mental Health Center is another project to highlight. The ATCIC and Central Health Boards approved funding for an observation

unit that will be used to stabilize patients, rather than sending clients to an inpatient facility. The observation unit will provide about 16 beds.

- The Healthy Communities Project: ATCIC applied for a grant that is a dollar for dollar match. Local stakeholders must raise about \$3.5 million in order to build a 'housing-first' model property.
  - On the Dashboard page related to mental health, staff should also mention substance use issues and their tie to mental health. There have been initial discussions related to coordinated substance use planning efforts. Leaders are working to connect with ROSC and community providers as part of the process. This planning process provides a significant opportunity to connect mental issues with police/crime issues, as substance abuse is a large concern for police as well. Peer recovery is also important to mention.
- **Smoking:** The Community Transformation Grant funding was prematurely cut by Congress, therefore, the program is in danger of ending. It was intended to be a 5-year grant, but was cut after three years. If programs are to continue, other funding sources must be identified. CAN staff members will check with Dr. Huang's office on the latest grants they've received before next year's report. The Dashboard site should mention all local campuses that are now 100% tobacco free. ATCHHSD maintains a list on their site. DSC members would like staff to compare the area's top employers with those who have instituted tobacco-free policies. ATCIC's smoking rate declined from 28% to 10.2% when the organization instituted smoke-free policies. ATCIC also received a grant to continue the work. Other mental health authorities across the state are studying ATCIC's policies to reduce smoking at their own organizations. Some organizations are also considering 'no hire' policies for individuals who smoke. Central Health (and all Community Care clinics/Sendero) is instituting a 'no hire' policy in the coming year for smokers. Policy enforcement is difficult, but much of it revolves around education. Central Health will not be testing- some companies do undertake testing, but it is not a recommended practice. Most companies simply message that smokers are not hired.
- HACA is currently bringing to their Board a no-indoor smoking policy for all properties. The Affordable Care Act also allows insurance policies and employers to offer different insurance pricing for people who smoke.
- **Obesity:** Mention the Chronic Disease Prevention Coalition. Many organizations are considering food procurement policies, e.g. healthy vending options. Austin Energy implemented new vending policies that encourage healthier options. Members noted that the City offers many incentives for healthy lifestyles. We may also want to mention the Imagine Austin plan and CODENext, as this considers the built environment- e.g. a 'complete streets' plan that promotes healthy lifestyles. The built environment is a key influence on obesity. The CHA/CHIP is a three year process- next year, ATCHHSD will begin updating the assessment.
- **Air Quality:** The EPA is currently considering a new standard for ozone attainment. The local region currently has not had any ozone days above the

acceptable level. The current standard is 75 ppb- our area is currently at 74 ppb. The new standard is expected to be between 60 and 70 ppb, which would mean that our area will fall out of attainment. In the past, lawsuits have been issued to delay the enforcement. Once the rules are issued, there is a delay in designating cities as out of attainment.

San Antonio recently fell out of attainment. Effects of non-attainment could include higher prices for chemicals, paint, etc. that contribute to ozone levels. If we do not meet the standard, all future projects for which the federal government provides funding that could potentially negatively contribute to air quality would be submitted to federal review. Vehicle emissions are one of the main sources that contribute to non-attainment. Travis County does have a program that helps low-income individuals replace or upgrade older cars that contribute to pollution. Adele Noel will notify CAN staff when the change occurs. She will also provide information on the sources of air pollution that contribute to ozone levels.

**Follow-Up on 'Basic Needs' Indicators:** The Housing Market Study was recently released, and City of Austin and Travis County consolidated plans are both being finalized. There is an abundance of material in these reports that should be incorporated into the Dashboard.

**Adjourn:** Lawrence Lyman adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.