CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 06/22/2023

Attendees: April Adams, Austin Community College; **Akram Al-Turk,** ECHO; **Alison Bentley**, United Way Central Texas; **Dan Brown**, Children's Optimal Health; **Sarita Clark-Leach**, Central Health; **Andrea Jacks**, E³ Alliance; **Bella Kirchner**, Central Texas Food Bank; **Adele Noel**, Travis County Air Quality Project Manager; **Woody Rogers**, Housing Works Austin; **Robert Stanford**, Travis County Sheriff.

Staff in Attendance: Raul Alvarez, Carlos Soto, Jelina Tunstill

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm, and an overview of the agenda was provided.

Approval of minutes: The 04/27/2023 meeting minutes were approved after a motion submitted by Alison, which was seconded by Akram. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Executive Director Update: The two priority areas CAN has focused on since the beginning of 2022 are addressing community mental health and wellness and ensuring an equitable economic recovery. This year we are in the process of narrowing priorities that emerged from our summit and our Expanding Opportunity forums. Community mental health and wellness also affects access to economic opportunity. Work in the mental health arena includes the development of mental health toolkits in 3 different languages (Spanish, Vietnamese, and Arabic). We are also working on an initiative to train 1,000 CAN partner staff or affiliates in Mental Health First Aid by the end of May of next year.

United Way 2-1-1 Data Dashboard Presentation: Alison Bentley introduced the dashboard, which was designed to facilitate sharing data from their 2-1-1 call center. The dashboard is accessible through the [United Way for Greater Austin website](#) and includes data back to 2019. Dan Brown added that the data on the new dashboard encompasses the 10-county area served by United Way for Greater Austin instead of the 5-County MSA as was shared previously. It also uses different categories, based off the 2-1-1 taxonomy, which makes reporting more consistent. It includes data on 2-1-1 requests by location, needs, and requests over time. A single 2-1-1 call can include multiple needs expressed. Needs data include categories and subcategories. Categories consist of housing/shelter, individual and family life, disaster services, and information services. Data are available at the county, city, and zip-code level.

Discuss indicators where targets are met: Some indicators have had their targets met. These are: food insecurity, percent who drive alone to work, percent of adults who smoke, and unemployment. Uncertainty regarding driving alone to work exists due to changes in teleworking practices as more workers are required to go into the office most days of the week. In a similar way, the winding down of the COVID-19 pandemic has led to uncertainty in other indicators. The supports that were put in place to help with food insecurity are also ending, so food insecurity is also expected to rise this year. Uncertainty regarding the smoking indicator is related to its rapid decrease as well as the possible rise in vaping. With unemployment, this issue has come up in the past. Because labor experts advise that very low unemployment rates may have a negative effect on wages, the decision was made in previous years to keep the unemployment level at 3.5%. For the three remaining indicators, CAN staff will determine options for updating the targets and reach out to committee members for feedback.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.