

Social Welfare Leader
Dan Straughan, M. Ed.

A lifelong resident of central Oklahoma, Dan was born and raised in Oklahoma City and currently lives in Norman. He attended Putnam City Schools and got both his degrees from the University of Oklahoma.

Dan spent ten years as a manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of Oklahoma City before joining United Way in 1997 as Vice President for Agency Relations, Allocations and Community Investment. While at United Way, Dan also served as Director of Success by Six: A Central Oklahoma Partnership for Children, was chair of Oklahoma Kids CareNet, and was Executive Director of Central Oklahoma Turning Point. Dan also managed public sector campaigns at United Way, the allocations and community investment process, and the research and convening function.

Dan became the founding Executive Director of the Homeless Alliance in 2004 to build the community's capacity to better care for the homeless. The Alliance has developed and implemented a networked computer database that allows agencies serving the homeless to share data on clients, developed and implemented community standards for homeless shelters, developed a free, bus-based transportation system for the homeless that carries 100 riders/day, and developed the WestTown Homeless Resources Campus, a "one-stop shop" covering a city block with a day shelter serving 250 homeless people daily and a resource center filled with comprehensive services available for the homeless and those at-risk of homelessness. In January, 2013, Dan and his partners in the 100,000 Homes OKC Campaign brought the Housing First model to Oklahoma City. In two years, the model housed more than 300 chronically homeless people.