



2019-2021 OFFICERS

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June 24, 2021

Dear Agency and Corporate Members,

The Executive Board has been monitoring the continuing impact of COVID-19 on human services agencies. Many states remain on travel restrictions and are facing large budget reductions in the near future. With these impacts in mind, the Executive Board has decided it will not be possible to host the 2021 Annual Conference in San Antonino, Texas.

As in 2020, the Board didn't come to this decision lightly. Worries of attendance levels at the conference are the leading concern; as well as a plan to maintain a safe environment for all attendees. However, GREAT NEWS, the Sheraton-Gunter hotel in San Antonio has agreed to host the 2022 annual conference. We look forward to seeing everyone August 7th through August 11th, 2022.

The Board is going forward with a plan to improve HSFO during a second consecutive business year of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. These improvements will include by-law updates to allow for virtual attendance at conferences, trainings and business related purposes. We will also continue to explore virtual trainings and a state to state communication platform.

The Board will have the following action items for the year with the cancellation of the annual conference:

- Memberships will rollover from the 2019-2020 HSFO business year. We will not be requesting payments from any agency/organization during the 2021 business year from members who paid in 2019.
- Continued plans for virtual training opportunities.
- Arrangement of a fall planning meeting in the month of December 2021 to prepare for the 2022 conference and other future events.
- Analyze and monitor the financial impacts to the organization.

Sincerely,


Jesse Bratton
President

cc: Tara LeBlanc, Vice President
Chris Smith, Secretary
R. Demetrius Taylor, Treasurer
Christal Kelly, Historian and Program Chair
Past Presidents