

# Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team Meeting

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 8am – 9:30 am

UWDC 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton & Zoom



**Zoom Meeting Link:** [Join Denton County BHLT Meeting](#)

## Agenda

1. Call to order Lisa Elliott
2. Vote to Approve Minutes Lisa Elliott
3. New Participant/Guest Introductions Lisa Elliott
4. Report from the Local Mental Health Authority Pam Gutierrez
5. Denton County Public Health Update Alex Reed
6. Workgroup Committee Reports
  - a. Child and Family Systems Lisa Elliott & Laura Prillwitz
  - b. Substance Use Hope Galloway & Lauren Titsworth
  - c. Suicide Prevention Scott Domingue & Brittany Waymack
  - d. CrossCare Collaborative Michelle Connor & Shanan Spencer
  - e. Data Juan Rodriguez & Julie Wright
  - f. Veterans Elishia Baxter
7. New Business Lisa Elliott
  - a. Election of 2024 officers
  - b. Vote for new appointees
  - c. Revival of Law Enforcement & Veterans Workgroups
  - d. Review of Involvement Worksheet
8. Backbone Support Updates
  - a. Financial Initiatives Teddy Yan
  - b. Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team Olivia Williams
  - c. Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team Shelby Redondo
9. Public Comment Lisa Elliott
10. Adjourn Lisa Elliott

## Upcoming Meetings & Events:

- 2024 Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team Meetings: 8 am – 10 am
  - January 18
  - March 21
  - May 16
  - July 18
  - September 19
  - November 21
- QPR Trainings: Free through Texas Health Resources – Flyer in packet
  - November 21
  - December 19
- Denton Freedom House Fundraiser: Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – Flyer in packet
- Denton Nonprofit Management Certification Program – Flyer in packet

## OUR VISION:

Comprehensive behavioral health for every person in Denton County

## OUR MISSION:

The Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team will advocate and facilitate a collaborative person-centered behavioral health system to repair and restore lives:

- Ensure behavioral health services are available to meet the needs of all
- Assess data for continuous outcome measurements
- Prioritize data driven recommendations
- Provide a continuum of care

**Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team**  
**Thursday September 21, 2023, 8 am-9:30 am**  
**Meeting Minutes**

I. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Lisa Elliott at 8:02 am

II. **Announcements**

Dr. Elliott announced recent murder of Lewisville ISD student. Read a statement from Monya Crow who oversees counseling in ISD in which she asks for prayers and support

Child Family Work Group acknowledged Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell for being a champion for mental health, of true collaboration, and for being a warrior for all residents of Denton County

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Chair called for motions to approve the minutes. Following Bobbie Mitchell motion and Scott Domingue second, the minutes were approved.

IV. **New Participant & Guest Introductions**

All new participants and guests were introduced & welcomed.

Brooke Hambrick – representing Judge Eads’s office  
Sara Moreno –Veterans Intern  
Kelly Partin - continuing project for United Way

V. **Mental Health Navigator Update-Alex Reed & Matt Richardson**

- Shared flyer with QR code to advertise how to connect with Navigators
- Officially launched on Aug 29<sup>th</sup>
- Early data points: people love the option to text, majority of people have indicated that they are first- time seekers of mental health resources, some have reached out on behalf of friends/family; automated follow up process is happening via text or email 10 days after contact with navigator to share resources and get feedback from user; have a bilingual navigator-Spanish
- Meeting with vendor to learn how analytics work and can be used
- Online Resource Directory project is underway-student worker is doing ‘warm touch’ outreach to agencies to vet them.
- Reminder that this is a free service; Navigators are not providers, It is not a crisis line; Navigators are 9am-5 pm
- Discussion about ways we can broadly advertise the program

VI. **Mental Health Authority Report- Pam Gutierrez**

Presentation about the Community Mental Health center –See slides

- TX has 254 counties served by 39 Community Centers –all operate differently
- Denton C MHMR is Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) in 2020–means serve the whole person but no state funding; all grant funded that they have to compete with all other CCBH

centers; designation allows for 24 hour process for anyone; accept all insurances except for substance abuse treatment

- Have expanded services to include a clinic on Saturdays
- Trauma Informed Care Model; adopt an integrated health approach
- Have 4 grants now and have applied for 4 more; limited funding-this year is a particularly hard year financially
  
- Current Mental health Programs:
  - 1. Crisis including 24 hr hotline & Crisis (Mobile Crisis Outreach team)
  - 2. Adult Services
  - 3. Children's Services
  
- To get services at MHMR must have a case manager-this is a barrier to people seeking services

## **VII. Special Presentation from Ranch Hands Rescue –Landon Dickeson**

- Human and animal sanctuary-rescue abused neglected farm animals and then partner them with kids, adolescents and adults who have trauma
- Receive free or heavily subsidized outpatient treatment
- Many of their patients have already been to other providers (sexual abuse that hasn't previously been disclosed, human trafficked individual; only 18+
- Bob Williams Founder , CEO was sex trafficked founded Bob's House of Hope for boys
- Opening a residential facility for minors (wrap around support and basic needs) can stay up to 4 years; goal is community reintegration-
- High need population who is accessing various mental health touchpoints repeatedly (ER, in patient hospitalizations, shelters) who often don't have funds to pay-fall back on the community
  
- Need process to have unified approach to address Legislatures so they understand limitations of funding and some of the regulations associated with grants that sometimes require things that are not in best interest of clients
  
- Noted that TX is 50/51 on MH Funding

## **VIII. Public Comments/ Announcements**

- Recovery in the Park Event was very successful at Denton County Courthouse (25 resource tables) gave out over 250 hotdogs
  
- Memorial Service like the one at Quaker Town at Our Daily Bread on Oct 7; if there are names you would like to add to list, please forward
  
- City of Denton State of the City combined with National Night Out Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> at Civic Center
  
- Our Daily Bread served 500 new people in the month of June –at Denton County have a food pantry and food bill has doubled-this group may need to add Hunger
  
- Denton ISD Staff Wellness Expo on 9/30 (invited all local districts)
  
- Touched by Suicide Memorial Walk (not a fundraiser) morning of 9/30 Parker Square at 8 am; Ranch Hand Rescue gala fundraiser at 5 pm at TX motor speedway

- IX. **Meeting adjourned at 9:34 am.**  
Next meeting is Thursday Nov 16, 2023 at 8 am.



Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team  
Nominating Committee

Dianne Hickey, Michelle Horridge, Courtney Jaimes, Linda Holloway

Nominees for Officer Positions of the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team  
Service Period: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

Chair: Lt. Elisa Howell  
Co-Chair: Hope Galloway  
Secretary: Terry Widmer

Nominees for New Appointees

Service Period: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026

Frank Dixon: Assistant City Manager, City of Denton  
Eric Simmons: Board Member, Cumberland Youth & Family Services  
Gary Fullerton: Assistant VP of Operations, Medical City Lewisville  
Officer Carlos Henderson: The Colony PD  
Laura Prillwitz: Community Member at Large  
Dr. Teresa McKinney: UNT Executive Liaison, Police & Emergency Management

Continuing Ex Officio Members

Gary Henderson: President & CEO, United Way of Denton County  
Danielle Shaw: Director of Community Services, City of Denton  
Pam Gutierrez: Executive Director, Denton County MHMR Center  
Julie Wright: CHI Program Manager, Texas Health Resources

Excusal of Ex Officio Members

Laura Prillwitz: Juvenile Probation  
Kristin Howell: Children's Advocacy Center  
Honorable Coby Waddill: Denton County Criminal Court  
Honorable Lauri Ragland: Denton County Criminal Court



## **Role of Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team (DCBHLT) Appointees**

Keeping in mind the DCBHLT vision of **comprehensive behavioral health for every person** in Denton County, and the mission to **advocate and facilitate a collaborative person-centered behavioral health system** to repair and restore lives, the roles of an appointee are, but not limited to, the following:

- Attend at least 75% of DCBHLT meetings.
- Identify behavioral health needs in the community and share with the DCBHLT.
- Raise awareness and educate the community on behavioral health facts and needs in Denton County.
- Communicate the mission, vision, and work of the DCBHLT with members of the community.
- Be involved in collaborative problem-solving opportunities by sharing your knowledge, perspective, and expertise at each meeting.
- Share the work and accomplishments of the DCBHLT with your organization.

**DENTON COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP TEAM  
BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I NAME**

The name of the organization shall be the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team, "DCBHLT".

**ARTICLE II MISSION/VISION**

To significantly increase mental health access, services, and cohesive and complete treatments in Denton County. (A permanent vision/mission will be developed under the guidance of the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee and adopted by the DCBHLT).

**ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION**

**Section 3.1: Existence**

The period of existence of the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team shall be perpetual beginning June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Section 3.2: Purpose**

The purpose of the Denton County Behavioral Leadership Team (DCBHLT) is to convene as a policy making team tasked with improving the planning, coordination, oversight, and implementation required to create systems change, for behavioral health services in Denton County.

**Section 3.3: Fiscal Agent/Backbone Organization**

The name of the agent and address of the DCBHLT is:

United Way of Denton County Inc.

1314 Teasley Lane

Denton, TX 76205

United Way of Denton County Inc. (UWDC) will serve as the fiscal agent and backbone organization of the DCBHLT to provide staff, guide vision and strategy, support aligned activities, establish shared measurement practices, build public will, advance policy and mobilize funding. DCBHLT shall serve under the auspices of UWDC. The fiscal year shall follow UWDC and commence on April 1<sup>st</sup> and end on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**ARTICLE IV Appointments**

**Section 4.1: Appointment**

Appointment to DCBHLT is available to eligible entities as set forth below. The membership should represent the geographic, demographic and cultural diversity of Denton County, and to better serve the behavioral health needs of Denton County.

The members of the DCBHLT shall consist of the following entities:

- Federal and State Legislatures
- Denton County Commissioners Court
- Denton City Council
- Lewisville City Council
- Corinth City Council
- Small Cities/Towns
- Health Systems, Hospitals, MHMR, Health Department
- Health Insurance Providers
- Human Systems, ISD's, Higher Education, Law Enforcement, WATCH
- United Way of Denton County

**Section 4.2: Terms of Appointment**

Initial appointments of the DCBHLT shall serve a two (2) year term to ensure consistency and maintain a working knowledge of the DCBHLT. Subsequent appointment terms will be developed by the DCBHLT consisting of two (2) and three (3) year terms.

**Section 4.3: Duties of Appointees**

To ensure members are actively engaged members are expected to attend 50% of the meetings.

**ARTICLE V MEETINGS**

**Section 5.1: General Meetings**

Meetings of the DCBHLT will be held monthly for a period of six (6) months. DCBHLT members will review the scheduling needs to determine meeting frequency after the initial six (6) months. Meetings of the DCBHLT shall be held at the United Way of Denton County Inc. office. All meetings of the DCBHLT will be open to the public. Meeting agendas and minutes will be made available through the DCBHLT/UWDC website.

**Section 5.2: Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the DCBHLT may be called by the executive officer.

**Section 5.3: Notice of Meetings**

Notice of meetings shall be provided at least 3 days prior on the UWDC/DCBHLT website, and notification delivered by phone, mail, or email.

**Section 5.4: Chairperson/Co-Chairperson**

The DCBHLT shall elect a chair and co-chair to preside over meetings. In the absence of the chair, the co-chair shall preside.

**Section 5.5: Secretary**

The secretary shall be an elected member of the DCBHLT, and shall be responsible for the written minutes of the DCBHLT.

**Section 5.6: Workgroup Meetings**

Workgroup meetings will be held monthly or as needed to conduct the business of the DCBHLT. Additional meetings maybe convened as necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the DCBHLT.

Section 5.7: Quorum

A simple majority shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of DCBHLT business.

Section 5.8: Voting

Each appointee of the DCBHLT shall be entitled to vote in person or electronically if deemed necessary for the transaction of business. In the event of an electronic vote, members will vote accordingly and sufficient documentation will be kept and provided at the next official meeting. Only appointees to the DCBHLT shall have voting rights. Ex-officios and alternates attending meetings on behalf of an absent appointee may not vote.

Section 5.9: Parliamentary Authority

The meetings of the DCBHLT shall be governed by the parliamentary rules and usages contained in the current edition of the "Roberts Rules of Order" unless otherwise directed within these bylaws.

**ARTICLE VI Officers/BHLT Appointees**

Section 6.1: DCBHLT Appointees

The DCBHLT shall consist of no less than sixteen (16) and no more than fifty-four (54) members. Such number may be increased or decreased by amendment to these Bylaws and the DCBHLT structure. The DCBHLT shall be composed of appointees from the following entities.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1-3) Federal and State Legislature                      | (4-10) Human Systems, Higher Education, WATCH |
| (3-5) Denton County Commissioners Court                  | (6-8) Law Enforcement                         |
| (1-2) Denton City Council                                | (6-8) Independent School Districts            |
| (1-2) Lewisville City Council                            | (2) Community Members at Large                |
| (1-2) Corinth City Council                               | (1) United Way of Denton County               |
| (1-2) Small Cities/Towns                                 |   |
| (1-2) Health Insurance Providers                         |   |
| (3-7) Health Systems, Hospitals, MHMR, Health Department |   |

Section 6.2: Eligibility

To be eligible a person must be appointed by one of the above name entities as outlined in **Article 6 Section 6.1** and possess strong business, policy, or health background.

With regards to appointments:

- Cities/Towns should identify a council member, senior staff, executive, or community member;
- Non-profit organizations should identify a board member;
- Higher Education should identify a senior level representative;
- All others should identify a board member, or senior level representative

Appointees are expected to remain actively engaged and report to the appointing agency/organization on an ongoing basis to ensure accurate communication. In the event an appointee is not fulfilling their role, the DCBHLT will request a new appointee from the appointing agency/organization.

### Section 6.3 Officers

Officers of the DCBHLT are eligible for two consecutive one (1) year terms. Elections will be held during the November meeting with new officers taking their seats the following January.

At the September meeting, DCBHLT shall call for a nominating committee to be formed to present a slate of officers annually at the November meeting for vote.

### Section 6.4: Chair

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the DCBHLT and shall exercise leadership to ensure the goals and objectives of the DCBHLT are carried out. He/She shall have the powers and duties of supervision and management as it pertains to the office of Chair. The Chair shall serve a one year term and be elected each year.

1. The Chair shall convene and manage meetings;
2. The Chair shall set the agenda;
3. Represent the DCBHLT at meetings;
4. Assure compliance with Roberts Rules of Orders

### Section 6.5: Co-Chair

The Co-Chair shall assist the Chair in the leadership of the DCBHLT. The Co-Chair shall serve a one year term and be elected each year. The duties of the Co-Chair include, but not limited to the following:

1. Perform all duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair, and when so shall have all of the powers and duties of Chair.
2. Prepare to succeed to the office of the Chair in the event of the Chairs resignation or vacancy.

### Section 6.6: DCBHLT Secretary

The secretary shall be an elected member of the DCBHLT, and shall be responsible for the written minutes of the DCBHLT. The Secretary shall serve a one year term and be elected each year.

### Section 6.7 Past Chair

The past chair, shall be an elected member of the DCBHLT, and will serve in an advisory capacity to ensure continuity of operations.

### Section 6.8 DCBHLT Ex-Officios

The DCBHLT shall appoint ex-officio members as appropriate. Ex-officios will offer input, but will abstain from voting on matters of the DCBHLT.

### Section 6.9: DCBHLT Workgroup/Sub-Committee Chairs

Workgroups/Sub-committees shall provide ongoing reports and recommendations to the DCBHLT to ensure ongoing communication and leadership as it relates to the overall goals and objectives of the DCBHLT.

### Section 6.10: Resignation of DCBHLT Appointees

Any member of the DCBHLT may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chair at least 30 days in advance, and by notifying the appointing authority.

### Section 6.11: DCBHLT Vacancies

Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing agency/organization within 30 days of the vacancy and approved during the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 6.12: Compensation of Officers/BHLT Appointees  
The officers/appointees shall not receive a salary or compensation.

Section 6.13: DCBHLT Workgroups/Subcommittees  
The workgroups/subcommittees of the DCBHLT are defined by the DCBHLT as deemed appropriate and necessary. Additional workgroups may be added and disbanded as needed.

- Veterans
- Mental Health Court
- Jail Diversion
- Crisis/Detention/Commitment
- Child and Family Systems
- Integrated Care
- Community Conversations
- Workforce
- Community Case Management

#### **ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the DCBHLT members present at any regular or special meeting. Recommendations shall be submitted to the DCBHLT at least thirty (30) days prior to consideration.

#### **ARTICLE VIII NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The members, officers, directors, committee members, employees and persons served by DCBHLT shall be selected entirely on a non-discriminatory basis with respect to national origin, race, religion, color, sex, marital status, ancestry, sexual orientation, people with disabilities, age or veterans status.

#### **ARTICLE XI CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Any appointee who benefits financially, directly or indirectly as a result of an action/vote must abstain from the action/vote. A "benefit" shall include the possibility, or appearance, of personal financial gain to the appointee. A benefit occurs when the member or a person in the member's immediate family, and/or a partner or other business associate, and or their employer stand to gain financially from the action/vote.

#### **ARTICLE XII Confidentiality**

It is the policy of the DCBHLT and workgroup members to annually review the conflict of interest and confidentiality form. A copy of this form will be distributed to all DCBHLT appointees and workgroup members for signature.

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DCBHLT Secretary

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Date



## Involvement Planning Worksheet

Think about your position in the community and your appointee sector, i.e. law enforcement, ISD, city council, non-profit board member, etc. Answer the following questions through that lens. Bring this worksheet to the next DCBHLT meeting in July.

1. What information can you bring to the DCBHLT to inform the group about mental health needs, available resources, and trends?
  
2. How would you like to engage in the meeting discussion? What would help enhance your role and the work of the DCBHLT?
  
3. What information can you take back to your sphere of influence to further the work of the DCBHLT?
  
4. How can you further your involvement in the work of the DCBHLT? Some options are below. Add any others you can think of.
  - Child and Family Systems Workgroup
  - Suicide Prevention Workgroup
  - Substance Use Workgroup
  - Law Enforcement Workgroup
  - Veterans Workgroup
  - Nominating Committee
  - Strategic Planning Committee
  
5. What action items would you like to see the DCBHLT address?



## **Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team Meeting 2024 Meeting Schedule**

All meetings will be held from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at  
United Way of Denton County  
1314 Teasley Lane

Thursday, January 18

Thursday, March 21

Thursday, May 16

Thursday, July 18

Thursday, September 19

Thursday, November 21



**Denton County  
Veterans Center**

# **VETERAN COUNSELING SERVICES**

Zero Cost-individual and group Counseling for Veterans, Dependents, and Surviving spouses to help navigate personal challenges and difficulties

**1505 E. MCKINNEY ST  
DENTON, TX 76209**

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**Referrals may be made through:  
[www.unitedwaydenton.org/Referral/Veterans](http://www.unitedwaydenton.org/Referral/Veterans)**



This program is supported by a grant from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance. The Fund for Veterans' assistance provides grants to organizations serving veterans and their families.



# You Can Learn to Prevent Suicide



Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in recognizing the warning signs of a suicide can assist in navigating someone to help.

Each year thousands of Americans, like you, are saying "Yes" to saving the life of a friend, colleague, sibling, or neighbor.



Please join us for this virtual training event via Microsoft Teams.



## Evidence-Based Training for Suicide Prevention

Aug. 15 | Sept. 19 | Oct. 17 | Nov. 21 | Dec. 19

Join us for this **FREE** session on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. from 7 to 8:30 PM.

Training sessions will be conducted by certified QPR instructors.

### KEY COMPONENTS COVERED IN TRAINING:

- How to Question, Persuade and Refer someone who may be suicidal
- The common causes of suicidal behavior
- The warning signs of suicide
- How to get help for someone in crisis



To RSVP, please scan the QR code.

Registration is required for training.



DENTON FREEDOM HOUSE

# REDEEMED CONCERT

\$25 through 10/28  
\$35 starting 10/29

| Free T-Shirt

| Snack & Beverage  
Included

Benefiting  
men & women  
overcoming  
addiction!



Established  
By  
GRACE

SATURDAY | NOV 18TH | 7 PM - 9 PM

Zera Coffee & Events  
420 E McKinney St, Denton  
[dentonfreedomhouse.org/events](http://dentonfreedomhouse.org/events)

Purchase  
Tickets



Become a  
Sponsor

# DENTON NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

**APPLY OCT. 23 THROUGH NOV. 27**

## PROGRAM TOPICS

**Nonprofit Sector, Board Governance,  
& Strategic Planning**

**Financial Management**

**Fund Development**

**Branding, Marketing & PR**

**Program Planning, Evaluation, and Outcomes**

**HR & Volunteer Management**

**Risk Management & Legal Structures**

**FREE FOR EMPLOYEES OF  
NONPROFITS PROVIDING HUMAN  
SERVICES TO DENTON RESIDENTS**

**INFO & APPLICATION AT  
[CITYOFDENTON.COM/COMMUNITYSERVICES](http://CITYOFDENTON.COM/COMMUNITYSERVICES)**



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