



NEWS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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Contact: Gordon Anderson 512.475.4743
Jill McFarren 512.475.2844

State makes \$375,000 commitment to maintaining homeownership through home repairs in Cochran County

(AUSTIN) — The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and State Senator Kel Seliger today announced a \$375,000 award to Cochran County to fund home repairs for low income homeowners, helping residents maintain homeownership while providing a shot in the arm to the local economy.

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

“I am pleased that residents of Cochran County will benefit from the HOME program,” said Senator Seliger. “Pride in homeownership is a key part to any community. Substantial improvements to these homes will not only benefit the owners, but the neighborhoods and the community as a whole. I am confident that Cochran County will serve as a model for the efficient and best use of these funds.”

“Repairing substandard housing is a critical mission of the Department, as it helps preserve homeownership and the health of smaller communities,” said Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director. “It also has the potential to generate numerous construction jobs and the payroll, taxes, and fees that help provide essential services at the local level. We are certain this award will contribute to an improved quality of life for Cochran County and 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.

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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 Cochran County equals an annual income of \$36,500 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.