



CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 2/5/2015

Attendees: Michelle Casanova (CAN Community Council), Caitlin D'Alton (Capital Metro), Tiffany Daniels (Workforce Solutions), Mandy DeMayo (HousingWorks), Sabine Foster (Ready by 21), Darla Gay (Community Justice Council), Kathy Green (Capital Area Food Bank), Ann Howard (ECHO), Chris King (Ray Marshall Center), Lawrence Lyman (Travis County), Shawn Thomas (E³ Alliance)

Staff in Attendance: Mary Dodd and Kevin Paris

Welcome and Introductions: Lawrence Lyman called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm. Dashboard Steering Committee members introduced themselves.

Review and approve minutes of the 12/4/14 meeting: Chris King made a motion to approve the minutes. Kathy Green seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Finalize new target for 'Housing Cost-Burdened Indicator': As discussed at December's meeting, our community has met the previous target of 36% of Travis County residents are housing cost-burdened (spending more than 30% of income on housing costs) by 2017, so we have been considering a new one. At the previous meeting, Committee members asked staff to look into a pooled average of percent housing cost-burdened for the large urban counties in Texas.

Kevin Paris shared data on the percent housing cost-burdened for the top ten most populous counties (by number of households) in Texas in 2013. Travis County had one of the higher rates at 36%. The rate for the United States as a whole was 33% in 2013. The pooled average for the five large urban Texas counties is also about 33%.

Mandy de Mayo made a motion to adopt a target of 33% by 2017. Darla Gay seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Committee members also recommended reporting housing cost-burdened data for metropolitan areas across the United States, as the overall figure for the United States includes many rural areas. It was also suggested that rates of cost-burdened households in surrounding counties be included in the online drilldowns. The recommended target will be presented to the CAN Board of Directors at their March or April meeting in order for a new target to be included in the 2015 Dashboard report.

Review online Dashboard drilldowns to identify and refine criteria for including data and local efforts: The Committee reviewed and discussed criteria for including data and local efforts on the online Dashboard drilldowns.

Data: The Committee reviewed criteria for including a standard set of data across indicators. Where data are available, all indicators should include a breakdown of the main indicators by the following:

- Race and ethnicity
- Income (above 200%)
- Age
- Citizenship
- Disability status
- Gender
- Neighborhood level data

Neighborhood data, at a sub-county level, should be included, where it is readily available. Committee members discussed including a breakdown of indicators by Austin City Council District. Aggregating data by Council District is difficult, as the boundaries do not follow standard boundaries utilized by other entities,

such as the Census Bureau. Tiffany Daniels noted that a special request can obtain workforce data on Unemployment Insurance Claims at a sub-county level. Committee members also suggested reporting data by school where available.

Local efforts: Committee members discussed a set of guiding principles for including ‘local efforts to improve the indicator’ in the CAN Dashboard report. Initial recommendations were:

- Is a collaborative initiative or planning authority
 - initiatives, task forces, issue area groups, and plans
- Must directly or indirectly influence the indicator
- Focus on local (regional or below) initiatives
- Must be research informed or evidence-based and verified as appropriate by a Dashboard Steering Committee member.
 - Three categories for local efforts:
 1. Proven accomplishments
 2. Promising new collaborative efforts
 3. Plans

Committee members also suggested adding a section related to policy changes that will help turn the curve. This section can include key policy changes and programs that can help turn, or are helping to turn, the curve on an indicator. CAN staff members, in consultation with issue area experts, will utilize these criteria to guide the selection of initiatives, plans, and policies to include in the online Dashboard drilldowns. Where there is a question about a particular local effort, it can be brought before the full Dashboard Steering Committee. The Committee will further discuss and refine these criteria at future meetings.

Review Dashboard user survey: To better gauge community use of the Dashboard, CAN plans to conduct a user survey. The anonymous survey will be released in May or June shortly after CAN issues the 2015 report to ensure that the Dashboard will be fresh in users’ minds. A draft of the survey was shared with the Committee for review. Suggestions included:

- On question five, related to use of the website vs. the written report, add options ‘equally’ and ‘neither’
- On question seven, related to how people use the dashboard, in addition to informing friends and neighbors, add an option related to informing community groups (congregations, civic organizations, etc.)
- Committee members also suggested adding the survey directly to the Community Dashboard website.
- The survey should also help staff to promote the Dashboard more- include a section on the survey that allows respondents to provide contact information and referrals for organizations that would like a presentation on the Dashboard, as well as contact information for CAN staff members.

Review 2015 Dashboard timeline: CAN staff are planning an early May release for the 2015 CAN Community Dashboard Report. Therefore, the report will need to go to the printers in mid-May. Before this time, staff will send Committee members the draft pages for indicators within their area of expertise for review and feedback. In the meantime, committee members may also send suggestions for local data and efforts directly to Kevin Paris.

Adjourn: Lawrence Lyman adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm.

2015 Meetings: Meetings will be held in the Lone Star Room at Workforce Solutions (6505 Airport Blvd) from 3:00 to 4:30pm on the first Thursday of even numbered months. The 2015 meetings dates are:

- April 2
- June 4
- August 6
- October 1
- December 3