



## CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 08/24/2023

**Attendees:** Akram Al-Turk, ECHO; Alison Bentley, United Way Central Texas; Dan Brown, Children's Optimal Health; Nancy Gilliam, CAN Community Council; Brooke Hammond, Integral Care; Andrea Jacks, E<sup>3</sup> Alliance; Bella Kirchner, Central Texas Food Bank; Adele Noel, Travis County Air Quality Project; Rochelle Olivares, Travis County HHS; Woody Rogers, Housing Works Austin

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

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm, and an overview of the agenda was provided.

**Approval of minutes:** The 06/22/2023 meeting minutes were approved after a motion submitted by Akram, which was seconded by Andrea. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Executive Director Update:** The organization continues with a focus on two priority areas: mental health and ensuring an equitable economic recovery. Around mental health, in May we launched the CAN challenge for Mental Health First Aid where our partners committed to train 1,000 staff in MHFA. We are about halfway to the goal at this point. We are also working with community stakeholders to develop toolkits for Spanish, Arabic, and Vietnamese speakers. We will have a Spanish-language social media awareness campaign around mental health so that each week we address a mental health topic. Regarding ensuring an equitable economic recovery, we narrowed down our focus based on the learnings from the 2022 Expanding Opportunity forums. Part of the focus is promoting upskilling and Earn & Learn opportunities, and thinking about how affordability affects our ability to do workforce training.

**Review results of survey on "indicators where goal was met":** About 63% responded that the Food Insecurity indicator should remain unchanged. The uncertainty around the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the indicators is the main factor in this decision. About 88% responded that the Driving Alone to Work indicator should also remain unchanged. There were some questions about the reasoning behind the driving alone indicator, with interest in public transportation use or other alternative ways to get to work. About 63% responded that the target for the Smoking indicator should be changed to match the most recent measure (7% by 2025). At a previous meeting, members asked about e-cigarette use. Carlos provided a brief overview of a chart showing e-cigarette use that could be inserted into the Smoking drilldown section. At a future meeting we can discuss whether e-cig use should be incorporated into the main indicator, along with possibly other forms of tobacco use.

**Discuss health indicators:** The rate of adults who have no health insurance in Travis County declined marginally from 2020 to 2021, but the change was not significant, and the indicator has remained relatively unchanged over the past 5 years. The percentage of adults who report 5 or more days of poor mental health in the previous 30 days increased sharply from 2020 to 2021. The obesity rate for Travis County is lower compared to 2017, but higher compared to 2019. Air quality is also decreasing, as the number of days with good air quality was lower in 2022 than 2021.

**Discuss possible new meeting dates and times:** We will be moving the meeting date to the second Tuesday of the month (same time, 1:00 to 2:00 pm) to accommodate scheduling conflicts. Then next two meetings for this year will take place on October 24 and December 12.

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