



NEWS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2010

Contact: Gordon Anderson 512.475.4743
Jill McFarren 512.475.2844

State housing agency makes \$320,000 investment in DeKalb through home repair funds

(AUSTIN) — The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and State Senator Kevin Eltife today announced a \$320,000 award to the City of DeKalb to fund home repairs for low income homeowners, helping residents maintain homeownership while providing a shot in the arm to the local economy.

DeKalb officials anticipate the funds will help rehabilitate four homes owned and lived in by income eligible households.

“I am pleased that some of my most vulnerable constituents will benefit from this home repair funding,” said Senator Eltife in making the announcement. “Living in poor housing conditions can often lead to health and safety concerns, particularly for elderly persons and households with young children. Communities such as DeKalb often do not have the resources to help, and I commend TDHCA for its commitment to Texas homeowners.”

“Repairing substandard housing is a critical mission of the Department, as it helps preserve homeownership and the health of rural communities,” said Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director. “It also has the potential to generate numerous construction jobs and the payroll, taxes, and fees that can lead to further development at the local level. We are proud to help contribute to the revitalization of DeKalb and an improved quality of life for its residents.”

TDHCA awards home repair funds to qualifying applicants through the Department’s HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, which helps repair or replace homes owned and lived in by low income homeowners.

Assistance may include roof repair or replacement, as well as repairs to the electrical and plumbing systems. If a home has deteriorated to the point it no longer is cost effective to repair, it may be demolished and replaced either by a traditional “site built” home or a manufactured home.

- more -

221 E. 11TH • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701 • (800) 525-0657 • (512) 475-3800

Visit us on the world wide web at: www.tdhca.state.tx.us

Qualifying applicants include eligible cities and counties, public housing authorities, Community Housing Development Organizations and other nonprofit housing groups, and certain for-profit organizations which then work with eligible households at the local level.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is the funding source for the HOME Program. The program serves households earning no more than 80 percent of the area median family income, which for DeKalb and Bowie County equals an annual income of \$41,350 for a family for four.

About The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is the state agency responsible for affordable housing, community services, energy assistance, colonia housing programs, and disaster recovery housing programs. It currently administers \$2 billion through for-profit, nonprofit, and local government partnerships to deliver local housing and community-based opportunities and assistance to Texans in need.