



serve together, progress together

South Plains Homeless Consortium, Inc.

BYLAWS SOUTH PLAINS HOMELESS CONSORTIUM, INC. LUBBOCK, TEXAS

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this Corporation is Lubbock Homeless Consortium, DBA South Plains Homeless Consortium, Inc.

ARTICLE II NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

The Consortium is a non-profit corporation as defined in the law of the State of Texas. The Consortium is a network of agencies and advocates interested in addressing homelessness.

ARTICLE III MISSION

The mission of the South Plains Homeless Consortium is to lead the efforts to identify homeless issues and to support the development of community strategies to prevent and end homelessness.

ARTICLE VI PURPOSES

The Consortium exists for the purpose of bringing together a network of agencies and advocates in Lubbock and the South Plains Region through a Continuum of Care plan. To accomplish this, the Consortium will develop a comprehensive, collaborative, and census driven community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people to prevent homelessness and to empower those who are homeless to move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency.

The Continuum of Care plan will identify causes and issues, maintain a database of existing resources, track homeless service access, and identify gaps that exist in meeting the needs of those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The plan will be developed and evaluated annually. The report will be shared with the general public and other entities for the purpose of educating, raising awareness and identifying resources and needs.

ARTICLE V
MEMBERS

Membership is open to all agencies and advocates having an interest in the health and well-being of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Ad hoc members are non-voting members and may serve on a committee due to expertise.

One **voting membership** per agency or advocate will be available for the membership due of \$100 a year beginning January 1 of each year. Dues for new members joining during the calendar year will be prorated for remaining quarters of the year. Packets of information will be distributed by the Membership Committee to new members after the dues are collected and the Membership Form has been processed.

Benefits of **membership** include opportunities to:

- Be involved and informed of current issues at local and national levels
- Network with others who have a common desire to impact homeless issues
- Become aware of more efficient use of limited resources by reducing duplicated services
- Become knowledgeable of specific community services and needs
- Understand the concept of the Continuum of Care
- Receive a letter of support from SPHC to be included with your grant application developed to meet identified needs of the homelessness community
- Be recognized as a SPHC member in good standing
- Have pictures of agency/advocate posted on SPHC website
- Post success stories of your program on the website
- Spotlight your agency/advocate services during a selected regular monthly meeting

ARTICLE VI
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The officers shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer and elected by the voting membership. The Board of Directors shall consist of the four (4) officers and the chair of each standing committee. The standing committee chairpersons will be elected by the voting membership. Officers and chairpersons must be members in good standing.

Officers and committee chairpersons shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee, elected annually by the voting membership at the November meeting and begin serving starting in January.

Terms of officers are for one (1) year with a limit of three (3) consecutive terms in the same elected positions.

The Board of Directors is specifically charged to direct and manage the affairs of the Consortium.

The President shall preside over all regular meetings of the Consortium, as available; and ensure that meeting notices, agendas, calendars, and other duties are carried out as assigned and required by the office.

The Vice President, in the absence of the President, shall preside over regular meetings and perform duties of the President.

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all regular and called meetings, including permanent electronic records and archives.

The Treasurer shall have custody of all the assets of the Consortium, keep financial records, and present financial reports at all regular meetings.

Any officer may be removed from office with two-thirds (2/3) vote by the voting membership whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Consortium would be served thereby.

A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, shall be filled by the voting membership for the unexpired portion of the term at the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE VII NOMINATING COMMITTEE

There shall be a permanent standing committee for the nomination of officers and committee chairpersons. The Board of Directors shall propose a Nominating Committee including a chairperson and not fewer than three members of the Consortium to be approved by the Consortium membership no later than the regular August meeting.

Officers and committee chairpersons shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee at the regular October meeting. The annual election by the voting membership will occur at the regular November meeting. Newly elected officers and committee chairpersons will begin serving in January.

ARTICLE VIII STANDING AND SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEES

The Consortium shall have standing committees that are recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the voting membership. The committee chairpersons shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the voting membership. Committees may include but not limited to Continuum of Care, Membership, Surveys, HMIS, Website, Grant and Public Relations.

The Board of Directors may create select committees for temporary special projects. The committees will function as long as it takes to accomplish the work and bring recommendations to the Board of Directors to review prior to a presentation to the Consortium.

Due to expertise, an ad hoc member (non-voting) may serve on a committee, but not chair the committee.

ARTICLE IX CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Consortium officers and members frequently hold positions, including director level positions, in the agencies of the Consortium. Therefore conflicts may arise between the best interest of the Consortium and professional or personal interest of officers and members. To avoid the perception of any impropriety, the potential conflicts, and/or the existence of conflicts of interest by all participating parties must be acknowledged by all voting members. Board members who have an actual or potential

conflict of interest should not participate in discussions or vote on matters affecting transactions between the Consortium and the other group.

Officers speaking and acting for the Consortium can only speak and act with the permission of the Consortium as stated in a quorum vote.

All official business performed by the officers such as signatures and funds management over \$25.00 can only be performed by the officers with official permission from a quorum vote.

In cases where immediate action must be taken, officers acting for the Consortium must take action with their estimate of the best interest of the Consortium and the other agencies in the Consortium, and must inform the Consortium of those actions at the next meeting.

Members of the Board of Directors shall not receive any financial compensation for their services.

ARTICLE X FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Corporation shall be from the first of January to the end of December.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

The bylaws of this Corporation may be altered or repealed by the voting membership with a vote of the majority present at any regular monthly meeting. Specific notice of proposed changes to the bylaws shall be communicated to each member at least two weeks preceding the vote at the regular monthly meeting.

Any amendment to the bylaws shall become effective immediately upon being approved by the membership.

Any amendments, alterations, changes, additions or deletions from the bylaws made by the membership shall be consistent with the laws of this state which define, limit, or regulate the powers of this Corporation or the directors of this Corporation.

ARTICLE XII NONDISCRIMINATION

The Corporation is an equal opportunity employer and the members, officers, directors, committee members, employees and persons served by this Corporation shall be selected entirely on a non-discriminatory basis with respect to age, sex, race, religion, handicap condition, and/or national origin.

Revised July 2012