



CAN Dashboard Steering Committee 02/06/2024

Attendees: Akram Al-Turk, ECHO; Allison Bentley, United Way Success by 6; Mia Burger, Central Texas Food Bank; Sarita Clark-Leach, Central Health; Greg Cumpton, UT Ray Marshall Center; Matthew Figg, Austin Community College; Brooke Hammond, Integral Care; Katy Merriweather, E³ Alliance; Adele Noel, Travis County Air Quality Program; Rochelle Olivares, Travis County HHS; Robert Stanford, Travis County Sheriff

Other Guests: Ara Merjanian

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

Welcome and Introductions: Carlos A Soto called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm, and an overview of the agenda was provided.

Approval of minutes: The 12/12/2023 meeting minutes were approved after a motion submitted by Akram, which was seconded by Matt. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Executive Director Update: Looking back at the Dashboard and where we have found challenges, poor mental health has increased drastically over the most recent few years. As a result, we've worked on a language access project for mental health, published a mental health toolkit in Spanish, and have presented on the issue over 30 times. The toolkit is also in the process of being developed for Vietnamese, Arabic, and other communities, in linguistically and culturally appropriate ways. The Mental Health First Aid challenge goal of training 1,000 staff of CAN Partner organizations was met, so discussion of the next goal(s) is underway. The other issue that came up since the 2021 Expanding Opportunity Summit, we've been taking a closer look at apprenticeships, earn & learn opportunities, and other economic challenges that started with the pandemic and have continued since. Therefore, we are having the 2024 Expanding Opportunity Summit on April 5th. We will be hosted by ACC Round Rock.

Discuss We Achieve Our Full Potential Section: Our recent focus on expanding opportunity brings together education and economic opportunity. Our Full Potential section includes 3 education indicators and 1 economic indicator. Instead of focusing on each section this year, we would like to look at the section and think about the possibility of dividing it into 2 sections, with separate education and economic focus. Current education indicators are Kindergarten Ready, High School Graduation, and Postsecondary Completion. The Kindergarten indicator measure changed and newer data cannot be compared with older data.

Katy Merriweather discussed some of the work E³ Alliance has been involved in and some of the available education data. In terms of early childhood data, they are increasingly interested in the growth occurring between KG and 3rd grade. Members learned about and discussed several indicators available from E³ alliance, such as chronic absence rate and middle school math pathways. Several committee members agreed to form a subcommittee to take a closer look at education indicators that may be incorporated into the Dashboard.

Next steps: Since most of the conversation focused on the Education indicators, a brief overview of the Upward Mobility Framework, County Health Rankings, and related economic indicators was provided. The Urban Institute Upward Mobility Framework appears in an Urban Institute Research Report titled [Boosting Upward Mobility: A Planning Guide for Local Action](#). Some indicators from this source that may be interesting for discussion include economic inclusion, employment opportunities, access to jobs paying a living wage, opportunities for income, and wealth-building opportunities. Another potential source of economic indicator data is the [County Health Rankings](#). The County Health Rankings are a program of the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. Indicators from this source that may be interesting for discussion include income inequality and living wage.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.