



NEWS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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Contact: Gordon Anderson 512.475.4743
Jill McFarren 512.475.2844

State housing agency awards \$21,300 to fight, prevent homelessness in McLennan County

(AUSTIN) — The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) today announced a funding award designed to help homeless residents of McLennan County secure permanent housing and strive toward self-sufficiency, bringing greater stability to individuals and the communities in which they live.

TDHCA awarded \$21,300 in grant funds to the Compassion Ministries of Waco to assist the nonprofit organization with the maintenance and operations of Hope House, a transitional housing facility.

“While Texas has been spared the worst of the national recession, we continue to see unemployment numbers and home foreclosures rates higher than what we have long been accustomed to,” said Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director. “The result is that far too many of our neighbors have no place to call home. These awards will work to end this trend and restore the stability and dignity that come with a permanent home to the lives of Waco area residents who lack this basic necessity.”

The grants were made through TDHCA’s 2010 Emergency Shelter Grants Program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In addition to converting or renovating buildings for use as shelters, eligible activities include assisting homeless persons obtain permanent housing; providing medical and psychological counseling, substance abuse treatment, transportation and job training; and the development and implementation of homelessness prevention activities.

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.

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