

# Citizens Education Seminar on Homelessness



**ADDISON**

Addison Conference Centre  
May 13, 2024



# Homelessness

# What is Homelessness?



Poverty + Crisis – Social  
Support = **Homelessness**



# POVERTY IS THE CONDITION OF LIVING ON THE EDGE



**30%** of Americans don't have an emergency savings

**40%** can't cover a \$400 emergency expense

**UP to 78%** live paycheck to paycheck

**99%** of people in Dallas County below the poverty line are NOT homeless

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Poverty line in Dallas County

- **\$14,880** per year for an individual adult
- **\$29,950** for a family of four



**HOMELESSNESS IS AN  
EMERGENCY,  
NOT A LIFESTYLE.**



# Common Misconceptions



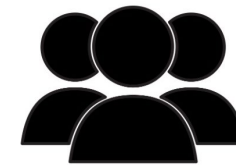
Homelessness is mainly caused by mental illness and drugs. 30/30/50



People want to be homeless.



People experiencing homelessness don't want to work



More homeless services will draw homeless people

# Barriers that our unhoused neighbors face



Lack of a permanent address



Receiving tickets for minor offenses



Inability to keep up a hygiene routine



Unmet mental health needs



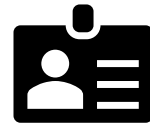
Lack of identifying documentation

# Metrocrest Area:

## Local Facts on our Unsheltered Neighbors

## Needs:

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Help with  
critical  
documents



Place to  
sleep (not  
shelter)



Mental Health Needs



Permanent  
Housing



Substance abuse  
treatment



# Responding to the Need



Diversion

Outreach

Emergency  
Shelter

Supportive  
Housing

# Dean's Story



# How to Get Involved

## Volunteer

- Join the Street Outreach Team
- Volunteer at the showers

## Donate

- In-kind gifts
- Monetary donations

## Advocate

- Share what you've learned with friends and family



**LEARN MORE**





# ALL NEIGHBORS COALITION UPDATES

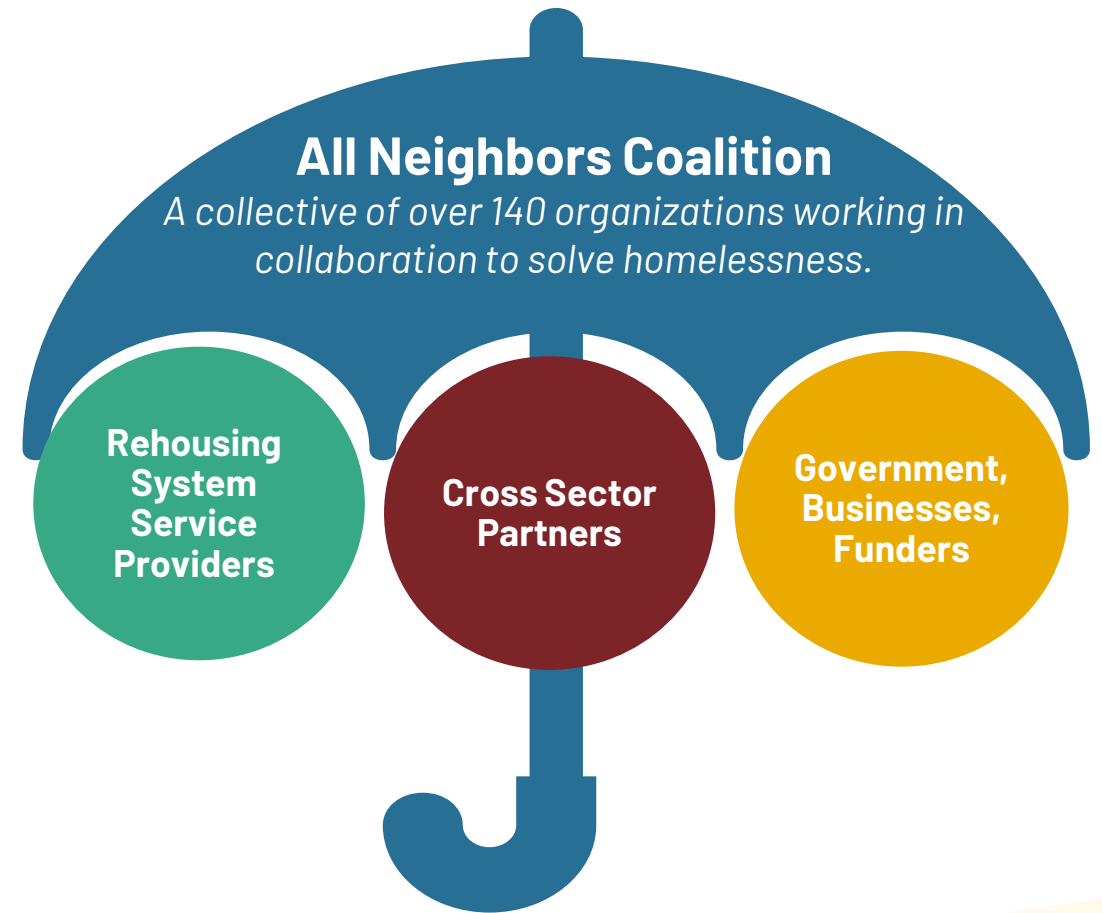
MAY 2024

# TRANSFORMING OUR APPROACH TO HOMELESSNESS

## Coordinated System Leadership

### **Housing Forward**

*Backbone agency supporting the All Neighbors Coalition and leading the development and implementation of strategies to end homelessness in Dallas and Collin Counties.*



# TRANSFORMING OUR APPROACH TO HOMELESSNESS

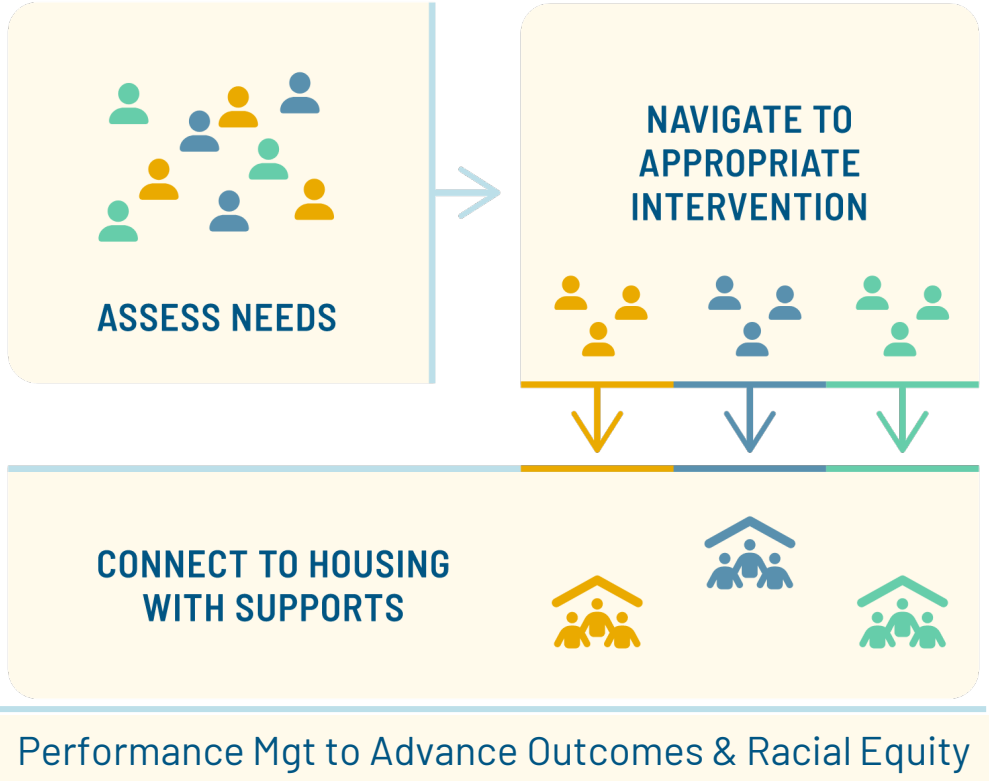
Shared Goals for Targeted, Measurable Reductions in Homelessness

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE CHRONIC UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

EFFECTIVELY END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE FAMILY AND YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

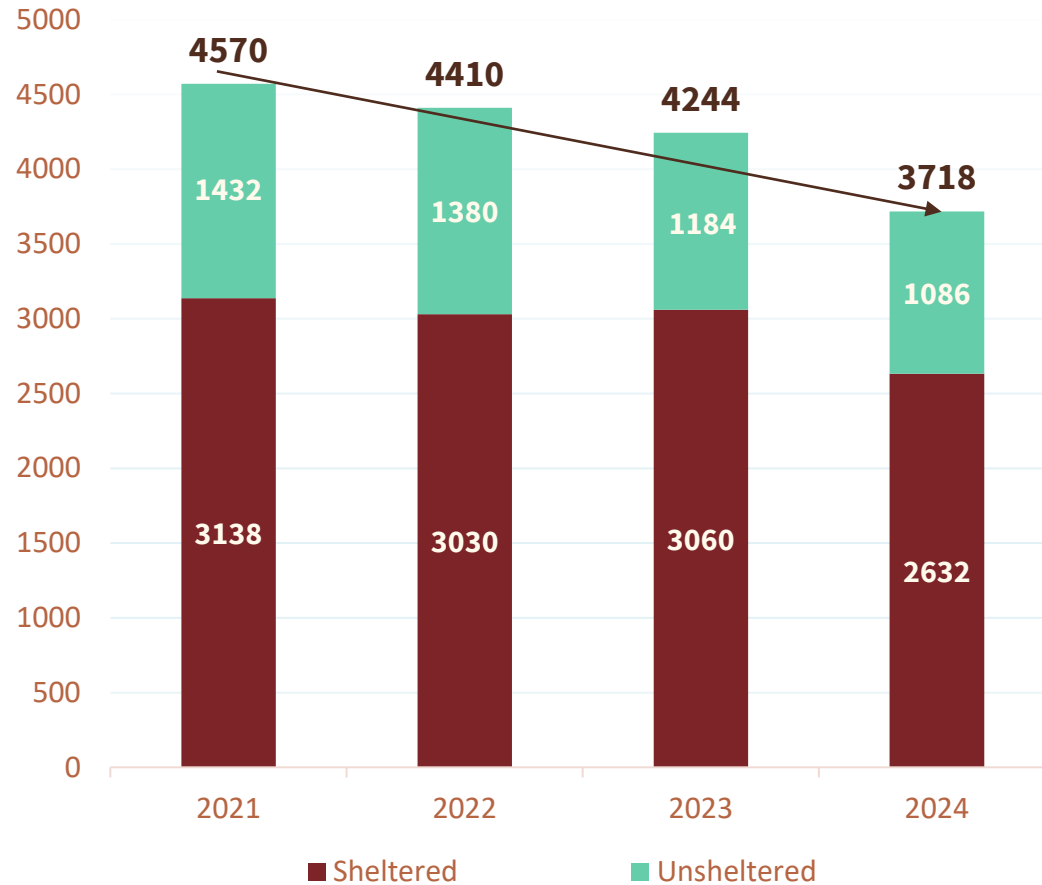
## System Redesign to Streamline Pathways to Housing





# TRANSFORMATION LEADS TO THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF REDUCTIONS

Dallas and Collin Counties  
Point-in-Time Count Results, 2021-2024



Since 2021 transformation and REAL Time Rehousing launch:

- 19 % reduction Overall
- 24 % decrease in unsheltered homelessness
- Lowest count in nearly a decade



# 10,137

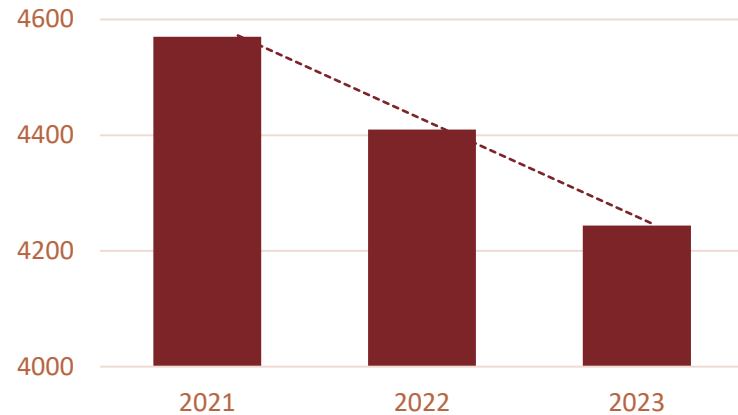
## INDIVIDUALS

HAVE BEEN HOUSED SINCE  
OUR TRANSFORMATION  
BEGAN IN 2021.

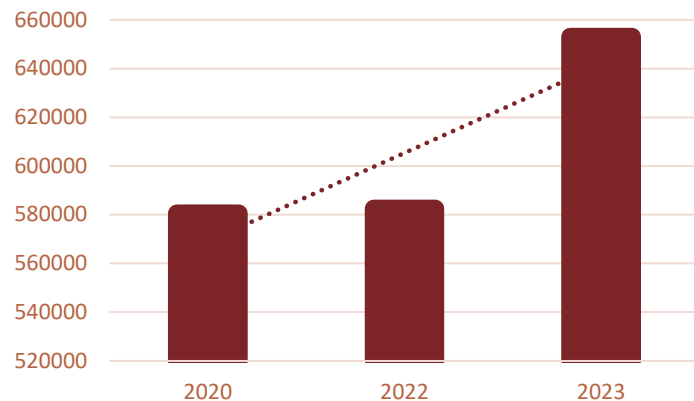


# STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS SET US APART FROM OTHER COMMUNITIES

Dallas & Collin Counties, Point in Time Totals



National, Point in Time Totals



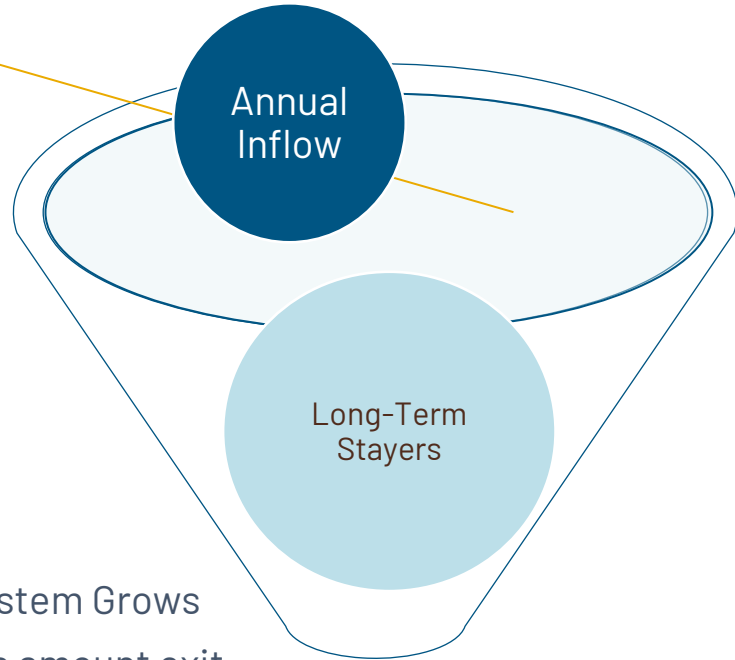
- ✓ **Among the 27 % of communities nationally that reduced homelessness last year, while national rates soared to record highs**
- ✓ 1 of 6 Communities in White House Unsheltered Initiative (All Inside)
- ✓ Top Performing Community, with over 44% increase in annual HUD Homeless Assistance Funding, 2021-2023



\* National data not available for 2021

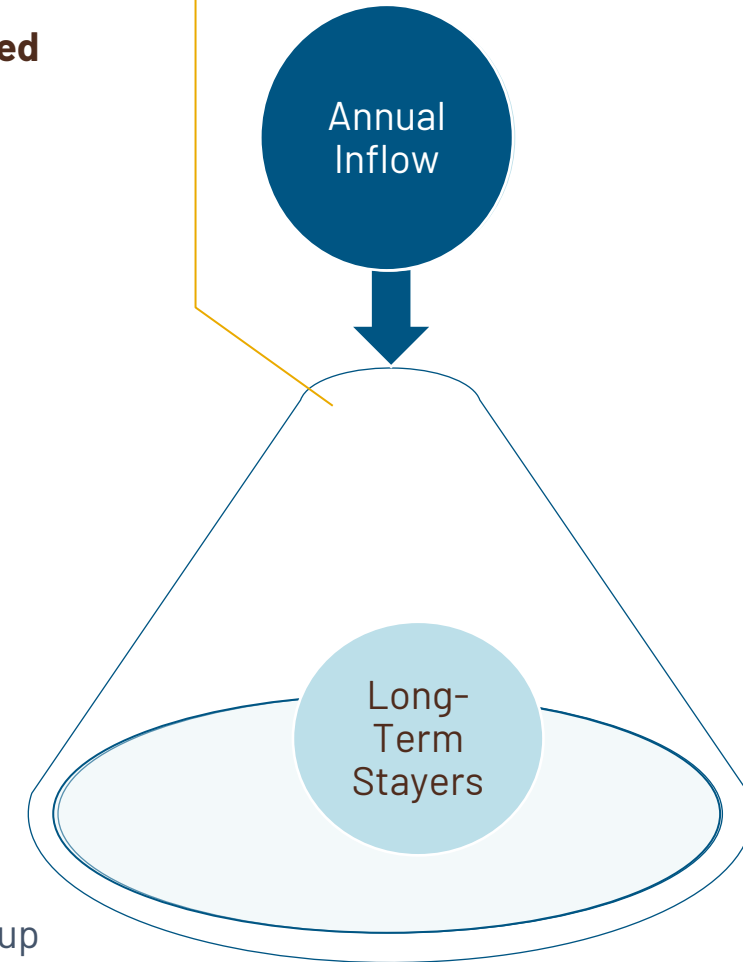
# CONTINUING OUR PROGRESS, REQUIRES ONGOING STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

Instinct is to grow a big funnel to catch and hold  
(crisis and shelter system)



- Crisis System Grows
- But same amount exit
- Annual inflow continues
- Long-stayers grow
- Harder and more expensive to reduce homelessness

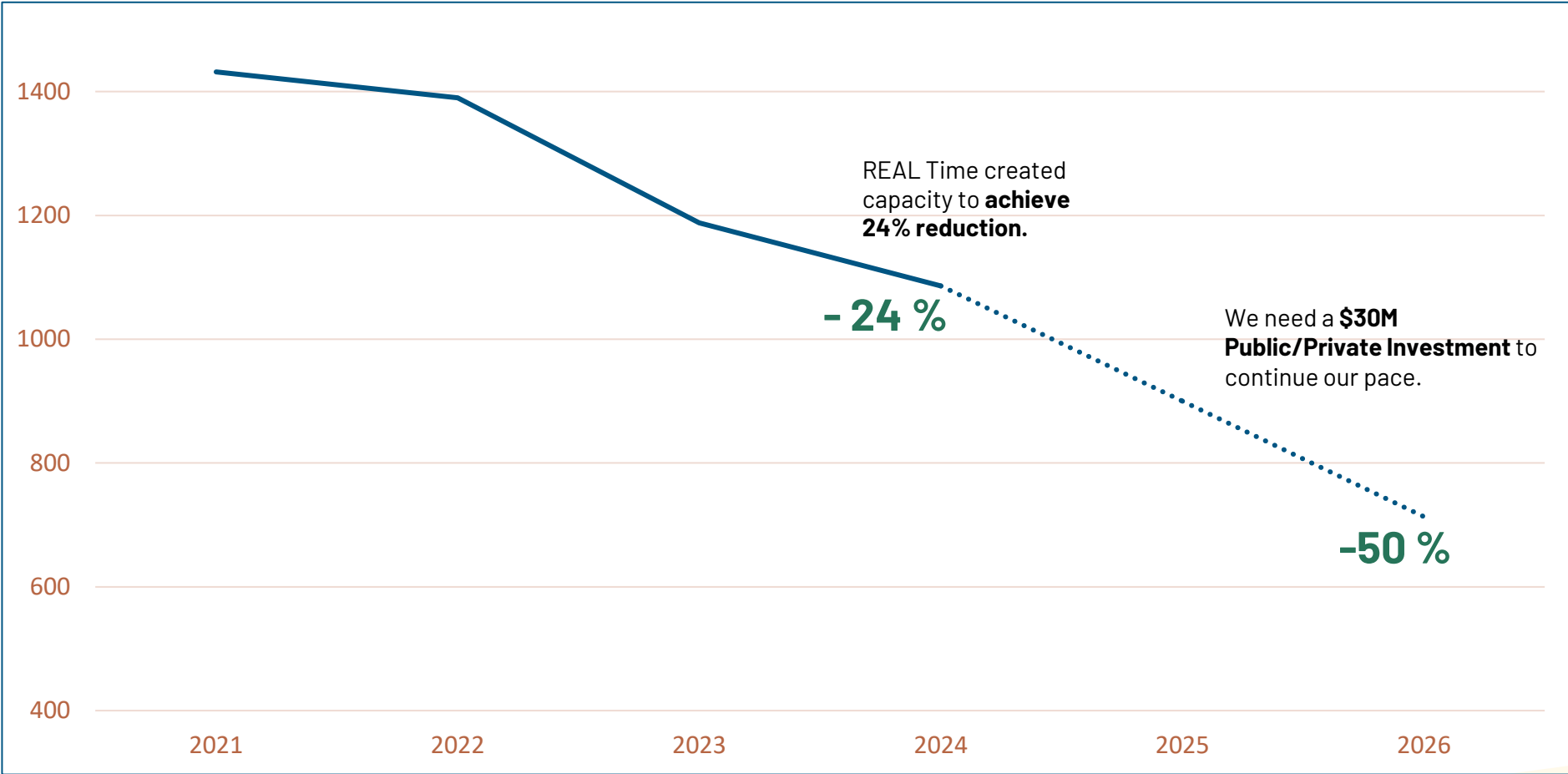
Data shows instead we need  
an inverted funnel to help  
more move out  
(housing + services)



- Prevention to Shrink Inflow
- Expand Housing Exits
- Long-stayers eliminated, free up shelter space
- Over time, system can shrink to match annual inflow, reaching equilibrium

# REACHING THE NEXT BIG MILESTONE: 50 % REDUCTION IN UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS (2021-2026)

Dallas and Collin Counties Unsheltered Population, Point in Time 2021-2026



# CONTINUING TO MOVE THE NEEDLE ON UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

## Street to Home Encampment Response



Address public health and safety, while ending homelessness through connections to housing and support

Target and prioritize locations across the community

Bring rehousing services and integrated behavioral healthcare to each site

Coordinated with local government to maintain site closure





# HOW DO I HELP?

**STAY  
INFORMED**

**ADVOCATE**

**VOLUNTEER**

[WWW.HOUSINGFORWARDNTX.ORG](http://WWW.HOUSINGFORWARDNTX.ORG)



# Questions