Introduction to the CoC, the Steering Committee, and the need for coordination
Where does funding for homeless support services come from?

Most of the funding (>90%) for homeless services for the Houston area comes from the federal government, via the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Most of this comes from Continuum of Care (CoC) McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance funding (the “CoC grant”) made available through a national competition announced each year in HUD’s Notice of Funding Availability (“NOFA”) ≈ $42Min 2019

Additional Federal funds are also provided through Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Program (HOPWA) and State funded Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP).

Keeps around 5,000 formerly homeless persons housed
What is a Continuum of Care?

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires communities to come together to submit a **single, comprehensive application** for HUD CoC funds for housing and support services for people who have experienced homelessness.

The Continuum of Care (CoC) is the organizing principle.
What is The Way Home?

*The Way Home is the name for our local Continuum of Care* (CoC) also referred to as TX-700.

The Way Home is the collaborative effort underway to prevent and end homelessness in *Houston, Pasadena, Harris County, Fort Bend County, and Montgomery County*, Texas.

The Way Home partners with more than 100 homeless service agencies, local governments, public housing authorities, the local Veterans Affairs office, and other nonprofits and community stakeholders.

*The lead Agency* (Coalition for the Homeless) is responsible for preparing the annual collaborative application for HUD funds, the “CoC grant”
What is the Steering Committee and what are its responsibilities?

The **governance body** for The Way Home

Representative of the geography and composition of the CoC

**Selects the Lead Agency**

The **lead decision-making body** responsible for managing community **planning, coordination** and **evaluation** to ensure that the homeless response system rapidly ends people’s homelessness permanently.
Why do cities and counties have to coordinate with the CoC?

In addition to the “CoC grant” — funding that flows directly from HUD to the CoC — federal funds are also provided through Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

ESG and CDBG funds are awarded to local jurisdictions (e.g., the State, cities, and counties).

*Recipients of ESG funds are required by HUD to consult with the local CoC in determining how to allocate ESG funds.*
Cities’ and counties’ dual roles

Cities and counties within the CoC geographic area have designated seats on The Way Home’s Steering Committee.

These cities and counties are also recipients of ESG funds, which requires them to coordinate with the CoC to determine how to allocate.