

CAN Community Council
 2011 Summary of Findings and Recommended Key Areas of Focus

Overarching Finding: Funding should be tied to outcomes that reduce social costs while increasing tax revenues.

Date	Topic	Presenters	Key Findings
Jan	Dashboard Highlights 2010		
Feb	Barriers to Educational Success for Single Moms	ACC / Jeremiah Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crucial barriers are child care, safe housing, and transportation, in order of influence • Additional needs include peer support, tutoring, mental health counseling, and parenting classes • 93% of the single parents served by the ACC Support Center stayed in school from the fall to spring semesters; the persistence rate was 63% for ACC students at-large. • 60% of families living in poverty are single parents (48% single mothers, 12% single fathers) • <u>Action 2012</u>: support workforce and education programs specifically designed for single parents including wrap around services with housing, child care, transportation, and counseling.
Mar	Early Education	E3 / Success by 6 / AISD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The educational gaps that exist in kindergarten often persist throughout a student's education. • Texas has the fastest growing (0-5) child population in the country, and the Central Texas child population is growing at twice the state rate. • Not investing now will be more expensive later, in lost productivity and tax revenue as well as costly interventions. • 48% of children are not kindergarten ready; TX has no standard for kinder-readiness. • Students who participate in pre-k are more kindergarten ready than those who do not. Among economically disadvantaged students, 12% of those with no pre-k were kinder-ready, whereas 42% who participated in pre-k were kinder-ready. • <u>Action 2012</u>: Complete funding strategy for full day Pre-K. • <u>Action 2012</u>: Parenting classes, online and library resources, along with mentor and peer support groups.
April	Career Training	AISD / ACC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most living wage jobs need completion of secondary education. • AISD and ACC are currently working together for college and career prep programs. • AISD career and technical programs are mostly funded by state. • <u>Action 2012</u>: Seek private industry partners for career training, including funding, curriculum, and internships.
May	Deliberation		
June	Health & Behavioral Health	ATCIC / Central Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobacco causes more deaths than AIDS, crack, heroin, cocaine, alcohol, car accidents, fire, suicide and murder combined. • Highest rate of smokers are lower social-economic demographic without secondary education. • Cessation brings business rewards in return of productivity and lower health insurance rates. • <u>Action 2012</u>: Promote workplaces to be smoke free and increase awareness of free cessation

			<p>programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.8% of the Texas population is veterans. • <u>Action</u>: Connect vets and families to available services. • 79% of uninsured Texans work or have a working household member. • 70% of Texas employers are small businesses of less than 50 employees, and only 37% of small employers offer health insurance benefits. • <u>Action</u>: Create, if non-existing, and educate the public about individual and small business health care plans. • <u>Concern</u>: Shortage of health care workers. <u>Action</u>: Support creation of a local medical school.
July	Connecting to Resources	Central Health / United Way 2-1-1/ Capital Area Food Bank / Catholic Charities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued need for streamlining eligibility determination for public assistance programs • 2-1-1 effective as referral clearinghouse • <u>Action</u>: Collect data to evaluate the enrollment rates of people who are referred and screened for programs.
Aug	Housing	HousingWorks / ECHO / NHCD / Center Sustain. Dev.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48% of Travis County households are renters, almost half of which are housing cost-burdened. • 92% rental occupancy rate. • One quarter of owner occupied are housing cost-burdened. • 1998 median home sale 130K, 2008 median home sale 245K, while median income has dropped 7K in this same period. • The market is not creating affordable housing through the city, therefore social commitment is needed. • Housing continuum across the city is needed to avoid economic segregation and to reduce traffic and air pollution. • <u>Action</u>: Retool development regulations to encourage a continuum of housing stock.
Sept	Small Business Develop.	Austin SBD / Hispanic Chamber of Commerce / PeopleFund / BIG Austin / AIBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of businesses in Austin employ less than 20. • Austin has twice the national rate of start-up companies. • 4 of the top 10 Hispanic markets are in Texas. • Local businesses have excellent retention. • Health care costs and access to capital (bank financing) are the two largest obstacles for small business creation and expansion. • <u>Action</u>: Create and promote small business health care plans without minimum length of time without coverage and greater range of employees for qualification. (TexHealth, 12 month no coverage, 2-50 employees only.) • <u>Action</u>: If national banks are failing in small business financing, create local solutions.
Oct	Sustainability Deliberation	Central Texas Sustainability / Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy, Equity, Environment = Sustainability • Development sprawl is not sustainable due to higher infrastructure and service costs. • Density and multi-family properties are part of the Imagine Austin Plan.