



CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 12/9/2021

Attendees: Akram Al-Turk, ECHO; Tracy Ayhart, Central Texas Food Bank; Alison Bentley, United Way Success by Six; Dan Brown, Children's Optimal Health; Greg Cumpton, Ray Marshall Center; Brooke Hammond, Integral Care; Andrea Jacks, E³ Alliance; Adele Noel, Travis County Air Quality Program; Rochelle Olivares, Travis County HHS; Woody Rogers, Housing Works Austin; Sarita Clark-Leach, Central Health.

Staff in Attendance: Raul Alvarez, Melinda Barsales, Carlos Soto

Welcome and Introductions: Greg Cumpton, DSC Chair called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm. and members introduced themselves.

Approval of minutes: The 8/26/2021 meeting minutes were approved after a motion submitted by Rochelle Olivares which was seconded by Akram Al-Turk. The minutes were approved unanimously, with one abstention.

Executive Director Update: The CAN retreat is planned for tomorrow. At the retreat we come together with our leadership to look at the previous year or two and discuss what we can do to address the issues that emerge. One of our overarching themes was ensuring an equitable economic recovery, which is a broad issue with many challenges. We are trying to identify what's working, what's not, and what should be happening on which CAN could work or collaborate. For the past few years an important focus has been race equity and language access, and we developed tools and collaboratives around those topics. These were challenges that our community faced before the pandemic, which the pandemic complicated. Recent developments related to Afghani and Haitian refugee resettlement will also require collaborative attention. Another important topic is the emergency response system and how it needs to include equity and public health events such as pandemics. When discussing recovery, childcare is an essential factor to keep in mind. Without childcare support, recovery may not be possible. Women, and women with children especially, have also been impacted more by the economics and need support.

Discussion and possible action: We Achieve Our Full Potential Indicator targets: Regarding Kindergarten Readiness, data has not been able to be collected for the past two years. Initially due to pandemic, but new TEA requirements related to assessments also complicate the issue. Where we stand is TBD. Alison Bentley recommends leaving it on there because it's important and warrants attention. She can estimate that our score has dropped, in part because parent education and home visits have plummeted the past two years. These programs are important in helping to make kids school ready. Success by 6 is trying to figure out what the next measure may be. Andrea Jacks mentioned they are working on getting the official KEA data from TEA for 2021, but they have experienced delays so not sure when data will come through. Since this will be a different measure than what existed before, E³ are not sure how it will compare with the way it was measured in the past. Alison added that the information provided will be screener data and not assessment data. She explained that the way it will be done now is they will do a quick, early language screener and then fully assess those that look like they are falling behind. This is very different than what they had done before, where a sample got a full assessment. It is not going to be comparable in any way shape or form. This has created a situation where E³ must determine what the best measure is and if they can get districts to continue using their sampling method.

Greg moved to keep education indicator targets and years in accordance with E3 and seconded by Brooke. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding unemployment, typically the rate has been very low. Over the past few years, we have maintained a target which is slightly higher. With the pandemic, unemployment went up, but it has come back down again over the past 6 months. Cumpton suggested a rate at the low 3's,

maybe 3.1 or 3.2. He also recommended setting a target for 2023 or 2024, not too far out, to get a chance to revisit it as the labor market settles down and stabilizes. There also have been reports of an increase in the number of tax ID's in Texas. When combined with high numbers of people leaving the workforce, it could suggest that people may be starting their own business. There might be value in looking at the equity gap in unemployment.

Akram Al-Turk asked if perhaps labor participation rate may be a better measure than unemployment at this point? Tracy asked if we might want to have two measures acting as a balanced scorecard for this measure. Labor participation rate and labor participation rate by race, sex, and ethnicity are available in the drilldowns. Perhaps labor participation rate could be moved to a more prominent position in the drilldowns. Potential issue for this year's dashboard publication is the ACS (which has been affected by the pandemic), since 1-year data is not available. We could look at the Unemployment rate and set a target we are comfortable with and mark this discussion of an alternate or additional employment/labor indicator(s) as an item to discuss deeper next year.

Andrea made a motion to set the unemployment indicator target to 3.3% by 2023. Akram seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Recap of actions already taken: Carlos shared a PowerPoint listing the actions taken over the past year. These proposed changes will be submitted to the executive committee and board for approval to be included with the new Dashboard.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: April 28, August 25, October 27