



Amarillo Continuum of Care (CoCTX611)

General Membership Meeting Agenda

Date of Meeting: March 14, 2024 at 10:00am

Location: WT Harrington Hall Room 189 – 720 S Tyler

Welcome and Introductions

Routine Agenda Items:

- Committee Reports – if needed or necessary
- Lead agency report – City of Amarillo representative (Jason Riddlespurger)

New Business and Discussion Agenda Items:

- Member Applications – Kraig
- Diversity Statement – Kraig
- TA Update – Kraig/Jason
- LAS Presentation – Caressa and Shanna
- 2024 PIT Count Results - Jason

Old Business or Agenda Items Needing Discussion:

Announcements – Community Needs

Adjourn

CoCTX611 – Diversity and Equity Statement

Approved by CoCTX611 Board January 11th, 2024.

We must begin with the truth that homelessness disproportionately affects people of color and other marginalized populations in the United States. When people of color and other marginalized populations experience homelessness, future housing stability is further undermined by racism, discrimination, and stigma.

Amarillo Continuum of Care is committed to fostering a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our collaborative efforts to address homelessness in Amarillo, Texas. We firmly believe that these principles are not only essential for building a just and fair society but also for delivering effective solutions to this complex social issue.

We understand that the fight against homelessness requires the inclusion of diverse perspectives, voices, and experiences. Each service provider contributing to our collaborative effort brings unique expertise, cultural understanding, and personal backgrounds that enrich our strategies and improve outcomes for those experiencing homelessness.

We acknowledge the intersecting dimensions of diversity, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, socio-economic status, and ability. Leveraging this wide range of perspectives will provide us the potential to develop comprehensive and culturally competent approaches that address the diverse needs of individuals and families who are facing homelessness in our community.

Equity is fundamental to our work. We recognize the systemic barriers that contribute to homelessness and disproportionately impact marginalized communities. In our pursuit of equitable solutions, we strive to ensure that all individuals have access to the resources and support necessary to secure stable housing and rebuild their lives.

Furthermore, we strongly believe that inclusion is essential for fostering an atmosphere of respect, trust, and collaboration within our organization and the broader community. We actively seek to create an inclusive environment where service providers, community stakeholders, and individuals experiencing homelessness can freely express their ideas, perspectives, and concerns without fear of exclusion or discrimination.

In line with our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, we pledge to:

1. Continuously educate ourselves and our community partners on issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, including challenging our own biases and assumptions.
2. Promote representation and participation of individuals from diverse backgrounds in joint decision-making processes concerning homelessness solutions.
3. Regularly assess and evaluate our efforts to identify areas for improvement and ensure our practices remain aligned with our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

By upholding these values, we believe that our collaborative efforts will make a meaningful impact in addressing homelessness in Amarillo, Texas. We are dedicated to amplifying the voices of those affected by homelessness, advocating for their rights, and working together to create a community where everyone has a safe and stable place to call home.

Only by working together can we can build a more equitable and inclusive future for all individuals in Amarillo.