

Minutes

CAN Community Council Meeting

08/20/07

5:40 –7:40 PM

City Hall, Board and Commissions Room, 301 West 2nd St.

Attendees Clint Smith, Cynthia Colbert, John Michael Cortez, Marquis Williams, Nancy Neavel, Pat Dabbert, Shawn Lemieux, Terry Cowan, Willie Williams, Debbie Wise, Penny Lichenstein, Barbara Anderson, Vanessa Sarria, Sandra Gonzales, Michelle Augustine, Mitch Sudolsky, Linda Murphy

Unable to Attend: Al Perez, Laura Morrison, Jessica Flores, Bruce Elfant, Laurie Seremetis, Amanda Arlitt, Anne Harutunian, Joe Jerkins, Leslie Hernandez, Kathy Armenta, Leslie Hernandez, Ronnie Mendoza, Susan McCormick, Barbara Budde, Barbara Cilley, Kevin Coleman, Amy Wong Mok, Jenny Martin, Maureen Siu, Barbara Smith

Meeting Called By: Community Action Network

Facilitator:

Pat Dabbert

Note Taker: Amy Arquilla

Timekeeper:

Terry Cowan and Vanessa Sarria

Call to Order and Announcements

Pat Dabbert

Meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm by Chair, Pat Dabbert.

Announcements:

Shawn Lemieux announced that United Way Capital Area & University of Texas School of Social Work is hosting a Disaster & Crisis Intervention workshop called “Road to Recovery and Resiliency” August 28, 2007 from 9:00am to 5:00pm at the United Way Office (2000 MLK Blvd, Austin, TX. For more information contact Shawn Lemieux at (512) 328-8618.

Nancy Neavel, announced that the Austin Area Human Services Association (AASHA) meeting to be held on September 20th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Lions Gardens will focus on AAHSA’s role as United Way moves toward their new funding model. Representative Patrick Rose will be the guest speaker at the AASHA October 18th meeting.

Clint Smith, announced that the Gray Panthers are hosting a Forum on Health Care, “Improving access to Health Care in Texas: The Next Steps” on Sunday August 26, 2007 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at AFL-CIO Hall at 1106 Lavaca, Austin, TX. The event is free and the community is welcome to attend.

Sandra Gonzales, announced that the American Heart Association Festival Hispano de la Salud will take place at the Travis County Expo Center on 7311 Decker Lane from 4:00 - 5:00 pm.

Willie Williams announced the Behavioral Health Planning Partnership is offering Free Spanish Classes to personnel that work within the community. Please contact Laurie Delong at Phoenix House 440-0613 extension 4741 for more information.

Michelle Augustine, announced that the Women League of Voters is having their Fall Kick off event on September 23, 2007.

Pat Dabbert announced that AISD classes will commence August 27, 2007, and wanted to remind all of us to slow down in school zones and be aware of children when driving.

Citizens Communication:

John-Michael Cortez from Capital Metro provided a presentation on the Capital Metro proposed 2008 fare adjustments. Capital Metro’s fares have remained the same since 1985 while operating costs have increased significantly. Current fares are the lowest in the state of Texas and among the lowest in the country. The proposal would change Capital Metro’s base bus fare from 50¢ to \$1. All other fares would be adjusted proportionately. Capital Metro has improved and expanded services substantially over the years with no additional cost to customers. Based on feedback, CapMetro is continuing to expand to meet the needs of the growing population. Capital Metro is committed to an open, public process related to the fare adjustment. The public may attend the following question and answer sessions to comment on the proposed fares:

Aug. 23, 5:30-7:30 pm, Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile Street, Bus Routes 2, 17 & 300

Aug. 27, 5:30-7:30 pm, Austin Public Library, Carver Branch, 1161 Angelina, Bus Routes 2 & 320

Aug. 28, 6-8 pm, Austin Community College, Pinnacle Campus, 7748 Highway 290 West, Bus Route 333

Aug. 29, 6-8 pm Pat Bryson Hall, 201 N. Brushy Street, (Leander City Hall)

Review and Approve Meeting Summary

Pat Dabbert

The July minutes were approved as presented.

IAG Update: IAG Guidelines and Designation Process

Vanessa Sarria announced to the Community Council that the CAN Resource Council had approved the IAG guidelines, designation process and application at the August 10, 2007 meeting.

Equity in Opportunity Health Forum With Focus on Treatment and Access to Care Issues

The presenters for the Health Forum included Ann Kitchen (Indigent Care Collaboration), Trish Young (Healthcare District), University of Texas (Dr. Bill Sage), Insure-A-Kid (Kit Abney)

Trish Young, Executive Director of the Healthcare District gave a historical overview of the Community Health Plan for Travis County, Health Partnership 2000. She presented the vision for health developed by HP2010 in 2000 and the 2001 Social Equity Report Recommendations related to improving healthcare access. Ms. Young discussed progress made since 2000 including the creation of the Travis County Healthcare District in May of 2004. Healthcare District Strategic plan guiding principles include the following.

- ✓ Use the mission of **enhancing the health status of all Travis County residents** as a guide.
- ✓ Promote an **integrated healthcare system that is transparent** to consumers, providers, and taxpayers in its delivery of services.
- ✓ **Improve access to quality healthcare services** in a more transparent and easily accessed system.
- ✓ **Drive improvement by tying payments for healthcare services**, including those delivered by Healthcare District-owned and/or-operated entities, **to measurable performance**.
- ✓ Advance the **integration of the Travis County indigent care system**.
- ✓ **Participate with other entities** in the search for **regional solutions** to the challenge of making **quality, affordable healthcare** available to residents of Central Texas.

The District Healthcare Programs:

Increased funding for District healthcare programs from FY05 to FY07 expanded access to care for eligible populations:

- ✓ **18% increase** in total average monthly enrollment of MAP and Self-Pay patients
- ✓ **26% increase** in average monthly MAP full benefit enrollment

Specialty Care Pilot Program (Diabetic Eye Screenings)

Goal: Reduce average wait times from 360 days to target of 30-45 days.

Solution: Contract with 3 providers (144 appointments a month at \$50/screen).

What still needs to be done?

Access to health care insurance:

Who are the Uninsured in Texas?

- ✓ 74% hold full-time jobs
- ✓ 10% are part-time workers
- ✓ 16% are non-workers

What is the Impact of Lack of Insurance?

Lack of Care

- ✓ Less preventative care
- ✓ Diagnoses at more advanced disease stages

Overuse of the Emergency Room

- ✓ 1,600 minor emergency/primary care visits to Brackenridge Hospital each month (total average monthly ER visits 6,100)

Access to Health Care – Primary Care

- ✓ Texas currently ranks 45th in the nation in the number of physicians per population.
- ✓ Only 18% of physicians in Austin accept all new Medicaid beneficiaries.
- ✓ In the ICC's 2005 Use & Capacity Survey, agencies reported that the greatest challenges to maintaining or expanding capacity were referrals to specialty care, provider recruitment, and insufficient funding.

Service Levels Gaps

- ✓ There are many areas of unmet need:
- ✓ Lack of same day (urgent care/walk-in) access to primary care in the District supported Community Health Centers – system-wide **average wait time is 16 days** (varies by location)
- ✓ Safety-net providers report being over-capacity and unable to meet demand
- ✓ Long wait times for specialties such as:
 - Gastroenterology (general GI, such as Hepatitis C): **15 months**

- Gastroenterology (Liver issues): **9 months**
- Ophthalmology (DM Retina screenings, glaucoma, cataracts, and other ailments): **6 months**
- Orthopedics (Osteoarthritis, joint pains, meniscus/tendon tears and other ailments): **4 months**
- ✓ Continued over-utilization of Austin State Hospital despite increased access to inpatient psychiatric beds: (> 50% over utilization of the Travis County allocation for the first 5 months of FY07)

To learn more visit the web site: <http://www.traviscountyhd.org>

Ann Kitchen, Executive Director of the Indigent Care Collaboration (ICC) presented on three areas in which the ICC is currently working to improve access to healthcare:

Health Information Exchange –ICare System, Electronic Medical Records: (EMR)

EMRs replace traditional paper charts in a doctor's office or hospital with an electronic record that includes:

- ✓ What therapy or treatment was provided
- ✓ What medications were prescribed
- ✓ What labs were ordered and the results
- ✓ What progress has been made to date to manage the condition
- ✓ Provides continuity of care

The Health Information Exchange "HIE" includes

- ✓ Supports accountability – measuring results
- ✓ Decreases duplication of services
- ✓ Attacks fragmentation – coordinating care
- ✓ Provides individuals' medical information to doctors, hospitals, nurses and other providers
- ✓ Provides aggregate data for community health measurement
- ✓ Helps patients learn self-management strategies.

HIE + EMR Supports Clinical Care; EMR data shared through HIE can help physicians:

- ✓ Provide complete history
- ✓ Reduce redundancy of medication usage
- ✓ Reduce the number of duplicative tests and procedures ordered for individual patients
- ✓ Support chronic condition management
- ✓ Efficiently share relevant medical data across organizations

This helps create greater patient ownership of their health information through Personal Health Records (PHR), facilitate connection of patient to clinic ("medical home") and provides more timely and complete data for Public Health Departments.

Additional ICC projects include the **Affordable Health Coverage Project** and **Asthma Care Coordination Program**.

Through the **Regional Nonprofit Health Coverage Program**, the ICC is helping convene other community leaders across the region to develop an affordable health coverage product for small employers. Employers are asked to let the ICC know more about their experiences with health insurance through the completion of a survey (www.healthcarecentraltexas.com).

Through the **Asthma Care Coordination Program**, the ICC is working on referring asthma patients identified through the ICare System to intensive asthma case management and educational programs.

The return on investment to the community of this asthma program are as follows:

- ✓ Improved quality of life by the stabilization and management of asthma
- ✓ Decreased use of healthcare resources
- ✓ Increased capacity of the clinic for more appointments that are not for asthma
- ✓ Provides the healthcare professional a way to maximize time and ensure a working understanding of chronic asthma by the patient.

Kit Abney, Director of Insure-A-Kid presented on the Travis County CHIP enrollment, Children's Medicaid Enrollment, and the CHIP Perinate Program. She also reviewed the Texas Kids Campaign/ Texas CHIP Coalition concerning the 80th Legislative Session. House Bill 109 will restore an estimated 127,000 Texas children to the CHIIP rolls through additional measures passed this legislative session.

Dr. Bill Sage, Vice Provost for Health Affairs, J. Dougherty Chair for Faculty Excellence, The Univ. of Texas at Austin on initiatives related to health professions education, biomedical/health services research, and clinical/public health services that will include community engagement/consultation, institutional partnership, technology innovation, attention to the most vulnerable, and workforce innovation that will benefit the community and result in measurable public policy innovation.

Participants of these initiatives include:

- ✓ College of Natural Sciences
- ✓ College of Engineering
- ✓ School of Education
- ✓ College of Pharmacy
- ✓ School of Nursing
- ✓ School of Social Work
- ✓ LBJ School of Public Affairs
- ✓ College of Liberal Arts
- ✓ McCombs School of Business
- ✓ School of Communications
- ✓ School of Law
- ✓ Dean of Graduate Studies
- ✓ Dean of Undergraduate Studies
- ✓ Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement
- ✓ Vice President for Research
- ✓ Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences
- ✓ IC2 Institute
- ✓ Imaging Research Center

Dr. Sage also presented on the Clinical Education Center at Brackenridge (CEC) which is a collaborative project of UT Austin, UTMB-Austin Programs, UTSPH-Austin Regional Campus, SETON Family of Hospitals, and Austin Community College (ACC). The CEC occupies 150,000 sq. feet of the existing Children's Hospital of Austin. Seton is providing capital funding for the CEC. Also, operational support will come from the UT System, research and teaching grants, and academic users. The CEC will focus on community issues involving access to and quality of care and special initiatives in three areas:

- Diabetes prevention and treatment
- Mental health and substance abuse
- Medical errors and patient safety

Next Steps:

What can the Community Council do to support current efforts?

Help get the health insurance survey (www.healthcarecentraltexas.com) out to employers the community.

Update from the Programs and Response Committees.

The Program and Response Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 28, at the Seton Kozmetsky Center on South 1st to plan the September 17th meeting and review the results of the August meeting. All are welcome to attend.

CAN Executive Directors Report.

Vanessa Sarria

7:40PM

Adjourn

Pat Dabbert

Next Community Council meeting: Monday September 17, 2007, 5:40pm, City Hall