



COALITION
FOR THE
HOMELESS

LEADING
OUR
COMMUNITY
HOME
SINCE 1982

WELCOME ONBOARD!

FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

On June 30, my two-year tenure as chair of the Coalition for the Homeless board of directors ended, and my friend and community leader Troi Taylor succeeded me.

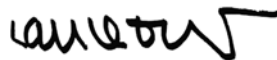
Like I did, Troi will find service to the Coalition as chair to be a source of great pride. Nationally recognized for our best practices, especially in engaging and decommissioning encampments, the Coalition excels in ensuring that homelessness in Houston and throughout Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery Counties is brief, rare, and non-recurring.

During my tenure, our team at the Coalition worked alongside our partners of The Way Home to provide safe, secure housing for more than 6,100 Houstonians who, but for the Coalition's and our partners' engagement, would likely still be experiencing homelessness.

The Coalition's success, well underway prior to my tenure, reflects the spirit of Houston: a city where failure is not an option and collaboration is a value, not an act.

In our last fiscal year, the Coalition led coordination with the City of Houston, Harris County, and State of Texas that resulted in an investment of more than \$90.3 million toward ensuring that those in our community who are most vulnerable are provided with housing and supportive services to help them regain stability.

I look forward to continuing my service as a board member at the Coalition under Troi's leadership. Like my fellow board members, I recognize that notwithstanding our Coalition's best efforts, we cannot end homelessness. We can, however, work endlessly and tirelessly to ensure everyone in our community has a safe place to call home.



Lance Gilliam, outgoing board chair
Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County
Lead Agency to The Way Home Continuum of Care

OUR MISSION

The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County acts as a catalyst, uniting partners and maximizing resources to move people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing with supportive services.

OUR VISION

Everyone in our community has a safe place to call home.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO

This was a remarkable and historic year for the Coalition for the Homeless and The Way Home:

- Almost 3,000 people were placed in permanent housing — with rental subsidy and professional case management — thanks in part to additional funding made available through the Community COVID Housing Program (CCHP).
- Harris County, the City of Houston, and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs committed a total of \$100 million for Phase 2 of the CCHP.
- Our community's annual funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grew to \$45.2 Million.
- Our community earned a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant of \$10 million.
- Our Encampment Strategy allowed us to decommission 50 encampments and house approximately 200 people. The Strategy was cited by HUD as a national best practice.
- Our other initiatives — such as growing income for the system's clients; our work with The Harris Center, the local mental health authority; our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion; our advocacy strategies; and our landlord engagement programs — also matured and progressed.
- The Coalition's board and the Steering Committee of The Way Home selected outstanding leaders — Troi Taylor and Barbie Brashear, respectively — showing strength and stability.



With these successes — and those of the past decade, since the formation of The Way Home — we were put under a national spotlight. The thorough and thoughtful article in *The New York Times* highlighted our community's success and prompted leaders from across the country to call on Houston.

An op-ed published in *The Los Angeles Times* asked, "What can Houston teach Los Angeles about solving homelessness?" The author suggested that Houston succeeded because of scale, pragmatism and organization. That is accurate, but there are additional and perhaps more important reasons for our success: collaboration and people.

To all the individuals and public and private organizations that have given their time, talent and treasure to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring: thank you.

Mike Nichols, President and CEO
Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County
Lead Agency to The Way Home Continuum of Care

OUR HISTORY

Founded in 1982 and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 1988, the Coalition has a long-standing history as a leader of the local homeless response system.

In 2022, we celebrated our 40th anniversary year.

For every \$1 raised for operating expenses, the Coalition secured more than \$47 in public funding for our community to address homelessness. Under the Coalition's leadership, since 2011 there has been a 63% decrease in homelessness in the Houston region, and more than 25,000 people have been placed into permanent housing programs.



TAKING FLIGHT

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Consider air travel.

There are the airlines that provide services to their customers — like United, Delta, and Southwest.

Then there are the behind-the-scenes operations of the airport itself — all the teams and departments that help the process run smoothly, that customers might not think about as much, but are equally as important to get passengers safely to their destination.

Now apply the analogy to homelessness.

If someone is making the journey from homelessness to housing, the direct service providers are like the airlines that interact with them the most closely and help them along the way. Agencies like the more than 100 direct service provider partners of The Way Home.

The Coalition for the Homeless is like the airport. We run the behind-the-scenes processes that help direct service programs move people from homelessness to housing!

All partners working together to facilitate the entire journey from homelessness to housing — that's The Way Home.

THE WAY HOME

The Way Home is the collective effort to prevent and end homelessness in Houston and throughout Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties, Texas. The Way Home is made up of more than 100 partners from all areas of the community, including homeless service agencies, local governments, public housing authorities, the local Veterans Affairs office, and other nonprofits and community stakeholders. The partners of The Way Home work together to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring in Houston's region. The Coalition for the Homeless is the Lead Agency to The Way Home.

UPWARDS & ONWARDS

BUILDING SYSTEM CAPACITY

A crucial function of the Coalition is to build capacity — not just for the organization, but for our entire homeless response system. We increase the capacity of the system and individual partners to get people experiencing homelessness off the streets, out of shelters, and into permanent housing.

IN FY 22, THE COALITION ATTRACTED **\$90.3 MILLION** IN PUBLIC FUNDING FOR HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE TO HOUSTON.



ADVOCATING FOR HOUSING

The Coalition works with local governments and housing developers to advocate for the building of additional Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) apartment units.

387

New PSH apartment units in development

114

PSH apartment units now on the market



ENGAGING LANDLORDS

The Coalition's landlord engagement team builds and fosters new relationships with property managers in the private rental market who are willing to rent apartments to people exiting homelessness.

2,846

Units identified

539

New properties onboarded



HELPING OUR PARTNERS

The Coalition offers training to partners of The Way Home so that they can learn and implement best practices for optimal performance and compliance and also runs local competitions for federal funding and other critical system functions.

88

Income-related trainings offered

30

Sessions held for the 2021 HUD annual funding competition



"We are a relatively young organization, and we have gotten a tremendous amount of support from the Coalition staff in our efforts to serve at-risk and homeless youth. In applying for federal funding, we have been well supported in everything we've done. Staff have been available, accessible, supportive, and encouraging in the work. The process has really been to help us, to make sure we're getting the resources we need. The Coalition staff really help you all the way through to a solution. We appreciate it so much."

SHUN C. JOHNSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, TLC HEALTH & WELLNESS



45

Projects connected to “barrier busters” to help people get housed



35

New partner agencies engaged with The Way Home to coordinate the delivery of services to those in need



450

Volunteers coordinated for the annual Point-in-Time Count & Survey, which allows us to identify trends in homelessness over time and adjust programs



GUIDING THE SHARED STRATEGY

Facilitated by the Coalition, the Steering Committee guides the work of The Way Home and has authority over the planning and deployment of public funds to address homelessness in our community.

6

New at-large representatives onboarded, representing the sectors of health, housing advocacy, faith, philanthropy, Veterans Affairs, and client engagement

4

New fixed-seat representatives onboarded, representing the Houston Housing Authority, Harris County, the City of Houston, and the City of Pasadena



“The Coalition staff have been a great resource in helping us know how to best serve individuals experiencing homelessness as we navigate helping them find work. It would be much more difficult for us to serve individuals experiencing homelessness without the Coalition because we wouldn’t have the same access to resources, information, relationships and partnership connections.”

BOBI COOK, EDUCATION & SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD



SECURING INCOME

The Coalition income team works with partners of The Way Home to connect clients to employment opportunities — and identify other sources of income for clients who are not able to work.

648

Clients supported during their job search by Income Now and Workforce Solutions through training, childcare, transportation, clothing, and more

98%

Average increase in income for female clients

51%

Average increase in income for male clients

177

Clients connected to employment through the new CCHP Income Support Program, a partnership with Career and Recovery Resources, Inc.

731

People connected with case managers dedicated to helping them access their Social Security and disability benefits



“The Uprise Enterprise Supportive Employment Program employs people who are often considered ‘unemployable’ to give them a chance to have a job, maintain housing, and give back to the community and our neighbors. This could not have happened without the willingness of the Coalition to support this innovation by securing funding.”

KELLY YOUNG, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CAREER AND RECOVERY RESOURCES, INC.





ADAPTING FOR YOUTH

The Coalition youth team oversees the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP). Currently, our homeless response system is largely adult-focused and, as a result, doesn't reach or house all eligible youth and young adults. The YHDP gives our community an unprecedented opportunity to expand available youth-centered housing and supportive services.



13

Youth or young adults with lived experience serve on the Youth Action Board (YAB) and developed a Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) to end youth homelessness

56

Meetings regarding youth and young adult homelessness

\$20

Hourly YAB wage

“Before coordinated access, we had to call around to our community partners. Now we can expedite finding people for those empty units, and we can get people housed faster.”

ERIKA WISE, SENIOR DIRECTOR OF EXTENDED SERVICES
STAR OF HOPE MISSION



MAKING THE CONNECTION

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

As a systems leader, the Coalition manages vital projects and behind-the-scenes work so that direct service providers can continue to focus on daily service delivery to people experiencing homelessness in our community.



MOVING PEOPLE INTO HOUSING

The Coalition's housing team coordinates across agencies and handles the necessary, behind-the-scenes steps that help get people into housing.

2,992

People housed
by partners of
The Way Home



NAVIGATING THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

The Coalition administers Homeless Court, which gives people experiencing homelessness the opportunity to rectify outstanding minor legal offenses without paying a fine or going to jail.

1,335

Cases resolved in
Homeless Court





LEADING THE WAY FROM ENCAMPMENTS TO HOUSING

The Coalition's outreach team has been a crucial partner to the City of Houston and Harris County in holistically decommissioning encampments through housing and in developing and implementing the housing strategy, operationalizing it, and integrating it among our partners. The strategy is now nationally recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development!

Our encampment decommissioning outreach team facilitates the complex strategy, while also providing ongoing training, project management, and technical assistance to regular outreach teams. In addition to managing outreach at a system level, our outreach team also meets some of the immediate needs of people living unsheltered.

50

Encampments decommissioned in collaboration with partners of The Way Home

202

Clients housed from encampments

270

Individuals obtained identification necessary to secure permanent housing

32

Pets received food, supplies, and veterinary care



"The Coordinated Access team has been and continues to be a tremendous help to our Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) and Substance Use Disorder Outreach Program (SUDOP). [...] Our collaboration and partnership offers

us the opportunity to better serve the homeless population. Without our collaboration and partnership, we would not have a reduction in homeless individuals living on the streets."

OMAR SESAY, DIRECTOR, PATH, THE HARRIS CENTER



DISTRIBUTED

530 Sleeping bags and blankets

9,504 Bottles of water

500 Snack packs

450 Hygiene kits



MANAGING THE HOUSING TRANSITION

Funded by the City, the navigation center is a place where people leaving encampments can stay short-term while they wait for housing. It's low-barrier, more flexible, by referral only, and focused on permanent housing as the outcome.

When housing isn't immediately available, the Coalition's outreach team works with partners to move people from encampments into the navigation center, run by partner Harmony House, and the housing team helps them transition into permanent housing.

76

People housed
from the
navigation
center



COORDINATING ACCESS TO HOUSING

The Coalition leads Coordinated Access (CA) on behalf of the system. It's the first step toward housing. CA ensures that all individuals experiencing homelessness receive the same housing assessment and are placed on the same "wait list," prioritized by their vulnerability.



18,662

Calls made to the
CA intake line*

1,386

Housing
assessments
completed

10

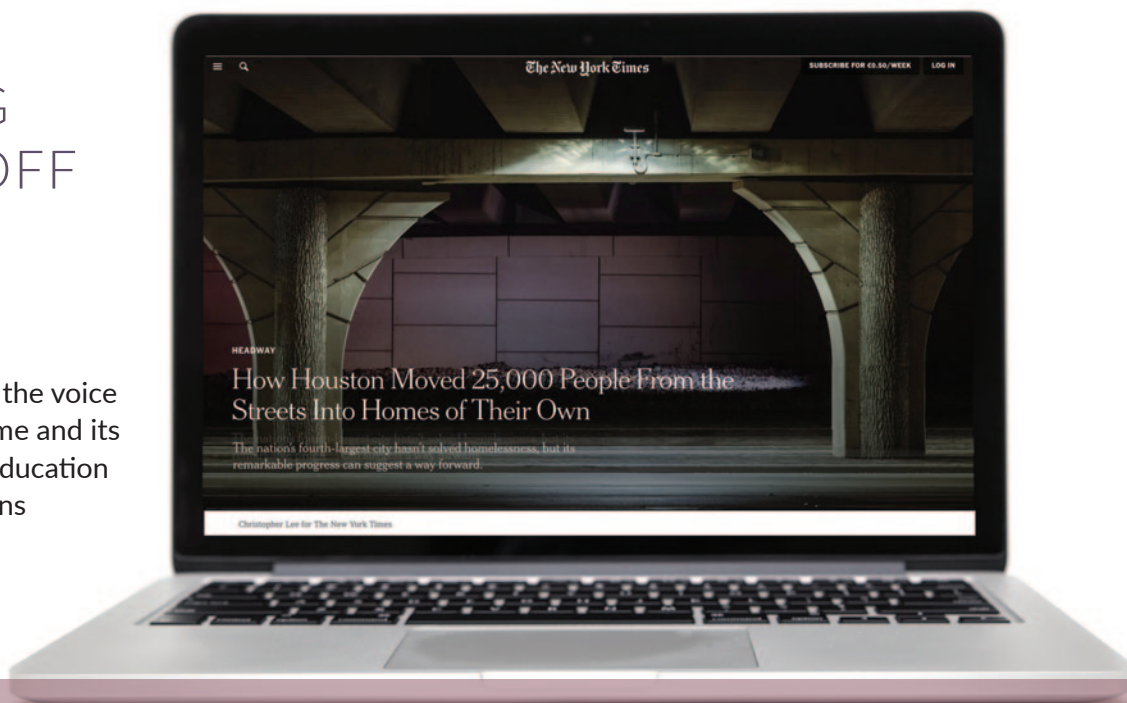
Hospitals
partnered
with CA

* Call data available from October 7, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

PREPARING FOR TAKEOFF

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

The Coalition serves as the voice of and for The Way Home and its clients through public education and government relations activities.



TELLING OUR STORY

The Coalition educates key stakeholders including elected officials, members of the media, and the general public about the real causes of — and solutions to — homelessness and builds empathy for people experiencing homelessness in our community.

300

attendees, in-person and virtual, to the inaugural State of Homelessness event, featuring Jeff Olivet, executive director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)

40

Different local, regional, national and international media outlets engaged

1

major story about Houston's approach to homelessness in *The New York Times*

ADVOCATING FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

The Coalition engages elected officials and governmental entities to advocate for policies that prevent and end homelessness. This year, the Coalition provided input on multiple state policies, including to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.



\$29.5M

approved by the Harris County Commissioners Court for phase 2 of the Community COVID Housing Program, for a total investment of up to \$35,000,000 in phase 2

\$303K

Additional funding approved by the Houston City Council in FY22 for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of a Housing Navigation Center

CALIBRATING OUR COURSE

LEADING WITH DATA

The Coalition is the HMIS lead agency to The Way Home. The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is an online database that allows client data sharing between partners of The Way Home, as well as client case coordination and electronic referrals.

HMIS also measures and tracks the performance and outcomes of our homeless assistance programs for reporting purposes – and, more importantly, so that we can make data-informed decisions to meet our clients' needs. The Way Home does not expand services or adjust programs based on community anecdotes; instead, we make changes based on data, which ensures that all partners remain focused on effectively housing and supporting people experiencing homelessness.

"Collecting this valuable information in HMIS not only gives the agency the opportunity to meet reporting requirements, but improves data quality management and monitoring practices to ensure programs are performing to their maximum potential."

RHONNY LEOPOLD
SERVICE INTEGRATION MANAGER
AVENUE 360 HEALTH & WELLNESS



114

Active organizations



22,580

New people
enrolled in HMIS



142

User training
sessions led

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We at the Coalition are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of our donors. Your support plays a key roll in our success. Thank you.

\$5,000+

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