

2021 Legislative Session preview

Strategies For Change

thn.org

Agenda



THN Introduction



87th Legislative Session Outlook



What is THN?

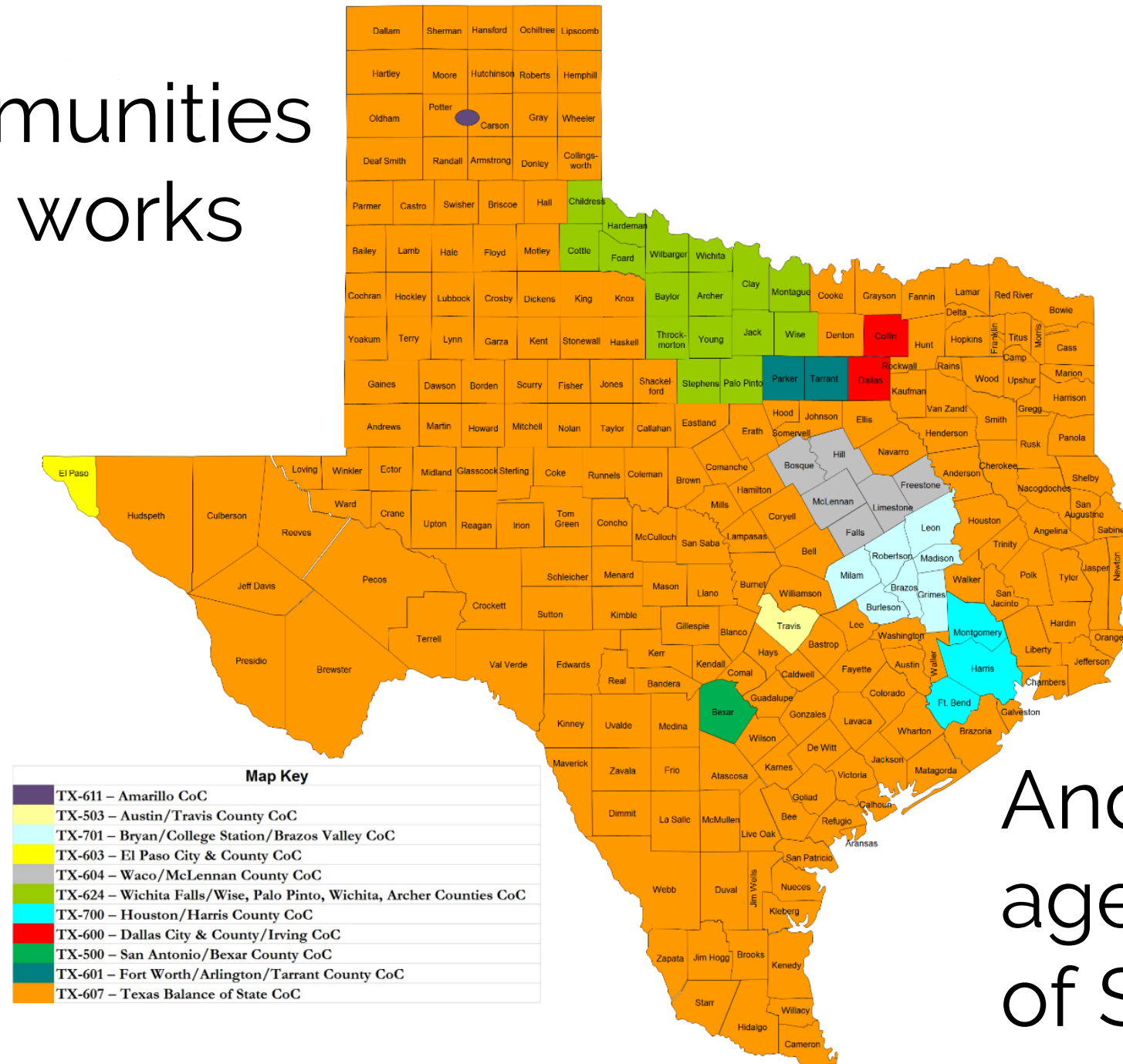
THN is a statewide agency that...

Leads communities in Texas so that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring



Homelessness in Texas

The communities that THN works with/for:



And THN is the lead agency for TX Balance of State CoC



87th Legislative Session Outlook

- Strengthen Texas' Homeless Crisis response Systems
- Expand Affordable, Accessible housing opportunities
- Target Assistance to our most vulnerable Texas



Strengthen Texas' Homeless Crisis response Systems



Connecting Texas' Homeless Response systems



Texas Data Sharing Network - HB 3180



The establishment of a centralized homelessness crisis response system)
Author: Representative Bowers (Dallas)



Unify Homeless Crisis Response systems across Texas



Plan and prepare for disaster response
In the aftermath of a disaster understand who has evacuated and to where



Understand long-term trends and outcomes

Understand frequent users on a statewide basis



Connect people to appropriate resources



Sharing data houses people



Additional Legislation THN will support

- . Protect critical funding – HHSP (Homeless Housing and Services Program)
- . Legislation designed to divert people from correctional system and prevent recidivism
- . Reinstating source of Income protections
- . Statewide disaster housing strategy for Texans at-risk and experiencing homelessness



Expand Affordable, Accessible housing opportunities



Reasons to support SB 1116 & Increase tax credits for supportive housing

Spurs investors to solve social need

Uses private investment to solve community problem. Managed Care Organizations have an interest in housing their super-utilizers of expensive health care interventions.



Housing programs show a \$1.20 return on every \$1 spent



Permanent supportive housing is the most effective housing intervention for individuals experiencing homelessness to provide affordable, long-term housing.

Texas lacks deeply affordable housing

Our state needs tax credit projects that support deeply affordable housing for those that are 0-30% of AMIFI. The majority of tax credit projects are for 31-50% of AMFI (very low income) or 51-80% of AMFI.



Target Assistance to our most vulnerable Texas





Healthy Community Collaborative Program (HCCP)



Case Management | Housing Services | Substance Abuse Services | Mental Health

28,514 people received Mental Health Services*



21,572

people received Housing Services*

Due to strict matching guidelines, much of the HCCP funds go unused. Easing the rules around match would increase the scale and reach of the program improving outcomes for the target populations and communities

*data from 2014-2016



Additional Legislation THN will support

- Increase protections/opportunities for victims of domestic violence
 - Coerced debt forgiveness
- Expansion of service/opportunities for people with disabilities
- Support increased protections for unhoused Texans/Oppose criminalization efforts
- Trauma informed training for police officers

