



# State Agency Strategies for Strengthening Local Homeless Systems

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1

*Housing alone is not enough for long-term stability.*

*Sustainable outcomes require system alignment, not siloed services.*



## Why Cross-Sector Collaboration Matters

Homelessness touches multiple systems

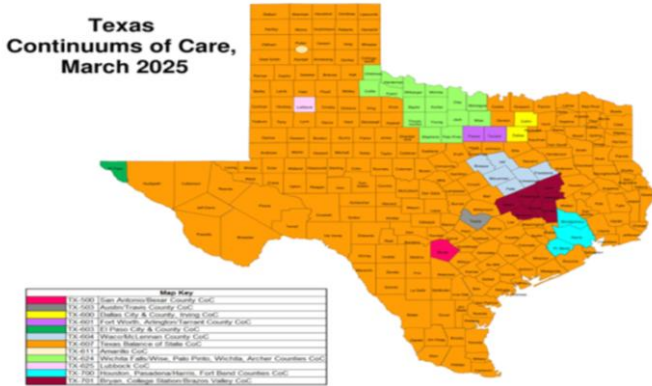
- Families and individuals experiencing homelessness also need:
  - Educational stability
  - Disability supports
  - Healthcare supports
  - Employment pathways

2

2

# The State Agency Opportunity

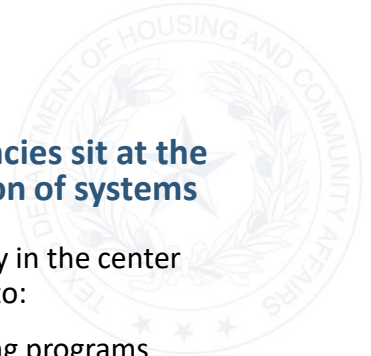
## Continuums of Care in Texas



## State agencies sit at the intersection of systems

State Agency in the center connecting to:

- Housing programs
- Workforce agencies
- Education systems
- Health systems
- Disability services



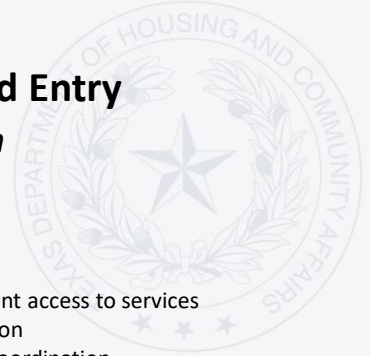
# TDHCA's Role in the CoC System

TDHCA is not a Continuum of Care. Instead, we play a critical systems-level role by:


- Fund homeless programs statewide
- Support local homeless response systems
- Participate in CoC planning and meetings
- Align state programs with local coordinated entry


# Aligning State Programs with Coordinated Entry

*Strengthening the local response system*



TDHCA requires subrecipients to:

 Participate in local CoC meetings

 Engage with the coordinated entry process

**Why this matters**

- ✓ Fair and transparent access to services
- ✓ Reduced duplication
- ✓ Stronger system coordination



# Collaboration with Youth Systems



# Young and Young Adult Homeless Program (YYAHP)

A one-time appropriation of supplemental funds for the provision of homeless housing and services to youth and young adults age 24 or younger in Fort Bend County.



# Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP)

## Funding Overview for Texas Cities



Municipalities with population of 285,500 or more



Supports homelessness prevention and related services



### Program Set-Asides:

**General Set-Aside** – funds for a broad range of homelessness services  
**Youth Set-Aside** – funds restricted to youth 24 years and younger

## Current Participating Cities

- Arlington
- Austin
- Corpus Christi
- Dallas
- El Paso
- Fort Worth
- Houston
- Plano
- San Antonio

## Youth Internship Program - *Integrating youth voices into systems*

Opportunities include:



Paid internships



Workforce readiness training



Mentorship



Experience working with service providers

Benefits:

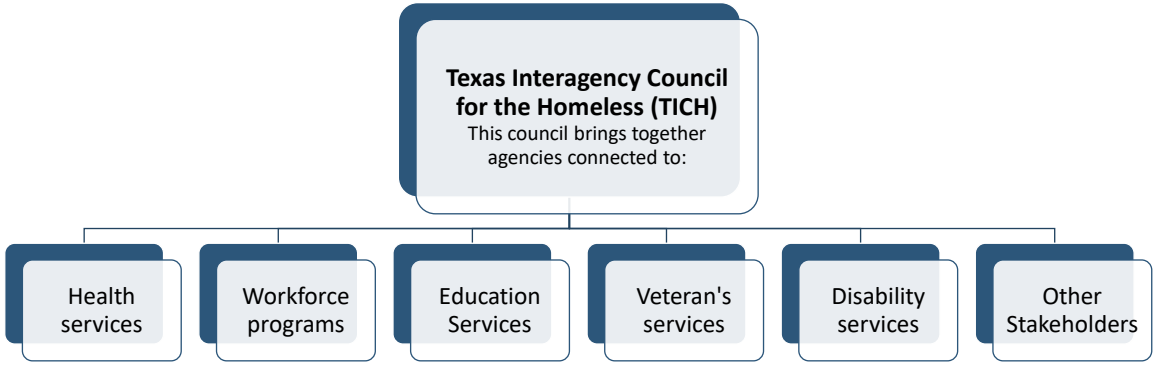
- ✓ Improved program design
- ✓ Greater trust in service systems
- ✓ Leadership development
- ✓ Stronger engagement

**Impact :** Programs become more responsive to youth needs.



## Statewide Collaboration

# Interagency coordination



# Why Interagency Councils Matter



ALIGN POLICIES  
ACROSS AGENCIES



SHARE DATA AND  
TRENDS



IDENTIFY SERVICE  
GAPS



COORDINATE  
STRATEGIES



## Cross-Sector Engagement

### State participation in CoC meetings

- This helps us:
  - Understand local needs
  - Share state program updates
  - Identify collaboration opportunities
  - Build trust with providers

13

13

## Lessons for State Agencies

Partnerships help identify:

### School Systems

- Homeless youth
- Families needing housing assistance
- Early intervention opportunities

### Need: Workforce System Alignment

- Job Training
- Resume Support
- Career Pathways

Housing stability improves when people  
**increase income.**

### State agencies can help strengthen local systems by:

- Aligning programs with CoCs
- Supporting coordinated entry
- Connecting housing with workforce and education
- Elevating voices of lived experience

14

14



# QUESTIONS?

Thank You!

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