



## Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Commissioner  
H. L. Whitman, Jr.

May 14, 2019

Shaun Lee  
Board Chairman  
Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition  
PO Box 23025  
Waco, Texas 76702

Dear Mr. Lee:

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), Children's Protective Services (CPS) Division, is pleased to provide this Letter of Commitment (LOC) to the Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition (HOTHC), the Continuum of Care (CoC) Collaborative Applicant for TX-604 Waco/McLennan County CoC in its application to the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant. DFPS understands that this lucrative grant will support up to 25 communities with between \$1 million and \$15 million in funding (depending on population size and poverty level) in order to create and implement a Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness. We also understand that a threshold requirement of the grant is collaboration with a state or local Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA). The CoC must include the state or local PCWA as a CoC member and must confer with the PCWA concerning the development of the community's application for the YHDP. Please let this LOC serve as verification that DFPS is a member of the CoC and ensure our commitment to participate in the creation of the Coordinated Community Plan.

DFPS input is vital to creating a Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness and the submittal of this grant application on behalf of the CoC of TX-604 Waco/McLennan County CoC. In addition to this LOC, DFPS agrees to execute a memorandum of understanding at the time funding is received between DFPS/CPS and HOTHC/the CoC outlining the following:

- DFPS is a member of the Continuum of Care, which meets bi-monthly to discuss issues regarding the homeless community. The HOTHC General Membership serves as the primary source of expertise and program implementation. Responsibilities include providing input, expertise, and recommendations to HOTHC and the HOTHC Board regarding all matters relating to Continuum of Care responsibilities, policies, and procedures.

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- DFPS will commit to sending a representative to attend any meetings that relate to the development process of the application to be submitted to HUD by HOTHHC.
- The DFPS representative will attend the monthly YHDP Leadership Committee meetings as required by HUD and listed in the Notice of Funding Announcement to oversee the development and planning effort to create and establish a Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness.
- The DFPS representative will provide input on the development and implementation of the Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness.
- The point of contact for the CoC is Staci Love, Regional 7 Program Administrator.

HOTHHC agrees to:

- Integrate recommendations made by DFPS in the Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness.
- Rally community and programmatic support behind youth aging out of foster care and include these youth in future funding to end youth homelessness in the CoC region.

We understand that future YHDP program recipients will assume full responsibility for all match funds associated with the grant and that DFPS funds are not a part of the proposed match. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with HOTHHC, the Continuum of Care Collaborative Applicant for the TX-604 Waco/McLennan County CoC, as a member of the CoC to improve outcomes for children and families experiencing homelessness in Texas.

Sincerely,



H. L. Whitman, Jr.  
Commissioner



# HEART OF TEXAS HOMELESS COALITION

ADVOCACY · ASSISTANCE · ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
PO BOX 23025, WACO, TX 76702

May 2, 2019

Re: DFPS- Child Protective Services Membership in the HOT Continuum of Care

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Chairperson of the Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition, I confirm the status of DFPS - Child Protective Services Region 7 as a member of The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition and is working the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Team. DFPS has committed to participating in the development of the Coordinated Community Plan. The goal of working together as a part of this team is to close the door of youth homelessness in our community.

DFPS-Child Protective Services has partnered with The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition in an effort to end youth homelessness. We believe that this collaboration between DFPS-Child Protective Services and The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition will provide a better avenue for coordinating and implementing a comprehensive plan to end youth homelessness. Cooperation between DFPS-Child Protective Services and The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition will provide both agencies with a mutually reinforcing partnership that will provide support in fighting to end youth homelessness.

We have agreed that it is important to increase our community's overall buy-in to end youth homelessness. With the many agencies within the YHDP team, we believe that the capacity for innovation within our community will be increased. As a member of the coalition and part of the YHDP, DFPS-Child Protective Services has agreed to support The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition and the Continuum of Care as we fight to end youth homelessness to the best of their ability. If there are any questions, please contact my office at 254-297-7067.

Shaun Lee  
Chairperson of the Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition

[WWW.HEARTOFTEXASHOMELESS.ORG](http://WWW.HEARTOFTEXASHOMELESS.ORG)



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