

EXHIBIT 1. CONTINUUM OF CARE NARRATIVE

1. Abstract of Arlington's Continuum of Care

Overview of Continuum of Care

Arlington's Continuum of Care is geographically defined by its city boundaries and the system includes a community-wide effort to address the issue of homelessness. With the implementation of the programs proposed in the 2000 Continuum of Care application, Arlington's services for the homeless will contain all the fundamental components needed in a successful Continuum of Care (CoC) system. Through partnerships between local government, homeless service providers, and community-based organizations, Arlington's CoC system will offer services needed to assist the homeless through their transition to self-sufficiency. This includes homeless prevention, outreach and assessment, emergency shelter care, transitional housing with supportive services, and permanent housing.

Key Aspects of the System

In the current CoC system, homeless prevention activities are funded through the city's Emergency Shelter Grant programs. Activities such as rental/deposit assistance, minor car repair, and assistance in obtaining work-related items are provided by the Tarrant County Department of Human Services (TCDHS), The Women's Shelter (TWS), and Arlington Charities (AC). Outreach is currently provided by Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation Homeless Services (TCMHMR-H). Intake assessment and emergency shelter care is provided by the city's three emergency shelters: the Arlington Night Shelter (ANS), The Women's Shelter (TWS), and The Salvation Army Family Life Center (TSAFLC). Transitional housing is provided through a number of Arlington Housing Authority (AHA) grant programs such as the annual Temporary Housing Program (THP), the 1996 and 1997 Supportive Housing Program (SHP), and annual HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). Rental assistance for two years is provided through these programs at scattered sites and the 17 homes operated by the Community Enrichment Center (CEC) Adopt-A-Family Transitional Housing Program, which is currently funded through 1997 SHP. AHA has received a one-year extension for the 1996 SHP transitional housing grant through February 2001. Supportive services to the homeless are provided by a number of non-profit agencies. Transportation is provided by Mission Metroplex (MM) through the 1996 SHP, which has been extended for one year through February 2001. Performance measures for this transportation project are increasing due to defining eligibility and problem solving at the Arlington Homeless Coalition meetings. Mission Metroplex also provides childcare to homeless households through the 1997 SHP. Food and clothing are provided by MM and AC. AC also provides financial assistance for minor car repair, work clothes, and assistance in obtaining identification documents. Dental health care is provided by Dental Health for Arlington (DHA). Counseling, evaluations, and treatment for chemically dependent and mentally ill homeless are provided through the 1996 SHP Intensive Case Management project, which has received a one-year extension through February 2001. The agencies providing services under this project include Family Services, Inc. (FSI), Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA), and Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation Addiction Services (TCMHMR-A). These services will be expanded pending receipt of the 2000 CoC funds. HIV/AIDS screening and counseling is provided by AIDS Outreach Center (AOC). Family literacy programs and job readiness training are provided by

the Arlington Independent School District (AISD). Permanent Housing with Support is provided by Volunteers of America of Texas through the Section 811 program (housing for disabled individuals and families). Permanent Housing is not yet a part of Arlington's CoC. The receipt of funds requested in this 2000 CoC application will address this component.

Principal Organizations

The Arlington Homeless Coalition (AHC) serves as the lead facilitator of Arlington's Continuum of Care system. The AHC consists of representatives from various homeless service providers, the city's Housing staff, the Arlington Housing Authority, the Arlington Police Department, and other community members. The coalition acts as a networking organization for non-profit homeless service providers, governmental agencies, and community organizations. The coalition meets monthly to share information, maximize assets through cooperation, evaluate current programs, and assess and improve the CoC system. The current chair of the coalition is the Director of Housing from Volunteers of America.

The city of Arlington's Neighborhood Services/Housing Division also plays an aggressive role in the Continuum of Care system. To assist in the operation of the CoC, this division actively seeks state and federal funds for the homeless programs provided by non-profit agencies. The Housing Division also works closely with Arlington Homeless Coalition and its members to improve program effectiveness and efficiency.

Service providers are an essential part of the CoC system, assisting with direct client services to Arlington's homeless population. Agencies such as, the Arlington Night Shelter, Mission Metroplex, The Women's Shelter, or Community Enrichment Center provide a wide range of services. Services offered include, emergency shelter care, childcare, transportation, rental assistance, counseling, and substance abuse treatment. With their direct link to the homeless population, service providers offer valuable insight into the CoC system. Homeless service agencies constitute the majority of the coalition membership and through their participation, they provide important information regarding the needs and issues facing clients.

New Projects Being Requested

This application requests a total of \$1,583,054 in CoC funds to enhance current activities and fill gaps in the current Continuum of Care system, which have been identified by the Arlington Homeless Coalition and the 2000 Gaps Analysis. The application includes requests for one new Shelter Plus Care (S+C) project, one Supportive Housing Program (SHP) renewal project, and nine new SHP projects, for a total of eleven projects. Projects, which focus on maintaining current services and providing additional services, include supportive housing for homeless with disabilities, expansion in transportation services, continuation of transitional housing case management, outreach to the unsheltered population, outreach and case management for homeless with mental illness, substance abuse treatment and case management, and supportive services for homeless children.

2. Arlington's Planning Process for Developing a Continuum of Care Strategy

Overview & Lead Entity for the CoC Planning Process

Arlington's Continuum of Care system was originally established in 1996 through a community-wide planning process. As a result, the first Continuum of Care plan, Priority Home: Continuum of Care for Homeless Persons in Arlington was created. Two years later, an update to the plan, the 1998 Addendum to Priority Home: Continuum of Care Plan for Homeless Persons in Arlington, was produced. Both processes were lead by the Arlington Human Service Planners (AHSP), an arm of the United Way with fourteen years of experience in identifying human service needs. Copies of these two plans are provided in Exhibit IX for review.

An outgrowth of the original Continuum of Care planning process was the formation of the Arlington Homeless Coalition. The responsibility of facilitating the Continuum of Care system has shifted to the Arlington Homeless Coalition. While AHSP was the lead entity in planning and developing the original Continuum of Care in 1996 and the update in 1998, the lead entity for actually implementing the Continuum of Care is the Arlington Homeless Coalition. The coalition is composed of homeless service providers, representatives from the city's Neighborhood Services/Housing Division, representatives from the Arlington Police Department, representatives from the Arlington Housing Authority, and other community-based groups. The coalition is responsible for facilitating Arlington's CoC system, evaluating the current services, finding resources and methods to eliminate gaps in the system, and striving for continuous improvement, effectiveness, and efficiency.

Arlington's CoC Planning Structure

The planning structure of Arlington's Continuum of Care system has involved four basic components.

- Surveys and point-in-time counts to quantify the number of homeless and their needs.
- The development of a Continuum of Care designed to shelter persons and assist them in achieving self-sufficiency. This is achieved through meetings and focus groups with formerly homeless persons, business organizations, educational and religious institutions, mental and physical health organizations, non-profit agencies, governmental departments, and agencies familiar with homeless issues.
- Evaluation of the Continuum of Care system's development to ensure that it is consistent with the City's Consolidated Plan.
- Ongoing Continuum of Care planning facilitated through the Arlington Homeless Coalition.

Surveys

To date, four surveys of the homeless population have been completed. The first was a point-in-time homeless count taken in 1993, which indicated 139 homeless persons in Arlington's emergency shelters and transitional housing units. The second survey, conducted in February 1997 by the University of Texas at Arlington, questioned 111 homeless individuals. The third survey of 76 individuals and families living in Arlington shelters was conducted in October 1997 by the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition. The fourth survey, conducted on April 19, 2000 by a professor of Criminology/Criminal Justice at the University of Texas at Arlington, captured the number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in the city. This was a point-in-time

survey, which indicated 201 adults and 169 children, a total of 370 homeless individuals. While each count and survey provided insight into the issues surrounding homelessness, the last survey was especially informative and provided the current data about Arlington's homeless population.

Development of the Original Continuum of Care

The original 1996 Priority Home: Continuum of Care for Homeless Persons in Arlington was developed in a process involving 77 community volunteers and city department members. This group represented 42 non-profit agencies and met 17 times to identify the needs of the homeless and recommend strategies to meet those needs. Two years later the 1998 Addendum to Priority Home: Continuum of Care Plan for Homeless Persons in Arlington was prepared. As part of this process the original *Priority Home Report* was reevaluated and updated by a committee of 36 members representing a cross-section of the community. Also, focus groups with formerly homeless persons were held, which provided valuable insight into the problems and the needs of the homeless.

Consolidated Plan

In 1995, the city's Consolidated Plan was prepared and approved after a public hearing process. The plan established a series of goals for housing, human services, and community development programs. The city's Housing staff recently completed the 2000 Consolidated Plan, which was submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) after approval through a public hearing and citizen review process. Both plans address the needs of the homeless populations with specific goals and strategies to assist in the transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency. In both planning sessions, homeless service providers such as the Arlington Night Shelter and AIDS Outreach Center, contributed to the development of the plans by participating in public hearing sessions and discussing issues surrounding their specific homeless sub-populations.

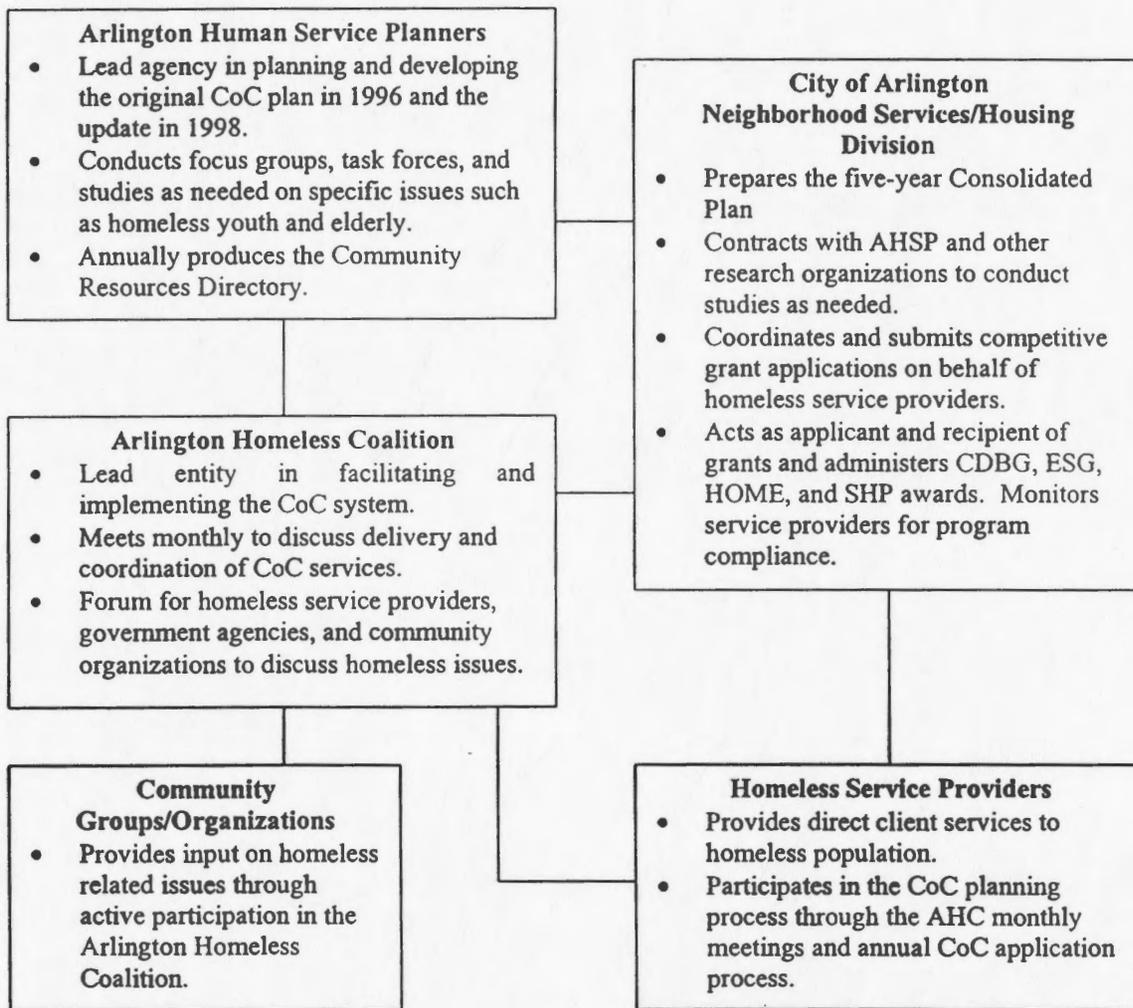
Continuous Planning through the Arlington Homeless Coalition

Along with surveys, the five-year Consolidated Plan, and the development of the original CoC plan, the Continuum of Care planning also takes place on a year-round basis through the Arlington Homeless Coalition. This organization acts as a forum for service providers, local government agencies, housing developers, and other community-based organization to discuss issues surrounding the homeless in Arlington. The Arlington Homeless Coalition's (AHC) mission is "to improve the delivery and coordination of services for homeless individuals and families through the Arlington Continuum of Care." To accomplish this, AHC focuses on improving service delivery within the CoC system, identifying gaps and needs of the homeless, addressing those gaps, accessing new and additional resources for homeless activities, maintaining coordination and collaboration between service providers, and continuously improving the CoC system. This is accomplished through monthly meetings of coalition members, constant sharing of information, monitoring and reporting of activities associated with legislation relative to homeless persons, and through planning projects for the annual Super NOFA CoC application.

In February 2000, the Arlington Human Service Planners, in collaboration with the City of Arlington, business owners, representatives from the Arlington Homeless Coalition, and other

service providers, and community organizations met over a period of months to develop an Affordable Housing Task Force. The purpose of this groups was primarily to issue a report that would address the affordable housing needs of low to moderate income families. A number of representatives from the Homeless Coalition participated in this planning process. The result was the study that determined housing needs of the community and provided recommendations to address the needs. A copy of the study, A Place to Call Home: Affordable Housing Priorities in Arlington, is included in Appendix B.

Diagram of how the entities in Arlington’s CoC organizational planning structure relate



Dates and Main Topics of Arlington’s CoC Meetings through the Arlington Homeless Coalition

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics</u>
06/18/99	Presentation by the Arlington Police Department on unsheltered homeless population and ways APD is addressing the issue. Coalition appointed a liaison to the Apartment Manager’s Coalition and held a discussion on promoting transitional housing among apartment managers. Discussion on transportation issues, specifically car repair and car loans for the homeless.

- 07/21/99 Presentation by Family Service Loan Program for transportation, childcare, rent/utility deposits, and other loans. AHSP distributed the annual "Blue Book," which lists all human service agencies. ANS discussed their Project Link program for TANF families. AHSP announced a future forum on transportation, affordable housing, and youth.
- 08/20/99 Discussion of 1999 ESG award through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Presentation by the Bridge, which is an emergency shelter for runaway/throwaway youth. Arlington Night Shelter discussed their plans for renovation of the shelter facility.
- 09/17/99 Canceled.
- 10/15/99 Canceled.
- 11/16/99 AHSP reported on the completion of the Affordable Housing Task Force Report. City staff announced the meeting on ESG request for proposals. Central Texas Mutual Housing announced that Boys and Girls Club will provide services at Shadow Brook Apartments.
- 12/17/99 AISD discussed the application of a childcare grant through the Department of Education and also discussed the availability of the Family Literacy Program and the need for referrals. Dental Health for Arlington discussed the availability of dental care to homeless and transitional housing clients. TCMHMR discussed the availability of detoxification/treatment services and funds available for homeless substance-abuse population and the need to increase referrals to this program.
- 01/14/00 Discussion of 1999 CoC application scores. City staff held a discussion regarding the current SHP projects and the need to improve the performance and expenditure level of certain projects. Chairman discussed the possibility of the coalition becoming a member of the Texas Homeless Network and also garner support from political individuals and local businesses in order to promote homeless services.
- 02/12/00 City staff led discussion on current SHP project, specifically the performance and expenditures to date. Coalition listed barriers facing the projects and suggested amendments to particular SHP projects to improve performance. The Police Department discussed their experiences in working with the unsheltered population and the need to improve coordination between service providers.
- 03/17/00 Coalition continued discussion of possible changes to current SHP projects and approved a list of recommended changes, which will be formally requested to HUD. Arlington Housing Authority presented policies and procedures regarding criminal background checks conducted on all transitional housing referrals. Chairman discussed the release of the 2000 Super NOFA and led a discussion on renewal and new projects. The coalition agreed on a list of possible new projects and a grant review committee process to prioritize projects. Coalition also agreed

that the Gaps Analysis should be conducted by a researcher from the University of Texas at Arlington.

- 03/24/00 Discussions were held regarding the 2000 CoC application and its contents. Chairman lead the group in assigning preliminary priorities to CoC components and identifying needs. Members discussed restructuring current projects to improve effectiveness and applying under the 2000 CoC as new projects. Instructions were provided and deadlines were set for submitting proposals to grant review committee.
- 03/31/00 Individual proposals were presented and discussed. Recommendations were made regarding the formation of a grant review committee and nominations for two members of the coalition were suggested.
- 04/07/00 Coalition continued discussion of projects for the 2000 CoC application. Coalition selected two individuals to represent the group on the grant review committee and agreed that the committee should be composed of two members from the coalition, two staff members from the city, and two community volunteers. Coalition discussed the possibility of speakers from Family Reunification Program and Work Advantage Program.
- 05/12/00 Presentation by professor/researcher on the 2000 Homeless Survey and Gaps Analysis. Discussion on survey findings and current conditions of homelessness in Arlington. Chairman presented project priorities established by the grant review committee and discussed the importance and necessity of establishing future goals for the coalition in order to improve Arlington's Continuum of Care.
- 06/16/00 Coalition has planned review of draft of the AHC Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation for submission to the Secretary of State. A presentation by the Family Self-Sufficiency Program caseworkers is scheduled.
- 07/21/00 Establish strategies and action plan to address the goal of increasing membership and partnership with local businesses, religious organizations, other community organizations, and also representation of homeless or formerly homeless individuals. Also discuss strategies for educational efforts to increase public awareness of homeless issues.
- 08/18/00 Establish strategies and deadlines to implement a "pocket pal," which will be provided to unsheltered homeless persons. Establish work committees to implement coalition goals and objectives. Discuss development of a 501(c)(3) application.

Participants in Arlington's Continuum of Care Planning Process

The following is a list of agencies and organizations that have participated in planning Arlington's CoC system since 1996. Opportunities for participation in the planning include the development of CoC plan in 1996, the update to the plan 1998, homeless surveys conducted in 1997 and 2000, and the continuous planning effort, which occurs through the Arlington Homeless Coalition. Unfortunately, a number of agencies have not participated since the development of the original 1996 plan. The Arlington Homeless Coalition has plans to increase participation and membership in order to strengthen the CoC system. This includes plans to increase participation of local businesses, banks, neighborhood groups, and homeless or formerly homeless persons. The Arlington Homeless Coalition will not only work towards increasing membership, but also strive to maintain active and continuous participation of all members.

Specific Names of CoC Organizations/Persons (Geographic area represented)	Sub-populations Represented	Level of Participation in Planning Process
State agencies:		
Arlington Independent School District	Youth	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process to provide information on homeless children. Also provided input on the 1997 homeless survey instrument.
Tarrant County Community Development	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1998, discussing employment opportunities.
Texas Department of Human Services	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996. Also provided input on 1997 homeless survey instrument.
Local government agencies:		
Arlington Housing Authority	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process to provide input on housing programs. Also participated in 1997 homeless survey.
City of Arlington Arlington Police Department	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meeting and annual CoC application process. Also provided input in 2000 homeless survey instrument and assisted in implementing the survey.

City of Arlington Library Department	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998.
City of Arlington Neighborhood Services/Housing Division	General (Housing and Community Development Programs)	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition. Coordinates the competitive grant applications. Administers grants.
City of Arlington Department of Planning and Development	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
City of Arlington Department of Transportation	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 to provide information on transportation.
Nonprofit Organizations:		
Arlington Human Service Planners	General	Organized and Chaired the 1996 and 1998 CoC planning meetings. Participated in 1997 homeless survey by organizing volunteers to design and conduct the survey. Currently Vice-Chair of Arlington Homeless Coalition and actively participates in CoC system through coalition meetings and CoC application process. Served as a member of the grant review committee for the 2000 application.
Area Agency on Aging	General (Elderly)	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 to provide information on the elderly sub-population.
Consumer Credit Counseling	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
United Centers	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
United Way of Metro Tarrant County-First Call	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
Banks:		
Neighborhood groups:		
Housing Developers:		
Volunteers of America	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition. Currently Chairs the homeless coalition. Served as a member of the grant review committee for the 2000 application.

Central Texas Mutual Housing	General	Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process to provide information on apartment and housing providers. Acts as Liaison to the Apartment Manager's Association.
Re-Max Realtors	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
Tarrant County Housing Partnership	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
Businesses:		
Arlington African-American Chamber of Commerce	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and Arlington Homeless Coalition meetings during 1998 and 1999 CoC application process to provide information about employment.
Southwest Office Systems	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
Foundations:		
Services Provider:		
AIDS Outreach	HIV/AIDS	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process, providing information on HIV/AIDS sub-population.
Arlington Charities	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process. Also participated in the 1997 homeless survey.
Arlington Night Shelter	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process to provide information on general shelter population. Also participated in the 1997 and 2000 homeless survey, allowing residents to be surveyed.
Boys & Girls Clubs of Arlington, Inc.	Youth	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Participates in CoC through attendance at Homeless Coalition meetings during CoC application process. Provides input on available youth activities.

Bridge Emergency Youth Services	Youth	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Participates in CoC through attendance at Homeless Coalition meetings during CoC application process. Provides input on available youth activities.
Community Enrichment Center	General (Families)	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition and annual CoC application process. Serves as Secretary for the Arlington Homeless Coalition.
Catholic Charities	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process.
Dental Health for Arlington	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process.
Family Services	Substance Abuse, Mentally Ill	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process. Also provided input on 1997 survey instrument.
Mission Metroplex	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process. Participated in 1997 and 2000 homeless survey by allowing day shelter residents to be interviewed.
MHMR-Homeless Services	Seriously Mentally Ill	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process.
MHMR-Addiction Services	Substance Abuse	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process.

The Salvation Army	General (Families)	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process. Also participated in 1997 and 2000 homeless survey by allowing residents to be surveyed.
TCADA	Substance Abuse	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition monthly meetings and annual CoC application process, providing information on substance abuse. Also provided input on 1997 homeless survey instrument.
Tarrant County Department of Human Services	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996, providing information on homeless prevention activities.
The Women's Center of Tarrant County	Domestic Violence	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996, providing information on domestic violence.
The Women's Shelter	Domestic Violence	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996 and 1998. Actively participates in CoC system through the Arlington Homeless Coalition. Participated in the 2000 homeless survey by allowing residents of the shelter to be surveyed.
Welcome House of Family Services	Youth	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996, providing information on youth problems and services.
Homeless/former homeless persons:		
Representatives from the Arlington Night Shelter and The Women's Shelter	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1998, providing insight into service delivery problems. The Arlington Homeless Coalition has plans to include continuous participation of homeless or formerly homeless persons through representation on the Coalition.
Others:		
Arlington Star Telegram (Media)	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.
Dallas VA Medical Center	Veterans	Attended
First United Methodist Church	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996, providing information on unsheltered homeless population.
University of Texas at	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996

Arlington School of Social Work		and 1998. Designed and conducted the 1997 homeless survey.
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	General	Attended CoC planning meetings in 1996.

3. Arlington's Continuum of Care System Under Development

Arlington's Vision for Combating Homelessness.

Arlington's vision to combat homelessness is to establish a CoC system in which homeless, or near homeless, individuals and households can easily access assistance that will help them avoid homelessness and allow them to become self-sufficient, productive citizens of the community. In this environment, the safety and dignity of homeless and near homeless persons will be preserved, and the supportive services offered will reduce the unsheltered homeless population to a minimal level. Goals and action steps to address the problem of homelessness have been developed through the planning process for the 1995 Consolidated Plan, the 2000 Consolidated Plan, the 1996 CoC plan, the 1998 CoC update, and the continuous planning which occurs through the Arlington Homeless Coalition. Most goals and action steps are annual, ongoing activities, which will take place over the next five years.

Goal	Action Steps	Responsible Persons/Organization	Target Dates
Prevent homelessness resulting from evictions.	Assign a high priority for funding homeless prevention activities.	City's Housing Division	Ongoing
	Annually, assist a minimum of 25 households with prevention assistance.	Tarrant County Department of Human Services The Women's Shelter Arlington Charities	Ongoing
Reach out to homeless people who are not accessing assistance.	Increase outreach activities to the unsheltered homeless population.	Arlington Police Department TCMHMR-Homeless	Ongoing
Promote self-sufficiency through a system of rehabilitative emergency shelters, supportive services, transitional housing and permanent housing for the disabled.	Maintain current level of emergency shelter capacity of 195 individuals per day.	Arlington Night Shelter The Women's Shelter The Salvation Army	Ongoing
	Conduct a feasibility study of Single Room Occupancy.	City's Housing Division	06/30/03
	Maintain 100 transitional housing units for the homeless annually.	City's Housing Division Arlington Housing Authority Community Enrichment Center	Ongoing
Utilize all available funding sources including HUD's ESG, CDBG, SHP, HOME and ESG from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.	Annually apply for available grant funds to support goals and objectives for reducing homelessness.	City's Housing Division	Ongoing

Increase public awareness of homeless issues and share information about programs and services benefiting homeless persons.	Introduce a "pocket pal," with important numbers for accessing homeless services.	Arlington Homeless Coalition – Committee on Education	12/30/00
	Present information on homeless services to the Apartment Manager's Association.	Arlington Homeless Coalition – Liaison to the Apartment Manager's Association.	12/30/00

Fundamental Components of the Continuum of Care System

Arlington's current CoC system has five of the seven essential components already in place. This includes homeless prevention, outreach/assessment, emergency shelters, transitional housing, and supportive services. Services under these components are available to the homeless population. However, Arlington's CoC still lacks permanent housing and permanent supportive housing for the homeless. While this application includes a Shelter Plus Care project for permanent supportive housing for the disabled, the Arlington Homeless Coalition is aimed at trying to fill these gaps in the system by exploring other resources.

Fundamental Components in CoC System
<p><u>Component: Prevention</u></p> <p>Services in place: To prevent homelessness of at-risk households, Arlington currently has homeless prevention activities in place through Emergency Shelter Grant funding from HUD and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). These ESG funds allow service providers to assist individuals and households in danger of homelessness. The Tarrant County Department of Human Resources (TCDHS) provides first time rental/deposit and/or utility assistance to at-risk families. The Women's Shelter (TWS) also provides rental/deposit assistance to at-risk women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Arlington Charities (AC) provides homeless prevention assistance through financial assistance for minor car repairs, assistance in obtaining identification, and assistance in obtaining work-related items.</p> <p>Services planned: Arlington has identified homeless prevention as a high priority through the community planning process involved in the CoC and the Consolidated Plan. Under Arlington's CoC system current levels of homeless prevention activities will be maintained. At least 25 at-risk households will receive homeless prevention assistance on an annual basis.</p> <p>How persons access/receive assistance: At-risk clients who demonstrate potential for self-sufficiency may receive assistance by contacting TCDHS, TWS, or AC. Caseworkers at each agency conduct assessments of the clients to determine their qualifications and eligibility for the program.</p>

Component: Outreach/Assessment

Services in place:

To date, outreach efforts in Arlington have been fairly limited. Primarily outreach consists of a referral network between the police, hospitals, schools, churches, and non-profit service providers. The Arlington Police Department indirectly outreaches by working with local business and neighborhood groups. The CoC system also includes outreach to the seriously mentally ill sub-population by the Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation-Homeless Services outreach workers, which works collaboratively with the Projects of Assistance to Transition out of Homelessness (PATH) project.

Assessment is provided to each client entering one of the three emergency shelters through shelter case managers during the intake/assessment process. Assessment for specific sub-populations is also available at the shelters through prior SHP funds. Assessment and screening, specifically for shelter residents with alcohol/drug abuse problems, is provided by Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) case managers. These case managers provide referrals for detoxification and residential treatment to Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation-Addiction Services (TCMHMR-A). Shelter residents needing psychiatric assessment and medication are referred to Family Services, Inc. (FSI) for outpatient services. Shelter residents with mental problems are also assessed by case managers from TCMHMR-Homeless Services, who provide case management for the single-diagnosis mentally ill population. Shelter residents with HIV/AIDS may receive assessment and case management services by an AIDS Outreach Center case manager, who evaluates and assists those diagnosed with services.

Services planned:

The 2000 Homeless Survey indicated that more than 50% of the city's homeless at any point in time are unsheltered. Thus, plans are underway to strengthen the outreach component in Arlington's CoC system. This includes stronger outreach efforts to the unsheltered population through the Arlington Police Department. APD's proposal, under the 2000 CoC application, includes hiring a full-time outreach/caseworker to target the unsheltered population and assist them in accessing shelter, services, and housing available for them. TCMHMR-H will also increase their outreach efforts to the seriously mentally ill sub-population. Both of these projects are requesting funding assistance in the 2000 CoC application.

The substance abuse and mental health project was originally funded through the 1996 SHP, which has been extended for one year through February 2001. This project, which has been restructured for increased effectiveness, is also requesting funding assistance under the 2000 CoC application. Currently, this is the only project under which such case management is available. The Arlington Homeless Coalition has plans to also explore other resources to provide substance abuse case management.

How persons access/receive assistance:

Shelter residents may access specialized case management through a referral process. Shelter case managers referring clients needing substance abuse, mental health, and/or HIV/AIDS case management to the appropriate agency.

Component: Emergency Shelter

Services in place:

Arlington currently has three emergency shelter facilities, the Arlington Night Shelter (ANS), The Women's Shelter (TWS), and The Salvation Army Family Life Center (TSAFLC). Together these three shelters have the capacity to house 195 individuals on a daily basis. The community also has a Day Shelter, which is operated by Mission Metroplex (MM). The ANS, with 87 beds, is the only shelter to accept all sub-populations of homeless. TWS, which has the capacity to house 60 individuals, offers shelter services to homeless women and children who are victims of domestic violence. TSAFLC offers assistance to homeless families with children at their 48-bed facility. The MM Day Shelter provides clients of the ANS with a daytime facility to use to complete job applications and await rides to work or social service appointments. The Day Shelter is also available as a sleeping quarter for individuals with nighttime employment. All three emergency shelters are rehabilitative facilities offering shelter care, case management, assistance in obtaining employment, assistance in securing transitional or permanent housing, and referrals to supportive services such as childcare, transportation, medical and dental care, job and education training, legal assistance, and counseling.

Services planned:

Emergency shelters have been identified as an essential need in addressing homelessness within Arlington. The community plans on the continuous support of the maintenance and operations of the three emergency shelters and the Day Shelter. This is accomplished through CDBG and ESG funds available from HUD and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

How homeless persons access/receive assistance:

Homeless persons may access the emergency shelter facilities through hotline telephone numbers or by walking in to the facility. Shelter numbers are made available through the Community Resources Directory, the Arlington Housing Authority Office, schools, churches, and other community facilities. Upon entry at each of the shelters, clients must participate in the intake/assessment process, after which they are assigned a personal case manager.

Component: Transitional Housing

Services in place:

Transitional housing is currently available to homeless individuals/households through a number of programs provided by the Arlington Housing Authority (AHA). This includes programs under AHA's 1996 SHP, 1997 SHP, annual Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) funds from HOME, and annual allocation of Temporary Housing Program (THP) slots. Under these programs, homeless households may receive up to two years of rental assistance at scattered sites. Along with rental assistance, clients accepted into the program receive case management from referring agencies or other appropriate case management agency. Case management includes services such as, assistance in budgeting, job training, education training, and counseling.

Services planned:

The community has determined that transitional housing is an integral component of a

successful CoC system. Arlington will maintain its current level of transitional housing available in the CoC system.

How homeless persons access/receive assistance:

Homeless households may access transitional housing through referrals from the three emergency shelters or other homeless service providers such as Tarrant County Department of Human Services, Arlington Police Department, the Community Enrichment Center, and AIDS Outreach Center. Arlington Housing Authority verifies the client's eligibility by conducting a criminal background check and examining income documents. After confirming eligibility, the client meets with the designated housing management officer and obtains a voucher for rental assistance.

Component: Permanent Housing

Services in place:

To date, Arlington has concentrated its efforts on providing suitable and safe emergency shelter care and transitional housing with supportive services to facilitate self-sufficiency among the homeless. Currently, the CoC system does not include a permanent housing component in place.

Services planned:

While this component has not been given a high priority in the past, the community will start exploring options and resources to fill this gap. This includes the city's Housing Division's plans, under the 2000 Consolidated Plan, to conduct a feasibility study for Single-Room Occupancy facility in Arlington.

How persons access/receive assistance:

Not applicable.

Component: Permanent Supportive Housing

Services in place:

Volunteers of America Texas provides permanent housing to disabled individuals and families through the Section 811 program.

Services planned:

Permanent supportive housing has been identified as a high priority through the 2000 Gaps Analysis and discussions within the Arlington Homeless Coalition. The Arlington Housing Authority, as project sponsor, is requesting funds under this 2000 CoC application to implement a new Shelter Plus Care Permanent Housing Project for the disabled population, with case management from the appropriate agencies for support.

How persons access/receive assistance:

Program participants currently work through supportive service agencies to access the permanent housing under Volunteers of America. Although this is typical, it is not a requirement. Many residents who currently receive housing under the Section 811 are self-

referred. Under the new project clients will be assessed by shelter case managers and referred to specific agencies according to the disability of the client. Agencies such as AIDS Outreach Center, Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation-Homeless Services will provide case management and assess the readiness for permanent housing. Once the case managers verify the client's readiness, a referral will be made to the Arlington Housing Authority for rental assistance. Once the Housing Authority confirms eligibility, the client will be able to access a unit through Shadow Brook Apartments.

Component: Supportive Services

Services in place:

A wide range of supportive services is offered to the homeless population in Arlington. Supportive services in the current system to aid the homeless include childcare, transportation, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, dental care, job training, family literacy, assistance with minor car repairs, assistance in obtaining identification, and assistance with obtaining job-related items. The services are all designed to assist in the transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency and are provided through a number of non-profit organizations dedicated to serving the homeless population. Services for the homeless are funded through a combination of CDBG, ESG, and SHP funds, as well as other funding sources of each agency. The following is a list of organizations and services offered.

AIDS Outreach Center (AOC) – AOC provides assistance to those homeless individuals with HIV/AIDS diagnosis. With funds under the 1997 SHP, AOC provides a case manager to conduct assessments/screenings to shelter residents and assist with proper medical care.

Arlington Independent School District (AISD) – AISD provides supportive educational services for homeless school-age children. Along with this, AISD also provides family literacy to households in transitional housing through the 1998 SHP.

Arlington Charities (AC) – AC is a source for emergency food and clothing for very-low income residents and the unsheltered homeless. In addition, the agency assists clients with financial assistance for obtaining driver's licenses, birth certificates, and/or identification, needed when seeking employment. The agency also provides up to \$150.00 to assist with minor car repairs.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Arlington (BGCA) – The BGCA provides transportation from the shelters to schools and from schools to recreational activities and AISD tutoring.

Dental Health for Arlington (DHA) – DHA operates a free dental clinic for very low income and homeless individuals/households. The clinic operates at daily capacity, with clients waiting for treatment from dawn. With the assistance of the 1998 SHP, DHA is able to reserve one day each month to provide dental care to homeless persons. This service is especially important for the CoC system, with many homeless persons having severe dental problems.

Family Service, Inc. (FSI) – FSI provides outpatient mental health counseling, psychiatric assessment for cases of severe mental illness and related prescriptions for very-low income and homeless individuals. With funds from the 1996 SHP, FSI offers outpatient program, with

individual and group sessions to the homeless.

Mission Metroplex (MM) – In addition to operating a Day Shelter (as described in the Emergency Shelter section), MM also provides transportation and childcare to the homeless population. Childcare is provided through the agency's Alpha Childcare Center, a fully licensed facility. The 1997 and 1998 SHP assisted in the expansion of childcare services, to include weekend childcare, childcare for children of transitional housing households, and evening shelter childcare. Transportation services include trips from shelters to schools, jobs, medical, and social service appointments.

Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) – TCADA provides screening and case management to shelter residents with chemical dependency problems. The case managers for this service are funded through the 1996 SHP. TCADA is seeking funds for this service under the 2000 CoC application, through a collaborative project sponsored by Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation-Addiction Services.

Tarrant County MHMR-Addiction Services (TCMHMR-A) – TCMHMR-A provides outreach, case management, inpatient detoxification, and residential treatment for homeless individuals with drug/alcohol abuse problems. TCMHMR-A receives referrals from TCADA case managers, who have assessed shelter clients and determined their need for treatment.

Tarrant County MHMR-Homeless Services (TCMHMR-H) – TCMHMR-H serve the severely mentally ill through outreach, case management, and psychiatric services.

Volunteers of America Texas (VOA) – VOA is a non-profit faith based organization that provides housing for disabled individuals, substance abuse treatment, women and children services, and myriad of other services.

Services planned:

This 2000 CoC application includes projects to continue supportive services to the homeless in Arlington. This includes an expansion in transportation services, substance abuse treatment and case management, mandatory detoxification program, mental illness case management, and education/social training for school-age children. In addition to these projects, the Arlington Homeless Coalition continues to work towards increasing effective services by finding new resources.

How persons access/receive assistance:

Primarily, supportive services may be accessed through the system of referrals between case managers. Case managers at the shelters or other homeless service agencies make referrals for the appropriate services, according to the needs of each client. However, those individuals without case management assistance, such as unsheltered homeless, may receive services by walking-in to the provider's facility.

Movement within the Continuum of Care System

Homeless individuals/households move through Arlington's CoC system through a system of case management and referrals. Designated case managers facilitate the movement of each household by providing referrals to other homeless service providers for appropriate services. Referrals are provided as needed based on the appropriateness and readiness for the service. For example, shelter case managers provide referrals to transitional case managers when a client has demonstrated readiness and willingness to participate in the transitional housing program. This system, which is based on evaluation of the client's progress, increases the potential for successful transition.

Sub-populations	Outreach in Place	Outreach Planned
Veterans	Currently, the Arlington Police Department assists unsheltered veterans through their indirect outreach efforts with local businesses and neighborhood groups.	The 2000 Homeless Survey indicated that 18% of the unsheltered homeless were veterans. The Arlington Police Department has plans to implement a homeless outreach program through a full-time outreach/case worker, which will target all unsheltered homeless including veterans. APD is seeking funds under this 2000 CoC application to assist with this program.
	The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs provides an outreach component for homeless veterans.	The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs will be encouraged to become more active with the Arlington Homeless Coalition's activities.
Seriously Mentally Ill	This group is outreached by caseworkers from TCMHMR-H, who provide outreach and assessment to shelter residents. However, Arlington does not have a outreach component in place for the unsheltered with mental illness.	In addition to shelter residents, TCMHMR-H plans to increase outreach to the unsheltered homeless with severe mental illness. The agency is also requesting funding under this 2000 application to assist with the increased outreach effort.
Substance Abuse	Case managers from TCADA and TCMHMR-A provide outreach and assessment to shelter residents indicating chemical dependency problem.	These agencies have plans to increase their outreach efforts and are applying for assistance under the 2000 CoC application. The Arlington Police Department will also outreach unsheltered substance abuse through their Mandatory Detoxification program, for which assistance is requested under this application.
HIV/AIDS	A case manager from AOC provides outreach/assessment to shelter clients diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.	Current level of outreach is adequate. Plans for future outreach efforts will be discussed through the Arlington Homeless Coalition.

Domestic Violence	Case Managers from The Women's Shelter provide outreach/assessment to their shelter clients, as well as victims of domestic violence residing at the Arlington Night Shelter and The Salvation Army.	Current level of outreach is adequate. Plans for future outreach efforts will be discussed through the Arlington Homeless Coalition.
Youth	Outreach to homeless youth is limited, primarily through the Arlington Independent School District by identifying homeless children in the school system.	The Arlington Independent School District has plans to increase outreach to unsheltered homeless youth through a full-time outreach worker. AISD is requesting funds in the 2000 CoC application to assist with this service.
Other (unsheltered)	Currently, Arlington has a limited amount of outreach to the unsheltered population.	Arlington Police Department has plans to increase outreach to this group through a full-time outreach/case worker.

4. Gaps and Priorities

Gaps Analysis Chart

Please refer to the enclosed Gaps Analysis Chart on page 22. The Gaps Analysis was completed by a professor of Criminal Justice/Criminology at the University of Texas at Arlington, as a part of the homeless survey conducted on April 19, 2000, which is included in Appendix A.

Data Sources and Methods Used to Complete the Gaps Analysis Chart

Beds/Units

The current inventory for emergency shelter beds includes those at ANS, TSAFLC, and TWS. Homeless families utilize 100% (48) of the beds at the TSAFLC and 85% (51) of the beds at TWS. Current estimates indicate that 52% (45) of the beds at ANS are utilized by homeless families. Therefore, the total current inventory of emergency beds utilized by homeless families in the city of Arlington is 144. Specifically, emergency beds utilized by individuals at the ANS and TWS total 51, with 42 of those at ANS and only 9 at TWS.

The estimated need for emergency shelter beds in the city of Arlington is based on the findings of a homelessness survey implemented on April 19, 2000. According to this survey, a total of 370 homeless persons currently reside in the city of Arlington. Of these, there are approximately 169 children. Specifically, families with children constituted 40% of the total homeless population.

The existing inventory for transitional housing is based on the number of units by bedroom size in the SHP allocations of AHA units, CEC single-family units, the ANS duplex unit, and the AHA's Temporary Housing Program units. The total units allocated for individuals were 22; for families, the total units allocated were 59.

The estimated need for transitional housing is based on a homeless study conducted on April 19th, 2000, in the city of Arlington, Texas. According to the findings of this study, it is estimated that

96 transitional housing units are currently needed. It is believed that most of the 81 homeless families and 120 single homeless individuals could benefit from the proposed transitional housing units.

The city of Arlington has no permanent housing units. The findings of the homelessness study suggested that of the 370 homeless persons in Arlington, 105 would benefit from permanent housing. This constitutes 28% of the total homeless population.

Item	Data Source	Method	Date of Data Collection	Street Count x box	Shelter Count x box
Emergency Shelter	Interview/ Homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Transitional Housing	Interview	Enumeration	April 17, 2000		X
Permanent Supportive Housing	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X

Supportive Service Slots

The homeless population in the city of Arlington was asked if they would benefit from job training. Of the 201 adult homeless interviewed, 117 felt that job training would be beneficial and desirable. This constitutes 58% of the total adult homeless population. Furthermore, 60 or 74% of the 81 adults with children felt that job training was desirable.

Case management is also a need among the current homeless population in Arlington. It is estimated that 145 individuals are in current need of case management despite the fact services can, at this time, be rendered to only 84 single persons. In addition, it is held that 186 homeless persons with children are also in need for case management services.

Childcare is a need for homeless families in Arlington. Without the availability of childcare, homeless adults would not have the opportunity to seek or maintain employment, education or employment training, medical care, or other social services. The homeless survey findings indicated that there were approximately 169 children who could benefit from childcare services. It must be noted that children made up 46% of the total homeless population. It can also be assumed that if these children receive childcare services, the guarding parent can be in a better position to receive job training/placement. In fact, of the total adult population of homeless that reported having children, a majority (74%) indicated that they needed assistance in job training.

Despite the fact that only 9% of those surveyed indicated they had been diagnosed with some form of mental illness, it is clear, from comments made by those who implemented the survey, some of the respondents who indicated they did not suffer from mental illness, did in fact suffer from some type of mental disease. This difference may be explained by the fact that some respondents were hesitant to respond to this question in an accurate manner.

It must be noted that the homeless study did not aim at measuring the type of mental illness (e.g., paranoia, schizophrenia) experienced by the homeless population. Overall, it is clear that the number of current mental health care facilities is inadequate in light of the current needs among the homeless population. It is estimated that 2 homeless with children and 16 single adults are in need of mental health care in the city of Arlington.

A total of 145 individuals indicated they were in need of housing placement services. In addition, 109 homeless persons with children stated they needed this type of service. Unfortunately, the current inventory of housing placement services for both individuals and families is not adequate. As it is evident in the Gaps chart, only 42 units are currently available for individuals and families seeking housing placement.

The findings of the homeless study suggested that 117 individuals and 60 persons with families were in need of life skills training. This constitutes 48% of the total homeless population. Despite the obvious need, only 126 units are currently available for life skills training. Thus, there is a current unmet need/gap of 51 units.

Item	Data Source	Method	Date of Data Collection	Street Count x box	Shelter Count x box
Job Training	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 18 & 19, 2000	X	
Case Management	Interview	Enumeration	April 19, 2000		X
Substance Abuse Treatment	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Mental Health Care	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 18 & 19, 2000	X	X
Housing Placement	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Life Skills Training	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 18 & 19, 2000	X	X

Sub-Populations

The estimates for each of the sub-populations outlined below are based on the homelessness study conducted in the city of Arlington on April 19, 2000.

Of the 201 adults surveyed, 53 indicated they had a history of drug and/or alcohol abuse. In addition, among the reported 81 homeless with children, 55 stated that they had a history of drug and/or alcohol abuse.

Persons who reported having a previous history of mental illness constituted 9% of the homeless population. Most of these were males, between the ages of 32-38, non-veterans, did not complete

high school, were not on parole or probation, were not victims of domestic violence, and claimed they were homeless due to unemployment.

Persons who may be classified as having a dual diagnosis are estimated at 3% of the total homeless population. The current inventory of units available for individuals who have been dually diagnosed is 2.

The veteran population constituted 18% of the total homeless population. Most of these individuals had spent the night before the survey was conducted at the local night shelter, had lived in Arlington less than 1 month, received an income of 50-150 dollars per week, did not suffer from mental illness, did not have a history of drug/alcohol abuse, had attended college, and were not on parole or probation.

Of the homeless population, there were only two individuals who reported being HIV positive. Both of these individuals were males with no children in their custody. The current inventory shows that there are no facilities in the city of Arlington designed to address some of the special needs presented by homeless individuals diagnosed as HIV positive.

There are 39 adult victims of domestic violence among the homeless population in Arlington. This constitutes roughly 19% of the total adult homeless population. There are also 84 domestic violence victims among the homeless with children. Overall, most domestic violence victims reported having spent the night before the survey was administered at the local night shelter, had lived in Arlington less than 1 month, received an income of less than 50 dollars a week, did not suffer from mental illness, did not have a history of past of drug and alcohol abuse, had finished high school, were not on parole or probation, and needed permanent housing.

There are 169 children among the Arlington homeless population. This constitutes approximately 46% of the total homeless population. Most of the homeless that reported having children in their custody (48%) spent the night before the survey was conducted at the local night shelter. Of the total population of children, 27% are part of a of one parent family while 22% are under the custody of both parents. Despite this, there are no facilities in the city of Arlington that address some of the special needs the large homeless children population may present.

Item	Data Source	Method	Date of Data Collection	Street Count x box	Shelter Count x box
Chronic Substance Abusers	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Seriously Mentally Ill	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Dually-Diagnosed	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Veterans	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 18 & 19, 2000	X	X
Persons with HIV/AIDS	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 18 & 19, 2000	X	X

Victims of Domestic Violence	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 17 & 19, 2000	X	X
Youth	Interview/homeless survey	Enumeration/cross-sectional cohort	April 18 & 19, 2000	X	X

Process and Rationale for Completing the Relative Priority Column of the Gaps Analysis Chart

The findings produced by the 2000 Homeless Study, conducted on April 19th 2000, suggested that there are numerous needs presented by the homeless population that are not being met. The challenge lies in ranking them, as all of them are important and deserve immediate attention. A ranking system, however, was used in order to prioritize the current needs of the homeless population. "High" priorities were marked among services that currently have an unmet gap of 43-169. "Medium" priorities were assigned to services that have an unmet gap of 8-35, while low priorities were issued with an unmet gap of 0-4.

Continuum of Care: Project Priorities Chart

Please refer to the enclosed Project Priorities Chart on page 23.

Proposed Projects and Gaps in CoC System

1. *Permanent Housing*

Sponsor: Arlington Housing Authority

This is a S+C project to implement Arlington's first permanent supportive housing program to provide housing and appropriate support for disabled homeless persons. This is project-based rental assistance, sponsored by the Arlington Housing Authority, who will administer the rental assistance for eight disabled individuals. The housing will be provided by a local apartment complex with supportive services such as case management provided by AOC, TCADA, and TCMHMR-H. Participants will be referred from one of the emergency shelters, AOC, TCADA, or TCMHMR-H and will live in Shadow Brook Apartments, owned by Central Texas Mutual Housing Association. Currently, Arlington does not have a permanent supportive housing program in the CoC system. Although only eight units, the project will begin to address the gap of housing for the disabled.

2. *Transportation Services*

Sponsor: Mission Metroplex

This is a new SHP project sponsored by Mission Metroplex for expansion of their Transportation Services. Under the current transportation project, funded through the 1996 SHP, Mission Metroplex provides transportation to clients in transitional housing and other homeless clients not served through CDBG funds. This consists of trips to school, jobs, medical appointments, and social service appointments. The current project, under 1996 SHP, has received a one-year extension through February 2001 from HUD. Under the new project, Mission Metroplex will increase their number of persons served through transportation to destinations such as, medical appointments, job interviews, and social service appointments. MM will also assist homeless clients in obtaining personal transportation by covering the cost of title transfers, insurance, inspections, and car repair of donated vehicles. Rather than applying as a renewal, Mission Metroplex has re-structured their project to increase effectiveness. This project will fill the gap created by the 1996 SHP.

3. *Adopt - A - Family Transitional Housing*

Sponsor: Community Enrichment Center

This is a renewal of the 1997 SHP project sponsored by Community Enrichment Center (CEC) for their Adopt-A-Family Transitional Housing Program. Under the 2000 application, CEC requests renewal funds to maintain their current level of 17 houses for homeless families in Arlington. Funds will also be used to maintain and operate the homes and also to provide supportive services such as, case management, childcare, employment counseling, and education counseling. Without the Adopt-A-Family project, Arlington will experience a decrease in transitional housing slots available to the population. This project, with 17 slots, addresses the need to maintain the current level of transitional housing.

4. *Transitional Housing Case Management*
Sponsor: Community Enrichment Center

This is a new SHP project sponsored by CEC to provide Case Management for families living in Transitional Housing. CEC will use SHP funds for one full-time case manager to provide case management services to families in Arlington's transitional housing programs. Under this new project, CEC is replacing the transitional housing case management offered by the Arlington Night Shelter under the 1996 and 1997 SHP. After expenditure of the 1997 SHP funds, Arlington Night Shelter will no longer provide transitional housing case management. CEC will assist new clients and existing families referred by the Arlington Night Shelter. This project fills the gap for transitional housing case management, which will result from the complete use of case management funds under the 1997 SHP by 2001.

5. *Homeless Outreach*
Sponsor: Arlington Police Department

This is a new SHP project sponsored by the Arlington Police Department (APD) to provide outreach to the unsheltered homeless population. To outreach this population, APD will employ one full-time case manager/outreach worker. SHP funds will be used to outreach 70 individuals over three years and assist them with their housing, employment, and social service needs. Outreach has been ranked a high priority in the 2000 Consolidated Plan, as well as among the Arlington Homeless Coalition members. Currently, outreach efforts in Arlington are very limited. This project will assist in addressing the gap of outreach to the unsheltered population.

6. *Transitional Housing Case Management*
Sponsor: The Women's Shelter

This is a new SHP project sponsored by The Women's Shelter to provide case management for women of domestic violence living in transitional housing. SHP funds will be used for one full-time case manager to assess the readiness for transitional housing and case management for those that are referred and accepted. This project, originally a component of the Transitional Housing project of the 1997 SHP, is restructured under the 2000 application to serve more individuals and address the gap that results from use of case management funds in 1997 SHP.

7. *Outreach and Case Management for Mentally Ill*
Sponsor: Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation – Homeless Services

This is a new SHP project sponsored by Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation – Homeless Services to provide outreach and case management for the mentally ill homeless sub-population. SHP funds will be used for one full-time outreach worker to assist 54 individuals. This service is currently a component of the Intensive Case Management project funded by the 1996 SHP, which has received a one-year extension through February 2001. However, under this new project, MHMR-H applies alone as a new project with the intention of increasing outreach and case management efforts. Outreach has been limited in Arlington and this project addresses the need or gap in outreach services.

8. *Transitional Housing Case Management*

Sponsor: Mission Metroplex

This is a new SHP project sponsored by Mission Metroplex to provide case management to individuals/households living in transitional housing. This project replaces the case management component provided by the Arlington Night Shelter under the 1996 and 1997 SHP. SHP funds will be used for three part-time case managers to assist new clients and existing clients from the Arlington Night Shelter. This project fills the gap for transitional housing case management, which will result from the complete use of case management funds under the 1997 SHP by 2001.

9. *Mandatory Detoxification for Public Intoxication*

Sponsor: Arlington Police Department

This is a new SHP project sponsored by the Arlington Police Department to conduct a mandatory detoxification program. APD will contract with Tarrant County MHMR-Addiction Services to enforce mandatory detoxification among third-time homeless offenders of public intoxication. SHP funds will be used to serve 20 individuals with detoxification over the three years. Substance abuse treatment has been identified as a high priority in the 2000 Gaps Analysis and this project addresses the need for detoxification among the homeless population. This project has the potential to be noted as a "best practice," as police departments typically enforce the law as opposed to developing community-based programs.

10. *Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment*

Sponsor: Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation – Addiction Services

This is a new SHP project sponsored by Tarrant County MHMR-Addiction Services to provide comprehensive substance abuse treatment. This project is a collaborative effort between MHMR-Addiction, TCADA, and Family Services to provide detoxification, residential treatment, psychiatric services, counseling, prescriptions, and substance abuse case management to homeless individuals. The original project, funded through the 1996 SHP, has been extended through February 2001. However, the project has been restructured for increased effectiveness and is applying as a new project under the 2000 application. Substance abuse has been determined to be a high priority in the community by the 2000 Gaps Analysis and this project will address the gap in substance abuse treatment.

11. *Students in Transition*

Sponsor: Arlington Independent School District

This is a new SHP project sponsored by the Arlington Independent School District (AISD) to provide outreach, training in social skills, and academic activities for homeless pre-school and school age children. AISD expects to assist 1,200 homeless children using SHP funds over the three-year grant period. The current CoC system has a limited amount of services for the youth sub-population and this project will help address the gap.

Renewals

All three projects under Arlington's 1996 SHP have been extended through February 2001, qualifying them to request renewals under the 2000 application. The three projects under the 1997 SHP expire in 2001, also qualifying as renewals for the 2000 application. However, only one renewal project is requested in the 2000 CoC application, Community Enrichment Center's Adopt-A-Family Transitional Housing Program. Through a recent evaluation of current SHP projects, the Arlington Homeless Coalition has recommended that current projects be restructured to function more effectively and efficiently in the 2000 application. With the exception of CEC's renewal project, all other projects have been restructured and thus qualify under the new project category.

Grant	Project Sponsor	Project	Status
TX21B960401	Arlington Housing Authority	Transitional Housing Project	Extended to 2/2001. Sufficient funds available in 1997 SHP project to maintain transitional housing units.
TX21B960402	Mission Metroplex	Transportation	Extended to 2/2001. Restructured & applying as new project under 2000 application.
TX21B960403	Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse	Intensive Case Management	Extended to 2/2001. Restructured and applying as new project under 2000 application.
TX21B971201	Community Enrichment Center	Adopt-A-Family Transitional Housing Program	Applying as renewal under the 2000 application.
TX21B971202	Mission Metroplex	Childcare	Sufficient funds available under current grant. Expires in 2001, however the project will most likely require an extension.
TX21B971203	Arlington Housing Authority	Transitional Housing Project	Sufficient rental assistance funds available under current grant. However, the case management component funds will be expended prior to the expiration date of February 2001. The case management component has been restructured and three agencies are applying for transitional housing case management as new projects under 2000 application.

Relationship between Project Priorities and Relative Priorities in the Gaps Analysis Chart

In determining the project priorities, the community considered the results of the 2000 Gaps Analysis, as well as the status of current homeless grants and projects. The order of project priorities, as they appear on the Project Priorities Chart, address the gaps and needs of the current CoC system.

In relation to the Gaps Analysis, the Permanent Housing project sponsored by the Arlington Housing Authority addresses one of the largest gaps in the current CoC system, permanent supportive housing. Arlington does not have a permanent supportive housing program in place for the disabled homeless sub-population. Although the funding request is only for eight units, this project will bring the community closer to eliminating the gap in permanent housing.

Although transportation is not evaluated in the Gaps Analysis, transportation is a significant issue in Arlington. Currently, the city does not have public transportation. The lack of public transportation is a barrier to self-sufficiency. Without affordable and reliable transportation, homeless individuals may face difficulties in securing and maintaining employment. Thus, the community has determined transportation to be a high priority in order to reach self-sufficiency. The Transportation Services project, sponsored by Mission Metroplex, will assist with closing the gap in transportation.

The Gaps Analysis assigned a low priority to transitional housing. This is primarily because the Arlington Housing Authority has been successful in securing transitional housing rental assistance funds for the homeless. This does not include the maintenance of the 17 houses under Community Enrichment Center's Adopt-A-Family Program. This program is seeking renewal funds in this application. Maintaining transitional housing slots, including these 17, has been documented as a high priority in 2000 Consolidated Plan. The community has prioritized this project as third, due to the importance of maintaining existing programs.

According to the 2000 Gaps Analysis, case management is also a high priority. This application includes three transitional housing case management projects for different sub-populations. Community Enrichment Center will case manage families in transitional housing. The Women's Shelter will case manage victims of domestic violence residing in transitional housing. Mission Metroplex will case manage individuals and families in transitional housing. Sufficient funds are available to maintain the current level of at least 81 transitional housing slots for the homeless. However, case management funds available through the 1996 and 1997 SHP will be expended in 2001. Case management for transitional housing residents includes services such as, assistance with budgeting, job training, educational training, childcare, and counseling. Without case management services, homeless individuals/households may face difficulties in achieving self-sufficiency after the two year program.

Although not addressed in the Gaps Analysis, outreach to the homeless is a medium priority in the community. This is documented in the 2000 Consolidated Plan. Currently, outreach efforts are limited in Arlington. Outreach primarily consists of referrals from churches, schools, the Arlington Police Department, and non-profit organizations. The community is attempting to increase outreach efforts to the unsheltered population. Funding assistance for two projects in this CoC application will bring the community closer to addressing the need of outreach to the unsheltered. The Homeless Outreach project, sponsored by the Arlington Police Department, and

the Outreach and Case Management for the Mentally Ill, sponsored by TCMHMR-Homeless Services are both aimed at assisting unsheltered individuals/households with emergency shelter and services.

In the Gaps Analysis, the youth sub-population is a high priority. In terms of shelter, this is accurate. Currently, Arlington does not have a homeless youth shelter and the emergency shelters will not accept individuals under 18 without a guardian. However, the Students In Transition project, sponsored by Arlington Independent School District, is a supportive services only project aimed at providing academic and social skills training to homeless youth. Thus, this project has been prioritized as eleven by the community.

According to the Gaps Analysis, substance abuse treatment is a high priority. Two substance abuse projects are included in this application. They are the Mandatory Detoxification for Public Intoxication, sponsored by the Arlington Police Department and the Comprehensive Substance Abuse Program, sponsored by TCMHMR-Addiction Services. While the Mandatory Detoxification project is new, the Comprehensive Substance Abuse project has been restructured from the original project funded through the 1996 SHP. The current substance abuse project, under the 1996 SHP, has been extended through February 2001. However, this is the only substance abuse program in the current CoC system and maintaining this program is important for homeless substance abusers trying to achieve self-sufficiency.

Project Priority Selection Process

To prioritize projects for the 2000 CoC application, the Arlington Homeless Coalition decided to establish a grant review committee. The committee consisted of six individual, two from the city's Housing Division, two from the Arlington Homeless Coalition, and two community volunteers. One volunteer, to serve on the committee, is an assistant for a Texas state representative. Charged with the responsibility of assigning priority numbers to eleven projects, the committee evaluated each project against the Gaps Analysis and the needs of the community. The committee held three meetings and gave equal consideration to each project proposed. All projects were judged on the same criteria: the need for the service, the effectiveness of the program, and the efficiency of the program. Each committee member scored the projects in the three categories and the six scores for each project were averaged, with the highest average constituting the highest project priority. This process ensured fairness in judging each project. Fairness was further ensured though offering each agency technical assistance in developing its project and allowing each agency the same amount of time to submit its project to the committee.

5. Supplemental Resources

Continuum of Care: Project Leveraging Chart

Please refer to the enclosed Project Leveraging Chart on page 24.

Coordination and Integration with Mainstream Programs

Service providers in Arlington integrate homeless services with mainstream programs such as Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program, TANF, and Food Stamps. Case managers at the three emergency shelters, as well as at other homeless service agencies, use these programs

as resources to assist in the transition to self-sufficiency. Obtaining assistance through these programs is usually a part of the case management for homeless clients. Case managers will assist clients in accessing these programs

State Children’s Health Insurance Program

Catholic Charities operates the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for Tarrant County. Through a grant program called TexCare Partnership, Catholic Charities offers health insurance for uninsured children. With the start of this program in March 2000, homeless families in Arlington may apply to receive insurance for their children. This program may be accessed through a case manager referral or by directly contacting Catholic Charities.

Welfare-to-Work Program

The Arlington Night Shelter (ANS) operates a Welfare-to-Work program, called Project Link. The program goal is to decrease the number of TANF Families in the community and foster self-sufficiency among recipients. Under Project Link ANS assists clients that are TANF recipients, lack a high school diploma or GED, have a poor work history, and/or a history of substance abuse. Through this program ANS provides assistance with transportation, childcare, on-the-job training, short-term education, self-esteem classes, medical classes, referrals to other community services, and referrals to employers interested in Project Link clients.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grant

Mental Health/Mental Retardation of Tarrant County provides outreach services to homeless individuals who suffer from chronic and persistent mental illness.

Workforce Investment Act

Not applicable.

Mainstream Resources

Mainstream Resources	Use of Resource in CoC System	CoC Component
CDBG	Annual CDBG allocation is used to support services such as homeless childcare and transportation. CDBG funds are also provided to the three emergency shelters for case management services.	Emergency Shelter Supportive Services
HOME	Annual HOME funds are used to provide rental assistance through the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance program, which homeless individuals/households may access.	Transitional Housing
Section 8	Section 8 voucher program is available in the community through the Arlington Housing Authority. Emergency shelters, as well as other service providers, refer clients to AHA to apply for Section 8 assistance.	
Public Housing	Arlington does not have public housing.	

Other Federal		
State	The city's Housing Division annually applies for Emergency Shelter Grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the maintenance/operations of emergency shelters. Under this program, requests are also made for homeless prevention activities and essential services.	Emergency Shelters Homeless Prevention Supportive Services
City/County	General funds from the city and county government are not available to support service providers. However, the Tarrant County Department of Human Services does provide rental/deposit and/or utility assistance through ESG funds and County funds.	Homeless Prevention
Private	All non-profit homeless service providers, within the CoC, rely on donations from foundations for their operations.	
Foundations	All non-profit homeless service providers, within the CoC, rely on donations from foundations for their operations.	
Other		

6. Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities

Not applicable.

Continuum of Care: Gaps Analysis

		Estimated Need	Current Inventory	Unmet need/ Gap	Relative Priority
Individuals					
Example	Emergency Shelter	115	89	26	M
Beds/Units	Emergency Shelter	78	51	27	M
	Transitional Housing	26	22	4	L
	Permanent Supportive Housing	97	0	97	H
	Total	201	73	128	
Supportive Services Slots	Job Training	117	15	102	H
	Case Management	145	84	61	H
	Substance Abuse Treatment	112	3	109	H
	Mental Health Care	16	7	9	M
	Housing Placement	145	5	140	H
	Life Skills Training	117	68	49	H
	Other				
	Other				
Sub-populations	Chronic Substance Abuse	53	10	43	H
	Seriously Mentally Ill	18	6	12	M
	Dually-Diagnosed	63	2	61	H
	Veterans	37	5	32	M
	Persons with HIV/AIDS	2	0	2	L
	Victims of Domestic Violence	39	4	35	M
	Youth	169	0	169	H
	Other				

Persons in Families With Children

Beds/Units	Emergency Shelter	172	144	28	M
	Transitional Housing	70	59	11	M
	Permanent Supportive Housing	8	0	8	M
	Total	250	203	47	
Supportive Services Slots	Job Training	60	13	47	H
	Case Management	186	74	112	H
	Child Care	169	22	147	H
	Substance Abuse Treatment	22	3	19	M
	Mental Health Care	2	2	0	L
	Housing Placement	109	37	72	H
	Life Skills Training	60	58	2	L
	Other				
Other					
Sub-populations	Chronic Substance Abuse	55	6	49	H
	Seriously Mentally Ill	2	6	0	L
	Dually-Diagnosed	55	0	55	H
	Veterans	14	5	9	M
	Persons with HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	L
	Victims of Domestic Violence	84	38	46	H
	Other				

Continuum of Care: Project Priorities

(This entire chart will only count as one page towards the 25 page limitation)

Applicant	Project Sponsor/ Project Name	Numeric Priority	*Requested Project Amount	Program (Check only one)				
				SHP new	SHP renew	S+C new	S+C renew	SRO new
Example: ABC Nonprofit	ABC Nonprofit/ Sarah's House	1	\$1,026,000	X				
Example: XYZ County	AJAY Nonprofit/ BeeJee's Place	2	\$500,000	X				
City of Arlington	Arlington Housing Authority / Permanent Housing Project	1	\$228,000			X		
City of Arlington	Mission Metroplex / Transportation Services	2	\$89,813	X				
Community Enrichment Center	Community Enrichment Center / Adopt-A-Family Transitional Housing	3	\$120,275		X			
Community Enrichment Center	Community Enrichment Center / Transitional Housing Case Management	4	\$86,625	X				
City of Arlington	Arlington Police Department / Homeless Outreach	5	\$157,500	X				
City of Arlington	The Women's Shelter / Transitional Housing Case Management	6	\$75,600	X				
City of Arlington	MHMR – Homeless Services / Outreach & Case Management of Mentally Ill Homeless	7	\$93,813	X				
City of Arlington	Mission Metroplex / Transitional Housing Case Management	8	\$48,800	X				
City of Arlington	Arlington Police Department / Mandatory Detoxification	9	\$94,500	X				
City of Arlington	MHMR – Addiction Services / Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment	10	\$329,453	X				
City of Arlington	Arlington Independent School District / Students in Transition	11	\$258,675	X				
		12						
		13						
		14						
		15						
Total Requested Amount:			\$1,583,054					

*Please note: The total requested project amount must not exceed the amount entered in the project budget in Exhibits 2, 3 and 4. If the project budget exceeds the amount shown on the priority list, the project budget will be reduced to the amount shown on the priority list.

Continuum of Care: Project Leveraging

(Complete only one chart for the entire Continuum of Care and insert in Exhibit 1. *This entire chart will only count as one page towards the 25 page limitation*)

Project Priority Number	Name of Project	Type of Contribution	Source or Provider	*Value of Written Commitment
3	Example: Sarah's House	Child Care	Spotsville Co. Department of Social Services	\$10,000
1	Permanent Housing Project	Case Management	AIDS Outreach Center Tarrant Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation – Homeless Services	\$228,000
2	Transportation Services	Cash Match	Mission Metroplex	\$21,384
3	Adopt-A-Family Transitional Housing	Cash Match	Community Enrichment center	\$295,332
4	Transitional Housing Case Management	Cash Match	Community Enrichment Center	\$25,000
5	Homeless Outreach	Cash Match	Arlington Police Department	\$48,620
6	Transitional Housing Case Management	Cash Match	The Women's Shelter	\$24,000
7	Outreach & Case Management of Mentally Ill Homeless	Cash Match	Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation	\$22,336
8	Transitional Housing Case Management	Cash Match	Mission Metroplex	\$11,625
9	Mandatory Detoxification	Cash Match	Arlington Police Department Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation-Addiction Services	\$42,498
10	Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment	Cash Match	Tarrant County Mental Health Mental Retardation-Addiction Services Tarrant Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse Family Services, Inc.	\$80,240
11	Students in Transition	Cash Match		\$61,767
TOTAL				\$860,802

**Please enter the value of the contribution for which you have a written commitment at time of application submission.*