



Conference Agenda

2008 Texas Catholic Conference Joint Convening
Poverty and Racism: Through the Lens of
Homelessness, Health, and Child Welfare

Day 1, Afternoon	Health
Day 2, Morning	Child Welfare
Day 2, Afternoon	Homelessness
Day 3, Morning	Faithful Citizenship

MONDAY, April 28, 2008

8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration		
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch		
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Welcome Opening Prayer, Diocese of Beaumont Keynote Address: Texas Medicaid Reform Gentry Woodard, St. Joseph Health System		
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Break		
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	The Common Good? The Impact of Poverty and Racism on Health and Access to Health Care Anne Dunkelberg <i>Center for Public Policy Priorities</i>	Advance Directives Andrew Rivas and Jennifer Carr-Allmon <i>Texas Catholic Conference</i>	"My Health Matters": A Health Self-Management Program for Older Adults Gale Murden <i>Bexar Area Agency on Aging</i> Steve Saldaña <i>Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Antonio</i>
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Break		
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Mass Diocese of San Antonio		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dinner		
7:00 pm	Wine and Cheese Social		

TUESDAY, April 29, 2008

8:00 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast		
8:30 am - 10:00 am	Morning Prayer, Diocese of Lubbock Keynote Address: Disproportionality in Child Welfare Cindy Yost, Child Welfare League of America		
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Break		
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	KIDS COUNT Frances P. Deviney <i>Center for Public Policy Priorities</i>	Finally Home: Adoption Services for Children in CPS Cindy Newton and Barbara Tenbroek <i>Catholic Charities Diocese of Dallas</i>	Racial Disproportionality in Child Welfare: A Best Practice Model Ricki Casterline <i>Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth</i>

Agenda continued on next page.

12:00 p m - 1:00 p m	Lunch		
1:00 p m - 2:30 p m	Afternoon Prayer, Diocese of Fort Worth Keynote Address: The Changing Face of Homelessness in Texas Ken Martin, Texas Homeless Network		
2:30 p m - 3:00 p m	Break		
3:00 p m - 4:30 p m	Creating Havens for Hope: Models for Shelters Robert Marbut, Jr. <i>Haven for Hope Bexar County</i>	The Dynamics of Homelessness Panel Presentation Anthony Love, <i>Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County</i> Rebecca Brune, <i>United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County (invited)</i> Third Panelist TBD	The Threat of Homelessness: Supporting Families, Mobilizing the Community Carolyn Henry <i>Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth</i>
4:30 p m - 5:30 p m	Turning Knowledge into Action Conversations facilitated by Steve Saldana (Homelessness), Jeff Malpiede (Health), Ricki Casterline (Child Welfare)		
5:30 p m - 6:00 p m	Break		
6:00 p m	Bus leaves for night out at La Margarita Restaurant (in Market Square)		

WEDNESDAY, April 30, 2008

8:00 a m - 8:30 a m	Breakfast	
8:30 a m - 10:00 a m	Morning Prayer, Diocese of Austin Keynote Address: Faithful Citizenship Joan Rosenhauer, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops	
10:00 a m - 11:30 a m	Legislative Update and Preparation for 2009 Legislative Session Andrew Rivas and Jennifer Carr-Allmon, Texas Catholic Conference	
11:30 a m	Closing Prayer Departure	

Detailed Agenda

MONDAY

Welcome and Overview of 2008 Annual Gathering

Heather Reynolds, Chair, 2008 CC, CSA, PSM Annual Gathering Planning Committee

Keynote Presentation:

Texas Medicaid Reform

Gentry Woodard, St. Joseph Health System

The healing mission of Catholic hospitals, to be a safety net in every community they serve, reaches out to all in need, especially the poor and the underserved. The creation of a new health care system is one of the greatest challenges facing our state today. It is clear to all that the current patchwork system is broken and that we must find a more effective and efficient way to deliver health care in order to maximize our resources and provide our people with adequate care so that they can live full and productive lives - to be able to serve their faith, their families and their communities. This presentation will assess Texas Medicaid Reform and the highlight the implementation of Senate Bill 10.

Health Workshop Sessions

The Common Good? The Impact of Poverty and Racism on Health and Access to Health Care Anne Dunkelberg, Associate Director, Center for Public Policy Priorities

The Catholic tradition affirms that health care is a basic human right flowing from belief in the sanctity and dignity of human life; yet access to affordable, quality health care is a struggle for millions of Texans. Anne Dunkelberg will present an overview of significant issues in health care and will address the impact of poverty and racism on access to care.

Advance Directives

Andrew Rivas, Executive Director, and Jennifer Carr-Allmon, Associate Director, Texas Catholic Conference

We live in a world in which technology, medicine, and law can make end-of-life issues both controversial and heartbreaking for people who are trying to discern the right thing to do. As Catholics, we seek a dignified death that recognizes the end of one's human existence and respects one's spiritual nature. In this talk, we'll discuss end-of-life issues, including related Catholic teaching, advance directives options, and current legislation.

My Health Matters: A Chronic Disease Self-Management Program to Reduce Health Disparities Gale Murden, Contract/Care Services Coordinator, Bexar Area Agency on Aging, and Steve Saldaña, President/CEO, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Antonio

The growing numbers of older persons with low education and low income place them at higher risk for many chronic diseases. Find out how a partnership with the local area agency on aging is rolling out My Health Matters, an evidence-based Chronic Disease Self-Management Program from Stanford University in Catholic churches across the Alamo region. Learn how this program helps low-income seniors manage their ongoing health concerns, communicate more effectively with health professionals, and improve self-reported health. This cost-effective program is a lay leader model that is easy to implement.

TUESDAY

Keynote Presentation:

Disproportionality in Child Welfare

Cindy Yost, Director, Mountain Plains Region, Child Welfare League of America.

Founded in 1920, the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is the nation's oldest membership-based child welfare organization. Its legislative agenda calls for investments that will improve the lives of all children, particularly those from low-income households and from diverse cultural, ethnic, and racial communities. This keynote address will introduce participants to the vision, mission, and framework for action promoted by CWLA, while focusing on disproportionality in child welfare.

Child Welfare Workshop Sessions:

KIDS COUNT

Frances Deviney, Texas KIDS COUNT Director, Center for Public Policy Priorities

KIDS COUNT is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the U.S. This workshop will present findings from the State of Texas Children 2007 report released in Fall, 2007, which provides the latest look at the well-being of children in Texas and for every county in the state. Information from the report reflects the impact of both poverty and racism on the welfare of children.

Finally Home: Adoption Services for Children in CPS

Cindy Newton, Program Director, Maternity and Adoption Services, Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc., and Barbara Tenbroek, Division Director, Professional Counseling and Children's Services Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.

"Finally Home" is an adoption program provided by Catholic Charities of Dallas under contract with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). The program strives to promote placement of older and special needs children with loving families. This presentation will present data related to the foster care system, and will include information on how to successfully build relationships with DFPS caseworkers and how to develop and implement your own "Finally Home Program" within your own Catholic Charities.

Racial Disproportionality: A Best Practice Model

Ricki Casterline, Director of Child Welfare Programs, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fort Worth

The realities of racism are apparent within the Texas child welfare system, where a disproportionately high number of African American children are removed from their homes, and a disproportionately lower percentage are successfully reunited with their families. This workshop will highlight the Disproportionality Program offered by Catholic Charities of Fort Worth. The program offers Effective Black Parenting™ classes and kinship support groups, and works with African American parents and kinship guardians that are referred by Child Protective Services with the purpose of maintaining permanent kinship placement.

Keynote Presentation:

The Changing Face of Homelessness in Texas

Ken Martin, Executive Director, Texas Homeless Network

The Texas Homeless Network is a statewide membership organization that promotes communication, develops awareness, and formulates strategies concerning statewide issues and problems that require solutions more comprehensive than local efforts can supply on their own. This keynote presentation will provide an overview of homelessness in Texas, including trends and the changing demographics of the homeless population, and will address the impact of racism and racial/ethnic disparities among the homeless population.

Homelessness Workshop Sessions:

Creating Havens for Hope: Models for Shelters

Robert Marbut, Jr., Executive Director, Haven for Hope

The Haven for Hope campus currently under development in San Antonio has been designed as a one-stop center where homeless individuals can access a range of services needed to begin the process of transforming their lives. The planned facility is already being touted as a national model. Our presenter will share his experiences in the planning and development of this model designed not just to provide basic survival needs, but to resolve the root causes of homelessness.

The Dynamics of Homelessness

Panel Presentation: Anthony Love, President/CEO, Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, Inc.; Rebecca Brune, Director of Family Self-Sufficiency, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County (invited); Panelist TBD

Current efforts to reduce homelessness have recognized that homelessness is not a one-dimensional issue, and that effective responses must address the multiple root causes. This panel presentation will include a conversation about the multi-dimensional aspects of homelessness and the implications for planners, advocates, and providers.

The Threat of Homelessness: Supporting Families, Mobilizing the Community

Carolyn Henry, Vice President of Special Initiatives, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fort Worth

Remarkably, many plans to address homelessness begin with the individual or family who is already homeless, and address "prevention" as preventing a return to homelessness. As service providers and advocates for justice, we recognize that the best way to reduce homelessness is to prevent it from happening in the first place. This workshop, designed to affirm the work of basic needs providers, will focus on the role of basic needs providers in preventing homelessness, and of the importance of collaborating with other organizations to maximize effectiveness.

Keynote Presentation:

Faithful Citizenship

Joan Rosenhauer, Coordinator, Special Projects, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

"Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States" was issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in November, 2007. This keynote presentation will provide us with an overview of the key principles outlined in the document and of our responsibilities as faithful citizens.

Presentation:

Legislative Update and Preparation for 2009 Legislative Session

Andrew Rivas, Executive Director, and Jennifer Carr Allmon, Associate Director, Texas Catholic Conference

Our closing session will provide an overview of anticipated issues to be addressed in the 81st session of the Texas Legislature and the legislative priorities of the Texas Catholic Conference. Information shared will lay the foundation for our advocacy work and advocacy day at the Legislature in 2009.

Registration Form

22nd Annual Gathering CC, CSA, PSM
April 28-30, 2008

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY (This information will be used for nametags)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

(Arch)Diocese: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Your Ministry Catholic Charities PSM Social Action/Advocacy
 Other - please indicate: _____

Registration and Room Reservation

Oblate Renewal Center has a limited number of rooms. Rooms are reserved on a first come-first serve basis.

Single Two Nights.....	\$210/per person	\$ _____
Double Two Nights.....	\$200/per person	\$ _____
Commuter Rate.....	\$150/per person	\$ _____
One Day Commuter Rate.....	\$ 50/per person	\$ _____
Tuesday Night Dinner Reservations.....	\$ 40/per person	\$ _____

Total \$ _____

Name of Roommate (if applicable) _____

Do you require barrier-free accommodation? Yes No

Special dietary requirements (vegetarian, diabetic, etc.) _____

Select Workshops

Health (circle one)	The Common Good? The Impact of Poverty and Racism on Health and Access to Health Care	Advance Directives	"My Health Matters": A Health Self-Management Program for Older Adults
Child Welfare (circle one)	KIDS COUNT	Finally Home: Adoption Services for Children in CPS	Racial Disproportionality in Child Welfare: A Best Practice Model
Homelessness (circle one)	Creating Havens for Hope: Models for Shelters	The Dynamics of Homelessness	The Threat of Homelessness: Supporting Families, Mobilizing the Community

Payment for Registration and Room Reservation must be paid in full. NO REFUNDS will be issued.

**Please send registration form and fees to: Texas Catholic Conference
1625 Rutherford Lane, Building D
Austin, TX 78754**