



BUILT ON POWERED BY
TRUST **POSSIBILITY**



FY2025 IMPACT REPORT
JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025



The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/ Harris County (CFTH) is the nonprofit backbone of the region's homelessness response system. Our work focuses on system-level strategy: aligning resources, supporting providers, measuring outcomes, and strengthening infrastructure to ensure the response system is effective, accountable, and efficient.

This system-wide perspective is why CFTH is trusted to steward significant public resources while also leveraging private investment to spark innovation. "Built on Trust. Powered by Possibility" is more than this year's theme. It is the story of our work. Public dollars keep the system strong and stable; private philanthropy fuels what's next. Together, they make it possible for us to meet immediate needs while creating new solutions that move more people from homelessness to permanent housing, faster and more sustainably.

Ending homelessness requires many partners working in sync, and one agency to help lead the way. That's CFTH.

**IN FY25, 1,600+
PEOPLE MOVED
INTO A HOUSING
PROGRAM OF
THE WAY HOME.**



**SINCE 2012, THE WAY
HOME HAS HOUSED
35,400+ PEOPLE
EXPERIENCING
HOMELESSNESS.**

The Way Home is the homeless response system serving Houston and Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties. This public-private partnership unites dozens of homeless service providers with government, philanthropic, and business partners. Coordinated by CFTH, The Way Home is a collective force driven by a shared vision: to make homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring. We achieve this by pairing housing with the stability services that help people rebuild their lives and lay the foundation for lasting stability.



KELLY YOUNG
President & CEO

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



BUILT ON TRUST / POWERED BY POSSIBILITY

As I reflect on the past year, it's not just one idea, one funder, or one partner that stands out. It is everything, everyone, all the time. Out of this sense of chaos, **the strength of our homeless response system remains constant.** Constant but not stagnant, because it is a system that depends not just on what we do, but on how we work and who we partner with.

As a systems leader, **CFTH sits in a unique position.** We are tasked with aligning strategies and data, coordinating funding, and supporting the many partners who bring this work to life. Our planning helps identify and fill the "holes" in services. All this system work adds up to ending homelessness in our community. **Because when the system functions well, people get housed, stay housed, and find stability.**

In work that can quickly become divided and singular in vision, I've come to believe that **our greatest strength as a community is our willingness to keep showing up and finding common ground.** This year's report is a testament to that shared commitment to have impact, not impasse. It reflects what we can achieve when we combine coordination and collaboration with the resources needed to fuel them. **Public funding has kept the system strong and operational. Flexible, private support has allowed us to adapt, listen, and to build a system that is more equitable and responsive.**

Thank you to our team, our partners, and every advocate who keeps moving this work forward. There is still work to do, but if this past year has shown us anything, it's that we are capable of more together.

Kelly Young

SHAPING POLICY. FUELING PROGRESS.

Policy that protects progress and opens new doors

CFTH plays a critical role in advancing policies that strengthen the homeless response system at the local, state, and federal levels. **We ensure that the voices of providers, partners, and people with lived experience are heard in the rooms where decisions are made.** By building trusted relationships with decision-makers and providing real-time data and insight, we help shape policy that drives lasting change.

BUILT ON TRUST / PUBLIC FUNDING IN ACTION

Deepening Relationships and Driving Results

Federal funding allows CFTH to maintain the relationships, coordination, and data analysis that underpin effective local advocacy. These resources make it possible to brief officials, host community presentations, and provide elected leaders with the insight they need to make informed decisions.

In FY25, that groundwork led to two major wins: the creation of the “End Street Homelessness Action Plan” and the realignment of \$16 million in Harris County funds split evenly to prevent homelessness and to directly support housing solutions. Through strong collaboration with the City of Houston, Harris County, philanthropy, and private sector partners, we advanced local strategies to help more people move into housing without having to sleep on the street while they wait.



BY THE NUMBERS

102 engagements with local elected officials and staff from the City of Houston, Harris County, and other delegations

42 presentations at community advocacy meetings and trainings



CFTH staff with Rice University students at the Texas state capitol.

CFTH staff with Houston City Council Member Mario Castillo.

PHILANTHROPY AT WORK **POWERED BY POSSIBILITY**

"The Greater Houston Partnership is proud to stand alongside CFTH. Houston has become a national leader in reducing homelessness, but there is more to do. This year, we've worked together to advocate for increased funding, host listening sessions to engage our committees, and participate in advocacy efforts in Austin and Washington, D.C. Partnerships like this are essential to ensuring Houston continues to lead in caring for some of our most vulnerable neighbors."

Steve Kean, President & CEO
Greater Houston Partnership

Expanding Advocacy Beyond Local Boundaries

Public funding lays the foundation for advocacy, but private support makes it possible to influence state and federal policy, and to protect the progress we've made. Because public dollars cannot fund direct advocacy, flexible philanthropic support is essential to ensure our voice is heard at every level.

In FY25, private funding enabled CFTH to:

- 🌀 Join advocates from across the state to successfully block two harmful bills (SB 241 and SB 2624) and pass SB 1164, which will help individuals with serious mental illness access the care they need
- 🌀 Hold nearly 200 meetings with state elected officials and committees during the 89th Texas Legislative Session
- 🌀 Visit congressional offices, engage with 24 elected officials and departments, and influence the federal budget to preserve resources toward ending homelessness

This kind of face-to-face relationship building takes time, persistence, and the kind of flexible investment that can move policy forward.

DATA THAT DRIVES THE SYSTEM.

When we invest in better data, we build a better response

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a secure, shared database that connects over 100 organizations across our region. Every day, frontline workers use HMIS to coordinate services, track outcomes, and ensure that people experiencing homelessness don't fall through the cracks. **At a system level, CFTH uses HMIS data to understand trends, measure progress, identify gaps, and improve the overall response.**

Whether we're seeking federal dollars, designing new programs, or setting community-wide goals, HMIS ensures our decisions are based on real, timely information, not guesswork.

BUILT ON **TRUST** / PUBLIC FUNDING IN ACTION

Elevating Data Quality to Drive Change

Federal funding allows CFTH to support and maintain the HMIS system, providing year-round technical assistance and hosting training forums. These efforts strengthen data quality, improve client outcomes, and ensure accountability at every level of the system.

Every report generated—from Point-in-Time counts to project outcomes—starts with this foundation of data integrity, ensuring that every person served by our system is visible in the data and receives coordinated care.



BY THE NUMBERS

264 HMIS user trainings delivered

~1,000 active HMIS users, including 256 new users trained and supported in FY25

2,211 HMIS support tickets resolved with an average turnaround of 5 days



PHILANTHROPY AT WORK / POWERED BY **POSSIBILITY**

"CFTH has played a crucial role in the growth and development of the Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network (THDSN). Their efforts have inspired coordinated initiatives to improve service delivery for vulnerable populations, making it easier for case managers across Texas to share data and work together. Additionally, the Texas Homeless Network depends on the expertise and experience of CFTH's data specialists to help improve planning and decision-making. Thanks to the ongoing dedication and support from CFTH, the THDSN is able to thrive."

Anja Taylor, M.A, Project Manager
The Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network

Elevating System Accountability and Transparency

While federal dollars help maintain the system, private funding is fueling the next phase of data evolution. CFTH is developing reporting tools that tell the bigger story—how the system is coordinating, improving, and responding over time. These tools go beyond compliance and performance metrics. They bring transparency to the work of managing a complex, multi-agency response to homelessness and how we are collectively moving toward our shared goals.

Planned enhancements include:

- Outputs and outcomes across the response system
- Incorporating process goals, improvement cycles, and feedback channels for providers/advocates into system reporting
- Developing new data visualization formats for accessible public reporting

BUILDING INCOME. SECURING STABILITY.

Lasting stability starts with economic opportunity

Housing is the first step out of homelessness, but lasting stability depends on income. **CFTH's Income & Employment team supports partners in helping clients build the financial foundation they need to remain housed and succeed long-term.**

Through partnerships and system improvements, we connect people to benefits, job opportunities, and resources that support economic independence.

BUILT ON TRUST / PUBLIC FUNDING IN ACTION

Streamlining Access to Disability Benefits

With support from the Community COVID Housing Program (CCHP), CFTH strengthened one of the most effective tools for connecting people to stable income: the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) program. SOAR helps eligible individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness apply for disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

Public funding allowed us to integrate SOAR screening into Coordinated Entry assessments, so those who may qualify are referred quickly to trained providers. From there, SOAR case workers guide clients through the application process, improving approval rates and connecting people not only to income but also to critical healthcare benefits.



BY THE NUMBERS

1,114 SOAR clients received SOAR navigation or case management, helping them access critical income supports

40% of SOAR claims were approved at the initial stage, matching the national benchmark despite the 200+ day wait time per case

20 staff across **3** agencies trained in SOAR, boosting our region's capacity to connect people with benefits



Photos courtesy of Career and Recovery Resources, Inc.

PHILANTHROPY AT WORK / POWERED BY **POSSIBILITY**

“Through our partnership with CFTH, Avenue 360 connected nearly 180 people to stable income, 490 people to housing, and facilitated coordinated entry for about 975 people. Housing is not just shelter—it’s the foundation of health and a brighter future.”

Dr. Charlene Flash,
President & CEO
Avenue 360 Health &
Wellness

Expanding Access and Opportunity

With philanthropic support, CFTH is launching a mobile employment initiative to bring job readiness services directly to people where they are, shortening the time from housing to employment and connecting clients to employers faster.

Private dollars also allow us to:

- 🕒 Expand SOAR training to more case managers
- 🕒 Pilot new income-building strategies that address barriers public funds cannot cover
- 🕒 Invest in partnerships that create tailored employment pathways for people exiting homelessness

CENTERING YOUTH. STRENGTHENING THE SYSTEM.

Young people deserve a system built with them, not just around them

The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) is a federal initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that helps communities design and implement coordinated approaches to ending youth homelessness. As the lead agency, CFTH brings together youth with lived experience, service providers, and system partners to build more responsive, equitable, and youth-informed solutions across Houston and Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties.

BUILT ON **TRUST** / PUBLIC FUNDING IN ACTION

Creating a Coordinated Entry System Designed for Youth

Through YHDP, HUD provided CFTH and its partners with critical resources to create a dedicated Coordinated Entry (CE) phone line for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. For the first time, young people in our community have a direct, youth-informed access point to services, one that meets them with understanding, respect, and real-time support.

Working closely with the Youth Action Board (YAB), youth-serving agencies, and system partners, CFTH helped design, staff, and launch this youth-specific CE line. The result is a faster, more tailored, and more equitable path into housing and services for young people.



BY THE NUMBERS

519 youth referred to housing and diversion programs

102 youth contacted the Coordinated Entry line

100% of calls answered by youth-trained staff or navigators

9 major system planning decisions shaped by YAB input



PHILANTHROPY AT WORK / POWERED BY **POSSIBILITY**

“As case assessors, we recognize the importance of our first interactions in someone’s journey to stability. Our work wouldn’t be possible without the dedication and partnership of CFTH, whose staff empower and support us to serve clients with respect and care. Success looks different for everyone, and while we can’t meet every need, we strive to provide meaningful support—from food and hygiene items to mental health and transportation—helping clients thrive, one step at a time.”

Youth Coordinated Entry Assessor Team
TLC Health & Wellness

Supporting the Leaders Who Shape the System

Public dollars helped launch a better system, and private funding supported the leadership of the young people reshaping our community.

CFTH used flexible philanthropic support to invest in the Youth Action Board (YAB), ensuring members could show up fully and confidently to inform local strategies. That support included:

- 🌀 Monthly stipends for meeting participation
- 🌀 Professional attire, meals, and tech access
- 🌀 Childcare assistance and rideshare to and from meetings
- 🌀 Leadership development, public speaking, and professional development trainings

These investments honor the value of youth expertise.

THANK YOU DONORS

Because of you, we are able to strengthen Houston's homeless response system and create pathways to stability for thousands of people. We are truly grateful for your generosity and commitment.



\$5,000+

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*We regret any omissions
or errors of spelling.*

\$4,999 – \$500

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FY 2025 **BY THE NUMBERS**

4 major housing surges conducted in Downtown Houston that connected **100+** people to housing solutions through the End Street Homelessness Action Plan.

Partnered with **130+** active property partners to house individuals experiencing homelessness.

2,300+ Homeless Court cases resolved and **~600** clients served.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT **WELLS FARGO**

A Legacy of Investment. A Year of Impact.

Our partnership with Wells Fargo spans nearly a decade, with over \$430,000 in grant support helping move Houston closer to a future where everyone has a safe place to call home. But this year, their commitment went beyond funding. It came to life through hands-on engagement and strategic insight that helped move the work forward in incredible, tangible ways.

As part of their enterprise-wide “Welcome Home” employee engagement initiative, Wells Fargo provided a grant to support the assembly of 250 Welcome Home Baskets, each filled with essential household items to help individuals exiting the Jensen Housing Navigation Center feel a sense of dignity and comfort in their new space. More than 20 Wells Fargo volunteers gathered to assemble the baskets, reinforcing that the heart of their mission lives in the actions of their people.

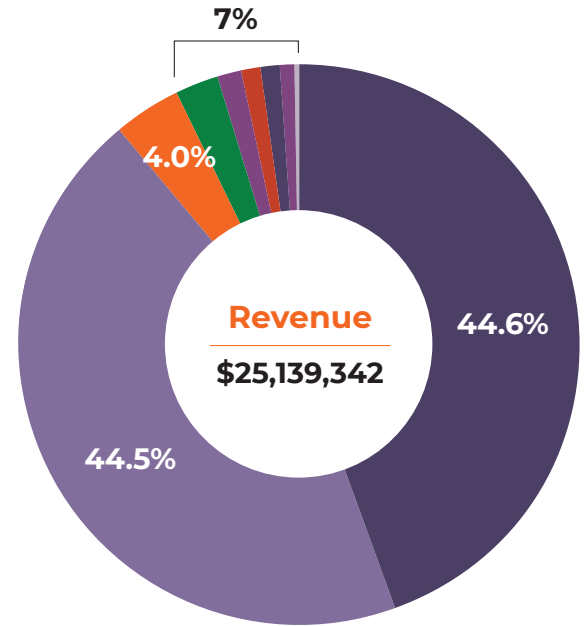
That same spirit of service showed up again during the Wells Fargo Pro Bono Marathon, where team members offered their expertise to help us identify new accounting software to streamline financial processes. Their guidance helped us lay the groundwork to scale our systems to meet the demands of our next phase of growth.

Wells Fargo's commitment to accessible and affordable housing is more than a guiding principle; it's a lived value. Their team leads with heart, purpose, and action. Their partnership exemplifies what it means to be all-in for Houston, and we are proud to walk alongside them.



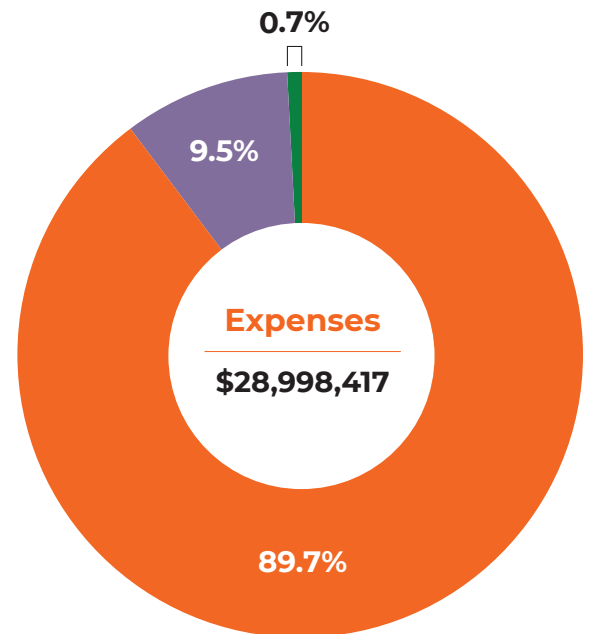
Revenue FY24

Subrecipient Revenue	\$11,205,742	44.6%
Government Grants	\$11,177,919	44.5%
Foundations	\$997,602	4.0%
Investment Income	\$620,348	2.5%
Public Charities	\$304,284	1.2%
Individual Donations	\$289,514	1.2%
Corporations	\$278,788	1.1%
Miscellaneous	\$228,255	0.9%
Board Giving	\$36,890	0.1%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$25,139,342	



Expenses FY24

Program Services	\$26,020,318	89.7%
Management & General	\$2,760,823	9.5%
Fundraising	\$217,276	0.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$28,998,417	



CFTH ended FY 2024 with over \$15MM cash and \$19.2MM of net assets. Variances from previous year reflect timing and accounting for private grants. In FY 23, CFTH received a generous \$5 million grant that was recognized as revenue that year, with expenses being incurred over multiple years including this one.

Most recent audited financials

Due to rounding, percentages presented may total slightly above or below 100%

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* Board term ended on or before 6/30/2025, ** Board term began on or after 7/1/2025

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Jaclyn Urbina, Associate, Outreach

Nereyda Uresti, Associate, Outreach

Briana Weatherspoon, Associate, Landlord Engagement

Arielle White, Associate, Homeless Response System

Dawn Williams, Lead Associate, Landlord Engagement

Ashlie Young, Manager, Landlord Engagement

In addition to our full-time staff, our work wouldn't be possible without the valuable support of our interns and part-time, temporary, and contract staff. We appreciate you! We regret any errors of spelling or omission.



2000 Crawford Street, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77002
(713) 739-7514
info@cfthhouston.org
cfthhouston.org



@cfthhouston

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