The Coalition for the Homeless believes in the power of WE.

Our nearly 40 year history is rooted in the belief that our homeless response system moves further, faster, and more efficiently when we work together. The Houston region’s response to homelessness is complex; over 100 stakeholders - nonprofits, local government, housing authorities, and others - work together to offer an elaborate, holistic mosaic of strategies aimed to solve homelessness.

As lead agency of The Way Home, the local homeless response system, the Coalition takes thoughtful care to braid these various efforts into a cohesive single path, streamlining precious resources and strengthening our homeless response system at large.

Inside, find our annual report for the fiscal year running July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020. We hope you will see the significant impact the Coalition has made and why we are hopeful for the future of homelessness in the Houston region.
Dear friends,

As I reflect on my past two years with the Coalition, I remain amazed and inspired at the collective work being done to address homelessness in the Houston region. Our community is recognized as a national leader on addressing homelessness because more than 100 partners from all sectors – government agencies and public funders, nonprofit service providers, public housing authorities, private philanthropy, faith-based organizations and others – are coming together to coordinate services and implement programs that are proven to reduce homelessness. I am excited to share our work and our progress with you.

Since 2012, the Coalition has served those who serve people experiencing homelessness, convening those partners I mentioned above, sharing system-level data, and asking “how can WE do better – together?”

Though the global pandemic has thrown wrenches in so many of our plans, I am so impressed and humbled by the expertise of the staff and leadership at the Coalition and the willingness of partners to come together and help our most vulnerable neighbors. In just a month after COVID arrived in Houston, through the power of WE:

- WE stood up a dedicated COVID testing process for people experiencing homelessness with help from the City of Houston and Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston
- WE stood up an auxiliary emergency shelter in partnership with the City of Houston and Salvation Army so clients could properly social distance
- WE launched an isolation and quarantine facility in coordination with the City of Houston and Harris County, where people experiencing homelessness could recover when they tested positive
- WE distributed tens of thousands of pieces of PPE to partner agencies and people experiencing homelessness

And now, WE are implementing a long-term, housing focused-response to the pandemic, called the Community COVID Housing Program, or CCHP. This $65 million, two-year program will serve 5,000 people, giving them a chance to thrive, and create a more resilient community. The City of Houston and Harris County have committed $39 million and $18 million toward this plan, respectively. And private philanthropy has stepped up to the plate to accelerate our impact. That’s the power of combining our resources.

I truly believe that investments like these, into long-term solutions rather than band-aid crisis responses, are not only the morally right thing to do, but the fiscally responsible thing to do. I also believe that, together, we will become the first major city to end chronic homelessness and make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The Coalition is a remarkable organization focused on collaborative impact and the power of WE. As you read on, I challenge you to consider how YOUR talents and resources can contribute to how WE solve homelessness in our community.

Michael C. Nichols
President/CEO
When President/CEO Michael Nichols joined the Coalition in 2019, he led the redesign of the Coalition’s organizational chart to ensure that the Coalition was structured and staffed to be a strong and effective lead agency. Strong leadership across the system needed to start with an effective organizational structure at the Coalition. Two new departments were established: Strategic Planning & Public Affairs, and Development. These departments complemented the already existing Program Operations and Internal Operations departments. The creation of a Strategic Planning & Public Affairs department means a more intentional focus on the long-term view of the homeless response system. Their focus on collective impact and relationship building with partner agencies – as well as connecting to systems that feed into homelessness – expands the capabilities of the system at large. The dedicated focus by this team on advocacy, sustainability, and strategy allows our Program Operations team to focus on the day-to-day functions of our homeless response system.

Our dedicated Development department ensures we remain sustainable as our own independent 501(c)(3). Fundraising guarantees the continued delivery of our valuable and unique services to the community. This department also plays a role in homeless response system sustainability, raising private funds to leverage tens of millions in public funding in our community each year.

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Organizational Restructuring

Point-in-Time Homeless Count

Conducted in the last week of January each year, the 2020 Point-in-Time Homeless Count & Survey once again helped us determine the number of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness in Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties. The Count was led by the Coalition and was conducted by over 100 service providers and dozens of community volunteers. Because we have counted in the same way since 2011, the Count is particularly helpful when illustrating trends over time.

2020 Key Findings:

- 53% decrease in overall homelessness since 2011.
- 56,000 people touched in HMIS in 2019, including 23,000 who accessed a homeless program.
- 42% of individuals experiencing homelessness were living unsheltered.
- 19,000+ people have been placed in permanent supportive housing since 2011.

Racial Equity

Because as we work to serve people experiencing homelessness, racial inequity is not an abstract concept. It is the reality we see every day.

Black or African Americans are disproportionately represented among people experiencing homelessness in our community. People who identify as Black or African American make up 22.5% of the population of the greater Houston region, but 57% of those experiencing homelessness.

This disparity is the result of decades of structural oppression and systemic racism. It is upsetting and unacceptable. It also compels us to action. While we cannot have complete control over who experiences homelessness due to the racist systems feeding into the local homeless response system, we can provide equitable treatment and access to housing and services for all clients.

We are committed to improving racial equity within our local homeless response system - both in terms of access to services and positive outcomes. We will continue to examine our data to learn where we can do better. We are also committed to including input from voices that are reflective of the communities that we serve.

COVID Response

At the onset of COVID, the Coalition took stock and determined how best to protect employees, partners, and clients. We coordinated with direct service providers to understand needs and gaps. Each provider was impacted in unique ways in light of COVID, and we provided resources where possible, including tens of thousands of pieces of personal protective equipment.

Working with our partners, we also stood up three essential crisis responses for people experiencing homelessness: Dedicated COVID Testing, an Isolation & Quarantine Facility, and an Auxiliary Emergency Shelter.

At the same time as we were coordinating these immediate responses, the CARES Act was passed, bringing a substantial amount of new funding into the Houston community. The Coalition recognized the opportunity for our community to make once-in-a-generation investments into permanent housing and other homeless assistance programs to not only house those already experiencing homelessness, but to prepare our system to help those who will fall into homelessness due to the economic impacts of the pandemic.

The expert staff at the Coalition began designing an ambitious, housing-focused response to the pandemic called the Community COVID Housing Program (CCHP, or “chip”). By the end of June, the Coalition had secured $39 million in public funding commitments from the City of Houston, and $18 million committed by unanimous Commissioners Court vote from Harris County.

The CCHP continued beyond the fiscal year end on June 30, 2020, and it continues today.

Visit www.homelesshouston.org/CCHP to learn more.
Community of Supporters

The Coalition for the Homeless would like to thank the many individuals, families, businesses, charitable foundations, community organizations, and government partners whose donations between July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020 helped support our work to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

$5,000+

- Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Campo
- City of Houston Foundation
- CKP Group
- Clayton Fund
- CORT Furniture
- Florence and William K McGee Family Foundation
- Doug and Sarah Foshee Global Giving
- The Coalition for the Homeless
- Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs
- Greater Houston Community Foundation
- Harris County
- Heartland Alliance
- Houston Downtown Management District
- Houston Endowment
- Macdonald-Peterson Foundation
- Montgomery County Community Foundation
- NACC Disaster Services
- OnTarget Agency
- Open Gate Mission
- Rasmussen Foundation
- Reliant Energy
- Rockwell Fund, Inc.
- Strake Foundation

$500-$4,999+

- 4imprint
- Kayla Albaugh
- Orlando Alvarado
- Amegy Bank
- Justine Bakker
- Benevity Fund
- Steven and Lilli Blossom
- Jonathan Brinsden
- Gabe Cuadra
- Marc DelleRome
- Jack and Diane Eckels
- Karen Eldin
- Bob Eury
- Jeanne Fugate
- Destiny Gamble
- Life Start Up Essentials
- Joseph Madden
- Matthew Malek
- John McCauley
- Noah Morrison
- Dylan Moser
- LaBreia Mosley
- Woods Nash
- daVinci Oliver
- Operations Quest Trust
- Michael Pilkington
- Port City Chapter of Links, Inc.
- Tracy Stein
- Joseph Taylor
- The Edge Group
- The Village Connect
- Jackie Traywick
- Barbara Voz
- Thomas Waddell
- Annette Garber
- Lance Gilliam
- Michael Grenade
- Nathan Hartmann
- Katelyn Hobaugh
- Matthew Hoffmeister
- Michael Hommel
- Priyanka Jain
- Varun Kashyap
- Adrienne Kersey
- Rachel Kilpatrick
- Brian Knoll
- Peggie Kohnert
- Virginia Ledwell

Financials

FY 2020 Revenue

- $9,828,679
  - Foundations (42%)
  - Government (34%)
  - Corporations (2%)
  - Public Charities (5%)
  - Public Awareness (1%)
  - Misc. Income (1%)
  - Homeless System Grant Management (1%)
  - Strategic Planning (4%)
  - Individual Giving (1%)
  - Project Management Services (14.5%)
  - Private Sector (16%)
  - Administration (12.5%)
  - Fundraising (2%)

FY 2020 Expenses

- $8,059,156
  - Foundations (42%)
  - Government (34%)
  - Corporations (1%)
  - Public Charities (5%)
  - Public Awareness (1%)
  - Misc. Income (1%)
  - Homeless System Grant Management (1%)
  - Strategic Planning (4%)
  - Individual Giving (1%)
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Board of Directors

- Lance Gilliam, Chair – Waterman Steele Real Estate
- Christelle Calhoun Palay, Vice Chair – H.O.M.E. Coalition
- Griff Godwin, Treasurer – Greater Houston Builders Association
- Alan Watkins*, FY 2020 Chair – Wells Fargo Bank
- Amber Rabo, PhD*, FY 2020 Secretary – Cheniere Energy
- Teddy Adams - Crown Castle
- Cynthia Alvarado – Midtown Management District
- Jonathan Brinsden – Midway
- Ric Campo – Camden Property Trust
- Alan Dettlaff, PhD – University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work
- Joe Madden – Office of the County Judge
- Lina Hidalgo
- John McCauley, CFP - Wells Fargo Advisors
- Santhi Periasamy, PhD - Santhi Periasamy, Ph.D., P.L.L.C.
- Joe Madden – Office of the County Judge
- Lina Hidalgo
- John McCauley, CFP - Wells Fargo Advisors
- Santhi Periasamy, PhD - Santhi Periasamy, Ph.D., P.L.L.C.
- LaRence Snowden – Texas Southern University
- Troi Taylor – Taylor Construction Management
- Johnnie Leonard, MSN, RN, CEN, NE-BC* - Houston Methodist Hospital

We are grateful to all our donors and regret any error of omission or spelling.

*denotes Board Members who finished their service at the end of FY 2020
The Coalition mourns the untimely passing of our valued colleague Tamiko Jones in December 2020.