

Austin Homelessness Outreach Street Team and the Sobriety Center



Agenda

1. Partnership Proposal
2. Opportunity - Bloomberg Philanthropies Grant
3. Preparation meets Opportunity - Homelessness Outreach Street Team
4. Partnership Rationale - Compatibility with Sobriety Center
5. Benefit - Collaboration with the Community
6. Future Vision - Innovative Collaboration
7. Suggested next steps

Partnership Proposal

Seeking partnership for use of the 3rd floor of the Sobriety Center to for the Homelessness Outreach Street Team

Seeking agreement to identify this partnership as a matching grant commitment to the Bloomberg Innovation Team grant when it goes before City Council to amend the budget

Bloomberg Philanthropies Grant

- Selected Austin as one of 7 cities with a demonstrated commitment to designing and delivering bold solutions to complex problems
- Awarded Austin up to \$500,000 annually for up to three years to fund an innovation team to increase capacity to address the Mayor and City Council's priority focus on ending homelessness.
- Will work closely to support Austin community partners—offering them a different set of tools and techniques:
- Build empathy for the people impacted by the problem as a way of understanding the problem
- Co-create and test solutions that deliver meaningful results for community

HOST is a multi-agency team proactively
deploying downtown to meet needs of
people living on the streets.

2 Austin Police officers

1-2 EMS community health paramedics

3 Integral Care behavioral health specialists

1 Downtown Austin Community Court case manager

Supported by Downtown Austin Alliance

Average Daily Public Cost



Permanent
Supportive
Housing



\$20

Shelter



\$96

Day in
Jail



\$152

Jail
Booking



\$876

EMS
Transport



\$1,400

Emergency
Room Visit



\$4,800

Inpatient
Hospital Day

Optimum use of Resources

What we are learning from EMS's Community Health Paramedic Program:

Goal

- Prevent the individuals from reaching a point where the 9-1-1 system is their only option by...
- Collaborating with resources to develop comprehensive solutions to...
- Connect individuals to resources that benefit their well being

Approach

- Recognize that unconventional individuals have needs that require unique solutions
- Consider alternative measures in developing a solution
- Collaborate to streamline efforts and provide swift, effective solutions

Target

- Frequent system users
- Vulnerable individuals at risk of deteriorating
- Provide additional system response resource



AUSTIN-TRAVIS COUNTY
EMS

Partnership Rationale

Compatibility of Efforts

HOST

Sobriety Center

Reduce police processing time



Increase jail capacity for holding serious criminals



Open pathway to recovery instead of jail



Connect to opportunities for long term treatment



Provide triage, connect to support services



Build rapport to help support clients



Identify & close gaps exist in continuum of care



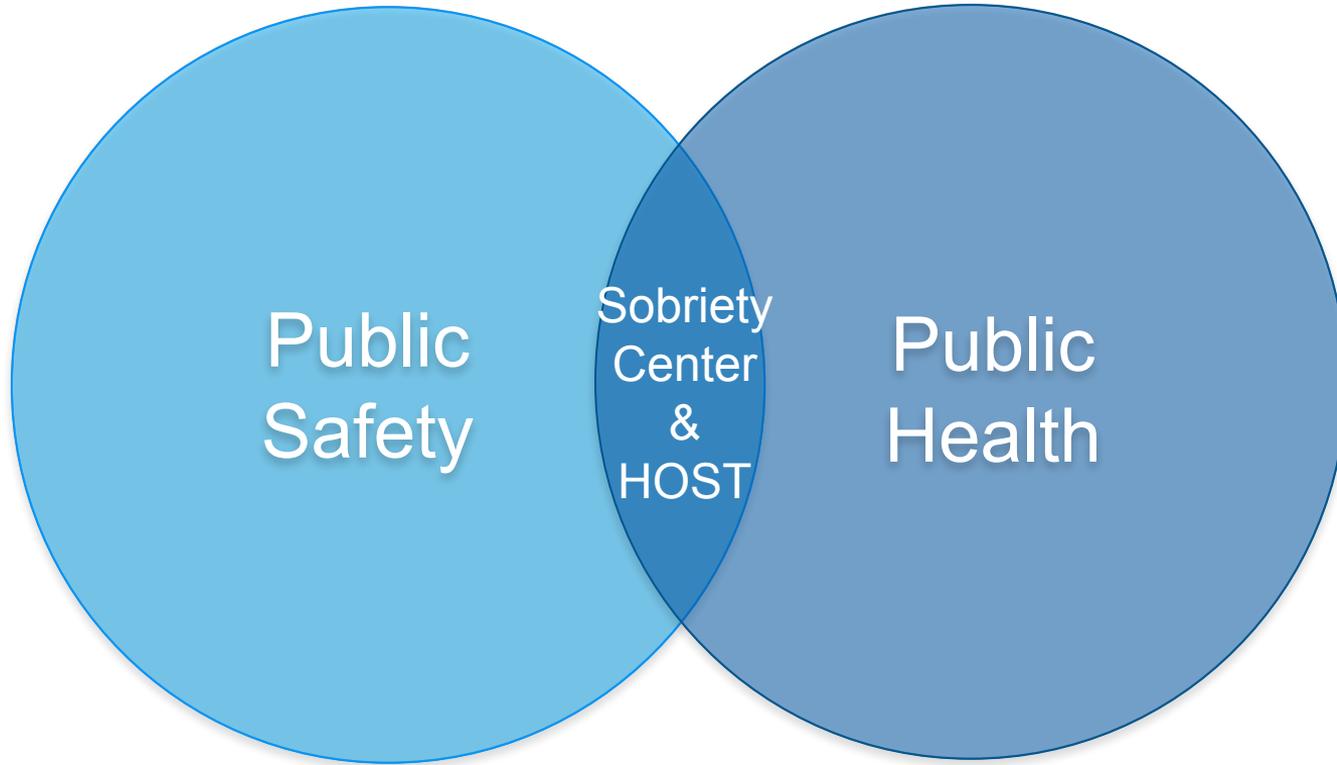
Benefits

Collaboration with the Community



Photos courtesy of Downtown Austin Alliance

Solving for the “in-between”



With service providers...

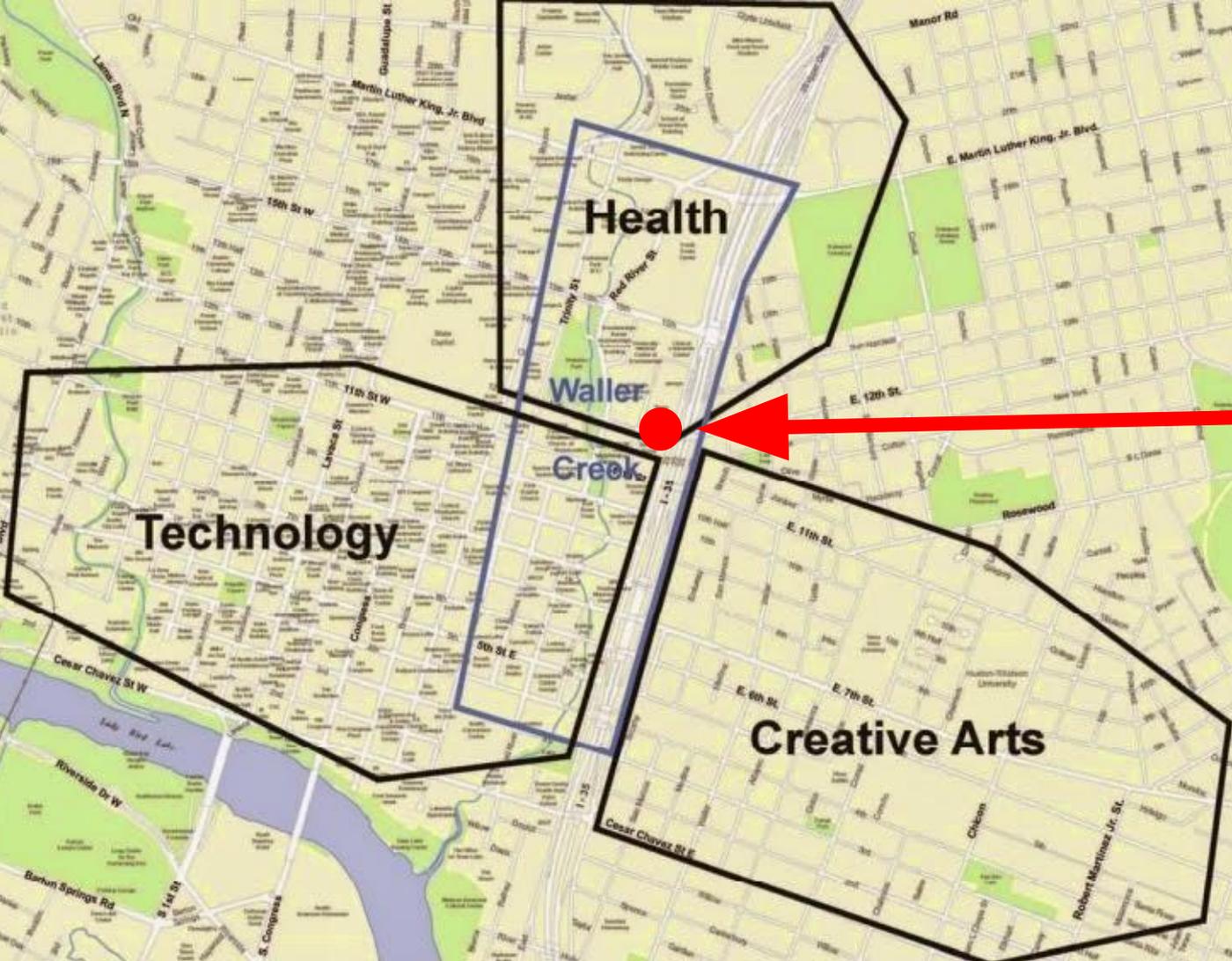
Working at the intersection of public safety, health, and social services, the innovation teams solve for *how might we...*

- Enable the better use of existing resources?
- Solve for including those with lived experience?
- Create shared understanding through community engagement?
- Solve for data and technology needs?
- Learn from the Dell Medical School's integrated teams approach?

Austin's Innovation Zone

Sobriety Center is at
the node of Health
and Technology
Innovation...

What if there was an
innovation lab
looking at the social
determinants of
health and safety?



Suggested Next Steps

1. Resolution declaring co-location of HOST on the 3rd floor of the Sobriety Center as intended to be an in-kind match for the Bloomberg Grant
2. Request for Council Action to amend budget to accept Bloomberg Grant
3. HOST and Bloomberg Innovation Team temporarily locate with Downtown Austin Alliance

“We’re asking cops to do too much in this country. We are. We just ask of us to do too much. Every societal failure, we put it off on the cops to solve. Not enough mental-health funding. Let the cop handle it. Not enough drug-addiction funding. Let’s give it to the cops...Policing was never meant to solve all those problems, and I just ask for other parts of our democracy, along with the free press, to help us.”

- *Dallas Police Chief David Brown July 11, 2016*

If helpful - learnings from HOST

System Gaps

Failure of a connection point or an intervention; a disconnect between clients' needs and delivered services

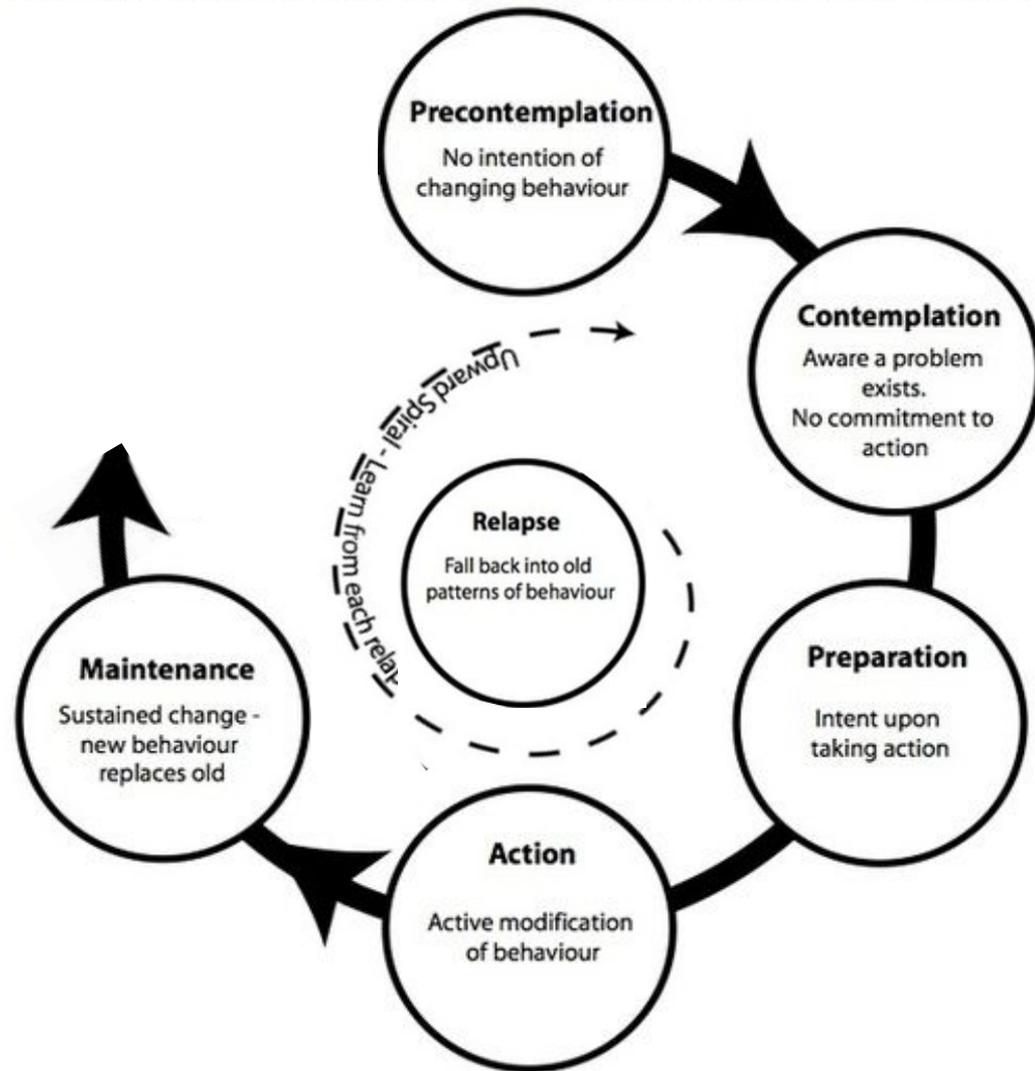
- Mental Health Services
- Jail entry/release
- Medical Services
- Detox & substance treatment

Cycle of change

A nonlinear process of overcome personal and social hurdles to make changes in daily life

Barriers include:

- Mental illness
- Trauma
- Substance dependency
- Lack of positive social support
- Distrust in others



Connecting to Continuum of Care

- “Be on the lookout” for service and housing providers who are looking for clients
- Creating more seamless hand-offs with community partners and services
- Immediate connection to resources when clients are ready to act