

CONTACT INFORMATION

North Central Texas HIV Planning Council



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www.NoTexasAIDS.org



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RELATED LINKS

Ryan White Treatment Extension Act
<http://hab.hrsa.gov/law/leg.htm>

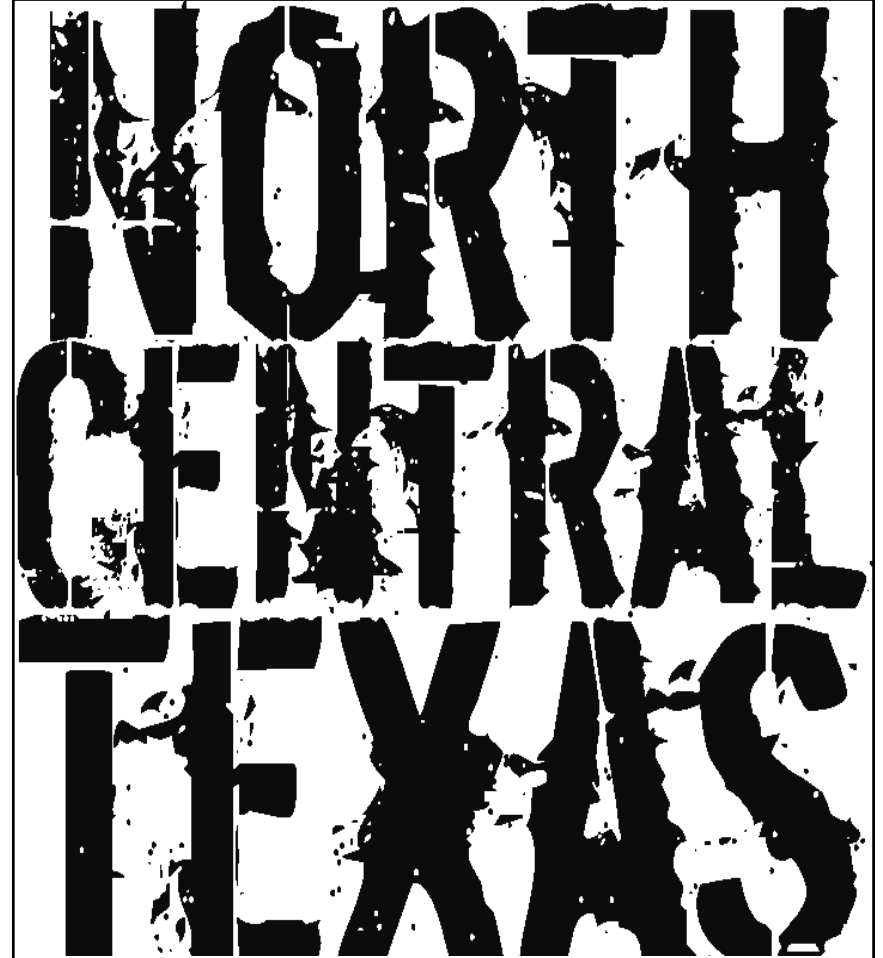
Texas Department of State Health Services
www.dshs.state.tx.us/hivstd/default.shtm

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/default.htm>

National HIV/AIDS Strategy
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/onap/nhas/>

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TARRANT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH



North Central **Texas** HIV Planning Council

www.NoTexasAIDS.org

SCRIPT NOTES

The mission of
the **North Central Texas HIV Planning Council** is
to provide an effective planning process that involves
People Living With HIV/AIDS
and other concerned citizens,
resulting in quality HIV/AIDS services
that are available for, and accessed by,
those in need.



COMMON ACRONYMS AND TERMS

SDAC– The Service Delivery Agencies Council is an affiliation of service provider representatives in the TGA/HSDA. Any provider that receives funding in the 38-county planning area is a member of SDAC.

SPAP – State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program.

Standards of Care – This is a document composed with several elements, which identifies and defines the minimum acceptable requirements that service providers and their staff must meet. The standards of care include such areas as licensure, knowledge, skills, experience, client care, confidentiality, and access to service, Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement, and staff training.

State Services – This is the grant funding provided by DSHS for HIV health and social services.

TA – Technical Assistance.

TEA – Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act is the legislation which authorizes the various funds for HIV/AIDS services in local communities:

- **Part A** to the largest EMAs and TGAs (53 areas);
- **Part B** to states for ADAP and other programs within the state;
- **Part C** for Early Intervention (primarily medical);
- **Part D** for women, children, youth, and pediatric AIDS programs;
- **Part F** state dental programs, AIDS Education Training Centers, and special projects.

TGA – Transitional Grant Areas are urban areas throughout the U.S. which have between 1,000 – 1,999 cases of PWLHAs. TGAs receive TEA funding from HRSA through Part A grants and from DSHS through Part B and State Services grants. Texas has three TGAs: Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio.

THMP – Texas HIV Medication Program (see ADAP).

TxCPCG – Texas HIV/STD Prevention Community Planning Group plans for HIV prevention activities across Texas.

Unmet Need – This is the term used to measure the number of clients not in primary HIV medical care.

WICY – Women, Infants, Children, and Youth.

SCRIPT NOTES

COMMON ACRONYMS AND TERMS

- HAB** – HIV/AIDS Bureau of HRSA (see below).
- HRH** – High Risk Heterosexual.
- HOPWA** – Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS provides grants to organizations to help provide housing assistance to clients infected with HIV.
- HRSA** – Health Resources & Service Administration is the federal agency that administers Ryan White Treatment Extension Act funds through the HIV/AIDS Bureau.
- HSDA** – Health Services Delivery Area is a geographic area eligible to receive Part B TEA and State Services funds in Texas.
- IDU** – Intravenous Drug Use or Injecting Drug User.
- MAI** – The Minority AIDS Initiative originally was legislated by the Congressional Black Caucus to provide funds targeting underserved communities of color.
- MOU** – Memorandum of Understanding.
- MSM** – Men who have Sex with Men.
- NHAS** – National HIV/AIDS Strategy.
- Needs Assessment** – It is a study conducted in an area to help understand a particular issue in order to facilitate making proactive and needed planning decisions.
- Outcome Measures** – These are tools to measure the benefits or changes in clients during or after receiving services.
- PAP** – Patient Assistance Programs run by pharmaceutical companies to provide free medications to people who cannot afford to buy their medicine.
- Planning Council** – This is a mandated council comprised of community representatives, consumers, providers and professionals. A minimum of 33% of the membership must be HIV-positive.
- PLWH/A or PWA** – Persons Living With HIV/AIDS.
- QM/QA** – Quality Management/Quality Assurance assesses the quality of programs that are provided.
- RFP** – Request for proposals are issued and solicit potential providers for a variety of activities that range from service provision to conducting planning functions.

INTRODUCTION

THE PLANNING COUNCIL

The North Central Texas HIV Planning Council is a body of volunteer citizens responsible for identifying and prioritizing service needs and determining gaps in services for Persons Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in a 38-county geographic area.

Members are elected to the Planning Council. Council members represent the geographic area (roughly bounded by the cities of Fort Worth, Wichita Falls, Abilene, and Brownwood), certain professional skills, the demographics of the HIV epidemic in north central Texas, and consumers of HIV services.

HISTORY

In 1990, the federal government wanted to ensure that funds which were meant to provide services for HIV+ people were determined at the local level. The federal government mandated that each state form Planning Consortia. In addition, cities which had more than 2,000 living cases of AIDS were to form Planning Councils. Both of these were comprised of community members. Over the years, this region merged the Consortia and Council into the body you see today.

Today, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act (TEA) of 2009 is the law that gives authority to create these planning groups. It also is the congressional bill which allows money to be appropriated to each area for services. The bill was named in honor of a young boy from Indiana who lived and struggled with, and died from this disease.

THE PLOT

WHAT HAPPENS AT MEETINGS

At a meeting of the North Central Texas HIV Planning Council, people sitting around the table are Planning Council members and Planning Council staff. The members are all community volunteers. Not one of them is paid for his/her work. The two staff members support the work of the Planning Council.

The Planning Council meets the fourth Tuesday of every month, except in December. Meeting times are from 10:45 am — 11:45 Am. Meetings are held at Tarrant County Public Health, located at 1101 S. Main Street at Rosedale in Fort Worth, Texas. The annual meeting in July usually is held at a separate venue.



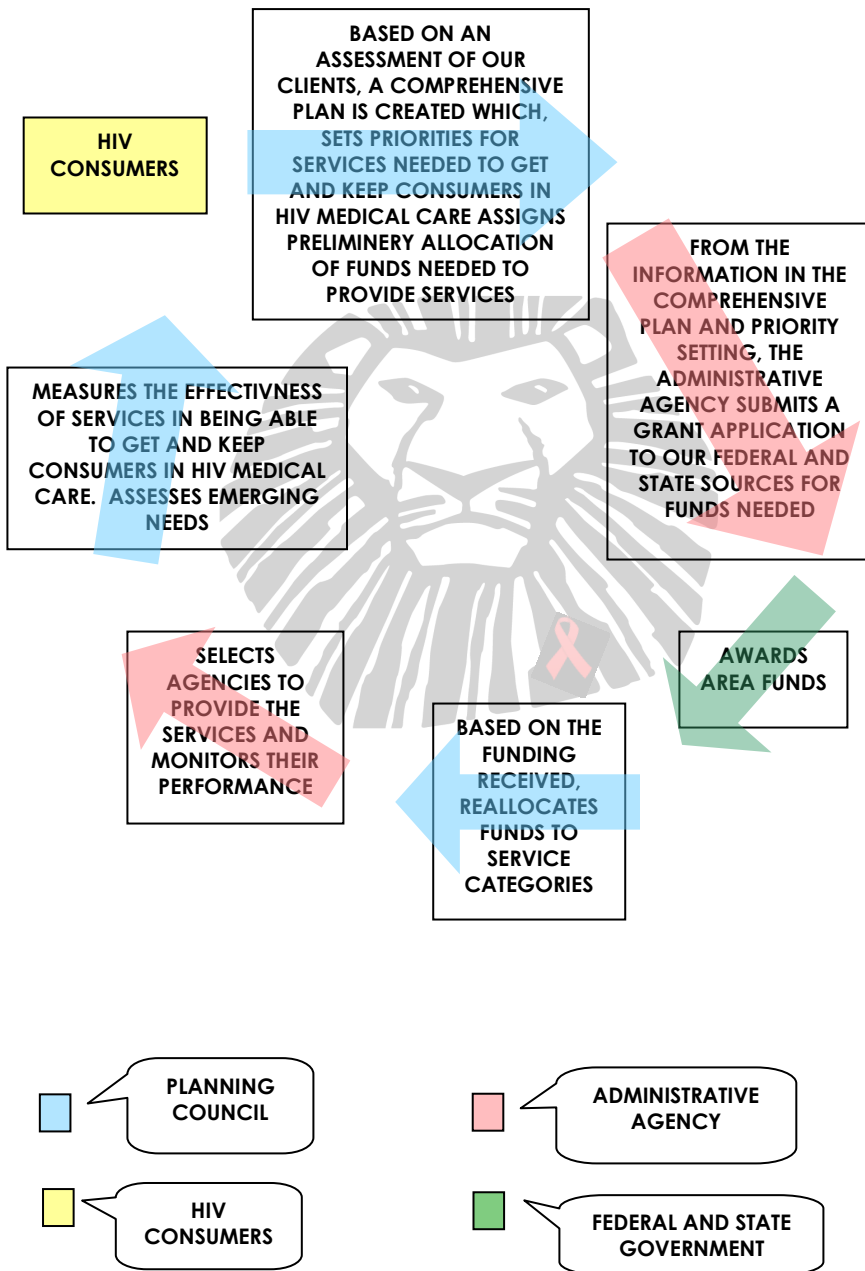
The goal of the Planning Council is to determine the communities and services of greatest need for HIV/AIDS care in the region. Once these are determined, the Planning Council approves funds to be allocated to these needed services. **The Planning Council does not provide actual client services nor does it decide which agencies receive the funds to provide services.** This is strictly a planning group.

SCRIPT NOTES

COMMON ACRONYMS AND TERMS

- ACA** – Affordable Care Act is federal legislation aimed primarily at decreasing the number of uninsured Americans and reducing the overall costs of health care.
- ADAP** – AIDS Drug Assistance Program is the state-operated program that provides medications to those who financially and medically qualify. It also is known as Texas HIV Medication Program.
- Administrative Agency (AA)** – Tarrant County Public Health is the designated agency or 'grantee' to administer the grants received for HIV services in the north central Texas region.
- ARIES** – AIDS Regional Information and Evaluation System is the Texas database that collects HIV/AIDS client information.
- ASO** – AIDS Service Organization.
- CBO** – Community-Based Organization.
- CD4** – CD4+ T helper cells are white blood cells that are an essential part of the human immune system. They are often referred to as CD4 cells. A CD4+ count is a blood test to determine how well the immune system is working in people who have been diagnosed with HIV.
- CDC** – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- DIS** – Disease Intervention Specialist.
- DSHS** – Texas Department of State Health Services is the state bureau which coordinates HIV/AIDS issues. It is the grantee for all TEA Part B funds and State Services Funds.
- EI** – Early Intervention.
- EIIHA** – Early Identification of Individuals with HIV/AIDS.
- EMA** – An Eligible Metropolitan Area is a geographic area most severely affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic with 2,000+ cases of AIDS. Texas has two EMA's: Dallas and Houston.
- ERC** – External Review Committee is used by the AA to review Requests for Proposals.
- FY** – Fiscal Year.
- GLBT** – Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender. Also, LGBT(Q).
- HAART** – Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy. The use of multiple drugs that act on different viral targets to decrease the patient's total burden of HIV, maintain function of the immune system, and prevent opportunistic infections .

SCENE OVERVIEW



THE PLOT

Planning Council meetings are open to the public. Consumers, agencies, and all who are interested in getting involved and / or learning more about the planning process are encouraged to attend. Anyone can speak up or ask questions at a meeting. The rest of this booklet describes how decisions are made, and how the Planning Council works with the federal and state governments, and the local Administrative Agency (Tarrant County Public Health).

One challenge you may face is understanding the language used in this meeting and the committee meetings. There are many acronyms, terms, and phrases used. A list of common acronyms and terms is included in this Playbill. If you hear something you do not understand, simply ask. Planning Council members and staff are more than happy to clarify things for you.

At this meeting, you may hear reports from the committees and votes that are needed from the full Planning Council to approve recommendations and actions. Also, you will hear the Administrative Agency report on how the implementation of services is going and on aspects of their work that impact services. The Planning Council staff will update the group on what is happening at the state and federal level, and any new projects that need to be addressed. In addition, there is a program piece to help members understand different issues that affect and impact their role in planning.

The work done by the Planning Council happens throughout each month. Actual projects are done at the committee level with reports provided at Planning Council meetings.

THE CHARACTERS

ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE

Allocations Committee members are responsible for determining where funding should be spent in order to address the needs prioritized by the Planning Council. While making these funding decisions for service categories, the Allocations Committee does not decide which agency receives the funds. That is a role of the Administrative Agency. The committee makes recommendations for funding throughout the year as monies are received by the Administrative Agency and annually when requests are submitted to the federal and state governments for new funding.



COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Comprehensive Planning Committee develops and implements a process to identify the needs for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and priorities for services. This process is conducted through a Needs Assessment which utilize surveys and interviews of persons infected and affected by HIV to assess changes in their health status and service needs. Then, a Comprehensive Plan is created from the



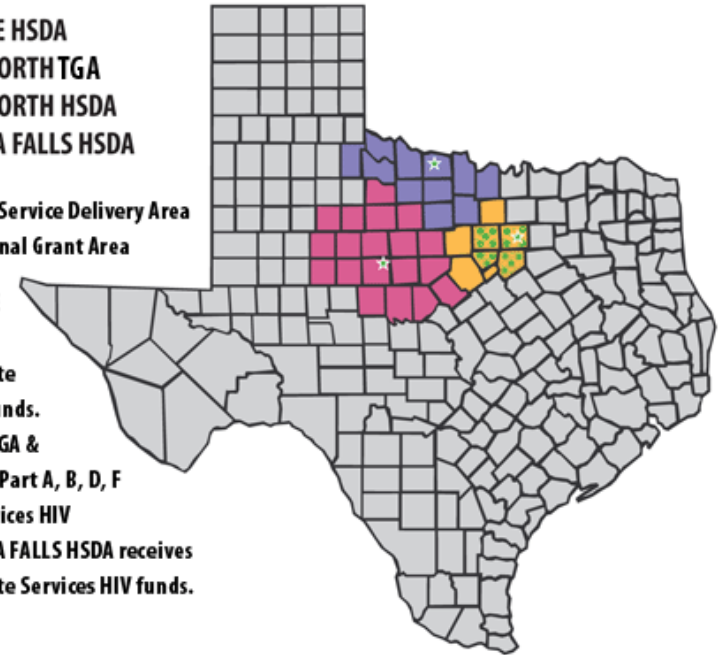
Needs Assessment. In addition to a Needs Assessment and Comprehensive Plan, services are reviewed annually and prioritized by the committee for the three regional areas: Abilene, Fort Worth and Wichita Falls. Copies of the most current Needs Assessments and Comprehensive Plans are found at www.NoTexasAIDS.org.

THE STAGE

- – ABILENE HSDA
- – FORT WORTH TGA
- – FORT WORTH HSDA
- – WICHITA FALLS HSDA

HSDA - Health Service Delivery Area
TGA - Transitional Grant Area

NOTE: ABILENE HSDA receives Part B and State Services HIV funds. **FORT WORTH TGA & HSDA** receives Part A, B, D, F and State Services HIV funds. **WICHITA FALLS HSDA** receives Part B and State Services HIV funds.



- Archer 🚩 Baylor 🚩 Brown 🚩 Callahan 🚩 Clay
- Coleman 🚩 Comanche 🚩 Cottle 🚩 Eastland
- Erath 🚩 Fisher 🚩 Foard 🚩 Hardeman 🚩 Haskell
- Hood 🚩 Jack 🚩 Johnson 🚩 Jones 🚩 Kent
- Knox 🚩 Mitchell 🚩 Montague 🚩 Nolan 🚩 Palo Pinto
- Parker 🚩 Runnels 🚩 Scurry 🚩 Shackelford 🚩 Somervell
- Stephens 🚩 Stonewall 🚩 Tarrant 🚩 Taylor
- Throckmorton 🚩 Wichita 🚩 Wilbarger 🚩 Wise 🚩 Young

CAST AUDITIONS

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

representatives from social service, health care, and mental health providers, AIDS service organizations, public health and health care planning agencies, community leaders, and local or state government. At least 33% of the Planning Council members must be HIV-positive. The demographics of the Planning Council must reflect the demographics of the community, also. Members must participate in Planning Council meetings, as well as serve on one or more of its standing committees. This requires a time commitment of 8-10 hours per month.

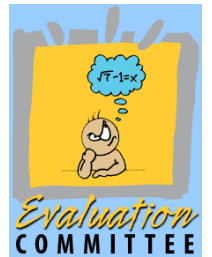
Meetings are held in Fort Worth. All meetings are conducted in English. Eligible Planning Council members receive reimbursement for their travel costs. Translation and hearing impaired services are made available, as needed. Positions are filled when they become vacant and filled for the duration of the ex-member's term. For more information, contact Planning Staff or visit www.NoTexasAIDS.org.



THE CHARACTERS

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Evaluation Committee creates and conducts an evaluation of the administrative mechanism for the effectiveness in ensuring that priorities are being met and that funds are distributed rapidly to meet the priority needs. The Evaluation Committee monitors and reviews the Standards of Care and Outcome Measures that are developed for service categories.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is comprised of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Chair Elect or Immediate Past Chair of the Planning Council, and the chairs of each standing committee. The Executive Committee ensures the orderly integrated progression of work done by all standing and ad hoc committees, plans all future activities, and recommends items for meetings. The Executive Committee is responsible for recruiting and interviewing potential new members for recommendation to the Planning Council.



THE CHARACTERS

POSITIVE VOICES COALITION

Positive Voices Coalition (PVC) is the organizing committee of the Positive Voices (PV) consumer input groups. PVC determines the monthly meeting topics and is designed to solicit input from HIV+ individuals. PVC develops HIV individuals in roles of leadership to ensure the voice of HIV consumers is a driving force behind all planning activities.

Planning Council Committee	Meeting Day and Time
Allocations Committee	4 th Tuesday — 12:00 PM
Comprehensive Planning Committee	4 th Tuesday — 9:30 AM
Evaluation Committee	2 nd Thursday — 1:00 PM
Executive Committee	2 nd Friday — 1:30 PM
Planning Council	4 th Tuesday — 10:45 AM
Positive Voices Coalition	4 th Thursday — 10:30 AM
Positive Voices — Fort Worth	2 nd Thursday — 5:30 PM
Positive Voices — Wichita Falls	3 rd Thursday — 12:00 PM
Positive Voices — Abilene	4 th Wednesday — 12:30 PM
Voces Positivas (Spanish-Speaking Group)	3 rd Mondays — 6:00 PM 3er lunes de 18:00

Chair of the Planning Council to meet the operational needs of the Planning Council. Ad hoc committees report to the Planning Council at the end of their assignment, or as necessary. An example of an ad hoc committee is the Bylaws Committee.

CAST AUDITIONS

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The North Central Texas HIV Planning Council continually seeks new members. The Planning Council is a maximum 37-member body that is responsible for identifying service needs and gaps for people living with HIV/AIDS, and for allocating federal and state HIV dollars to various service categories.



Those interested should contact Planning Council staff for an interview. At this time, candidates are oriented on the Ryan White planning process. Candidates are asked to attend a Planning Council meeting and two committee meetings, and meet with members of the Executive Committee to understand the planning process. If candidates are still interested, they meet with the full Executive Committee who then then decides on seating the candidate. If approved, a summary of the candidates' bios are sent to the entire Planning Council for final questions. If there are no concerns, candidates are recommended for membership. The recommendations are sent to the Tarrant County Judge who is responsible for all HIV services and care in the region. The Tarrant County Judge makes the formal members' appointments to the Planning Council.

The composition of the North Central Texas HIV Planning Council must comply with conditions that were established under the Ryan White Treatment Extension Act, and within the Planning Council's bylaws. These conditions require the appointment of