

Sponsored by:



2nd Annual HMIS Data Symposium

**Data-Driven Solutions for Homeless
Service Delivery and Outcomes**

**United Way of
Greater Houston**

June 4, 2026





About CFTH

CFTH acts as a catalyst, uniting partners and maximizing resources to move people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing with supportive services. Founded in 1982 and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 1988; CFTH has a long-standing history as a leader of the local homeless response system. Our policies and practices are designed to be non-discriminatory, ensuring that assistance is available to everyone, regardless of background.

How we work: CFTH's system works toward Equilibrium—a future where anyone experiencing homelessness has a safe place to sleep at night and an exit pathway within 90 days. Our efforts and contributions strengthen our ability to respond quickly and effectively, ensuring that no one in our community is left behind.

- We're rooted in data.** We focus on the system-level view, tracking trends, and identifying needs in Houston and surrounding areas.
- We're pragmatic problem solvers.** We champion housing with stability services as the solution to homelessness — because it works.
- We're strategic.** We focus on building relationships, leveraging available resources, and optimizing funding for maximum impact.
- We're collaborative.** We coordinate one of the nation's most effective homeless response systems, The Way Home, with over 100 partners.

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a database that records and tracks client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of people experiencing homelessness. HMIS ties homeless service providers within our community to help create a more coordinated and effective housing and service delivery system. Our homeless response system is The Way Home, encompassing the City of Houston and Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties in Texas. It's a public-private partnership of dozens of organizations, over 250 active projects, about 1,000 active users, and close to 38,000 individuals participating in HMIS; of these, close to 12,000 clients are served in homeless-specific projects. We've housed many homeless people, but there is still a lot more work to do.



The 2nd Annual HMIS Data Symposium explores how data-driven strategies improve homeless service delivery to ensure that everyone has a safe place to call home. It brings together technology professionals, data experts, healthcare and criminal justice officials, and local homeless response leaders to discuss data-informed decisions that transform our system to make it more accountable and efficient.

It provides a platform for experts to share their work, knowledge, experiences, best practices, data models, and cutting-edge technologies that support addressing and ultimately ending homelessness. Presentations and discussions include the following topics:

1. **Data Collection and Management:** How organizations collect and manage data, including best practices for maintaining data quality.
2. **Partnerships & Collaborations for Data Excellence:** Highlight the benefits of collaborations in achieving data-driven goals.
3. **Criminal Justice and Re-Entry:** Using data to support continuity of care.
4. **Data-Driven Enhancements:** How data-informed decisions have improved service delivery, with examples from their work.
5. **Innovation in Addressing Homelessness:** How agencies plan to incorporate innovations such as API integrations, AI assistants, import/export processes, special dashboards, and other technologies to further address homelessness.

Presenters and attendees' benefits:

- An opportunity to share your ideas with experts in the field.
- Increased visibility for your organization's contributions to ending homelessness,
- Valuable networking opportunities with leading professionals in the field.
- A chance to influence the direction of future service delivery models through data- driven approaches.

Thank you for attending and supporting this crucial collaborative event!

Together, we can make homelessness brief and non-recurring.



Symposium Agenda

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Registration & Breakfast

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County (CFTH)

Kelly Young, President & CEO

DATA FRAMEWORK & INNOVATION

9:20 AM - 9:50 AM

Data Quality & Integrity: Building Trust in the Numbers

United Way of Greater Houston

Jessica Davison, Sr. Director of Mission & Strategy

9:50 AM - 10:35 AM

Technology Solutions and Outcomes

Simtech Solutions Inc.

Kevin Charoenworawat, Lead Developer
Derek Smith, Full Stack Developer

10:35 AM - 10:40 AM

Break

REGIONAL MODELS & COLLABORATION

10:40 AM - 11:25 AM

PANEL DISCUSSION: Regional Data-Driven Strategies Across Texas

Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network

Anja Taylor, Director, Statewide Data Integration

Dallas City & County CoC/Housing Forward

Freda Nelms, Director of Data Management & Reporting

El Paso Coalition for the Homeless

Camillie Castillo, Director
Gary Gray, Co-Director



Symposium Agenda

11:25 AM - 12:25 PM

Lunch Break Presentation

AI Innovation & Implementation

Fortell AI

Rob Symes, Co-Founder
Scott Schubert, CEO

APPLIED DATA IN PRACTICE

12:25 PM - 1:10 PM

Data In Action: HMIS and Healthcare Cross-System Integration

Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County (CFTH)

Erol Fetahagic, Director of HMIS Administration
John Slimp, Senior Data Systems Engineer

Healthconnect Texas (HTX)

Li (Betty) Gai, Director of Data Services

1:10 PM - 2:00 PM

The Future of Coordinated Entry: Using Data Science to Understand and Improve Housing Pathways

University of Houston, Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine

Dr. Ben King, Clinical Assistant Professor
Joyati Modak, Lead Research, Tech

2:00 PM - 2:05 PM

Break





Symposium Agenda

DISPARITY, SAFETY & ACCOUNTABILITY

2:05 PM - 2:45 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION: Domestic Violence & Data System Design

Houston Area Women's Center

Chanica M. Brown Chief Client Officer
Nike Blue, Chief Quality Officer

Fort Bend Women's Center

Beth Spencer, Manager of Compliance

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

Criminal Justice & Re-Entry: Using Data to Support Continuity of Care

Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County (CFTH)

Scot More, Homeless Court Administrator

City of Houston Department of Health & Human Services

LaTosha Selexman, Bureau Chief
Samuel Calvin, Data Analyst

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM

Closing Remarks: What the Data Tells Us and What It Doesn't

Coalition for the Homeless (CFTH)

Renee Cavazos, Vice President of Homeless Response System

3:45 PM - 4:00 PM

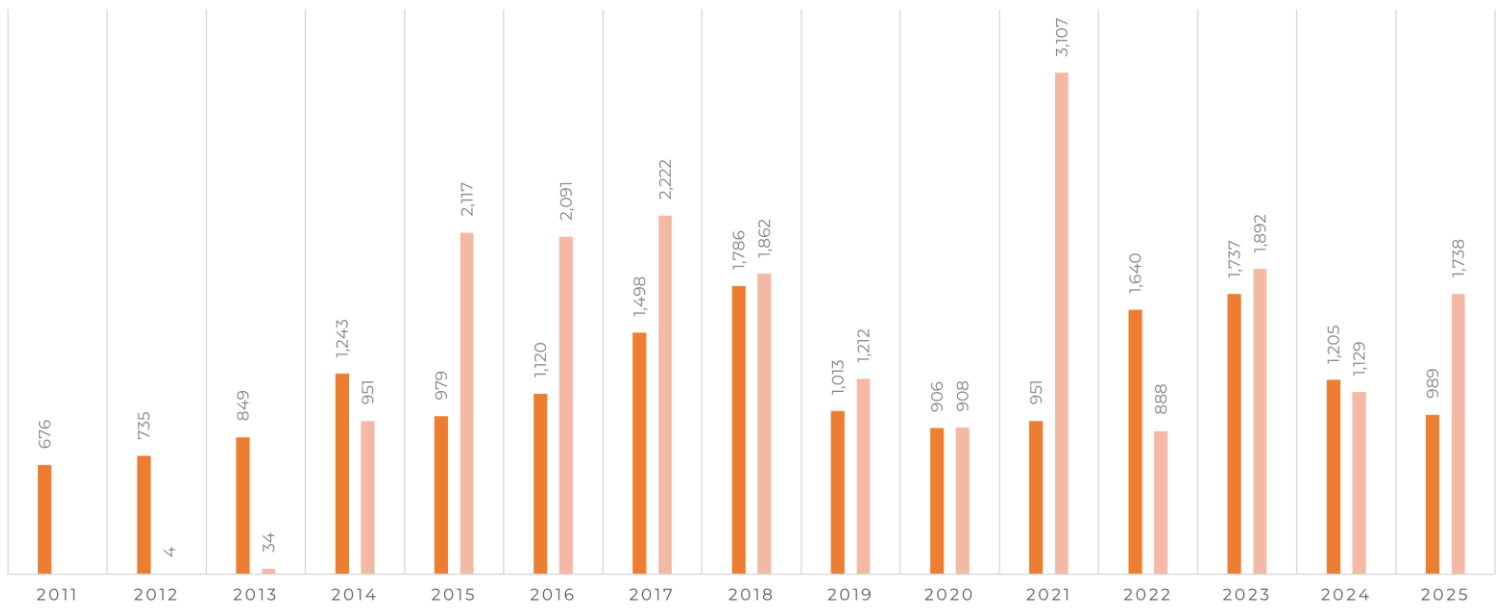
Final Networking + Q&A

CFTH 2025 Snapshots on Ending Homelessness



PERMANENT HOUSING PLACEMENTS

■ PSH/OPH ■ RRH





Special Thanks

We want to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to:

- Kelly Young, CFTH President/CEO
- Renee Cavazos, Vice President of The Homeless Response System (HRS)
- Erol Fetahagic, Director of HMIS Administration
- Dr. Ben King, Clinical Assistant Professor
- Ashlie Young, Facilitator
- CFTH Communications Team
- CFTH HMIS Staff
- Presenters and Panelists
- Simtech Solutions, Inc., event sponsor
- CaseWorthy, breakfast sponsor
- Texas Homeless Network
- United Way of Greater Houston
- Houston Area Women's Center
- The City of Houston Health Department
- El Paso Coalition for the Homeless
- Fort Bend Women's Center
- Fortell AI
- University of Houston Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine
- Dallas City and County Continuum of Care/ Housing Forward
- All Partners, Providers, and Stakeholders of the Continuum of Care

Your contributions have been invaluable to this event. Your dedication, expertise, and willingness to help have made a significant impact. We are truly thankful for your support.

Please know that your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we are honored to have had the opportunity to work with you.

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