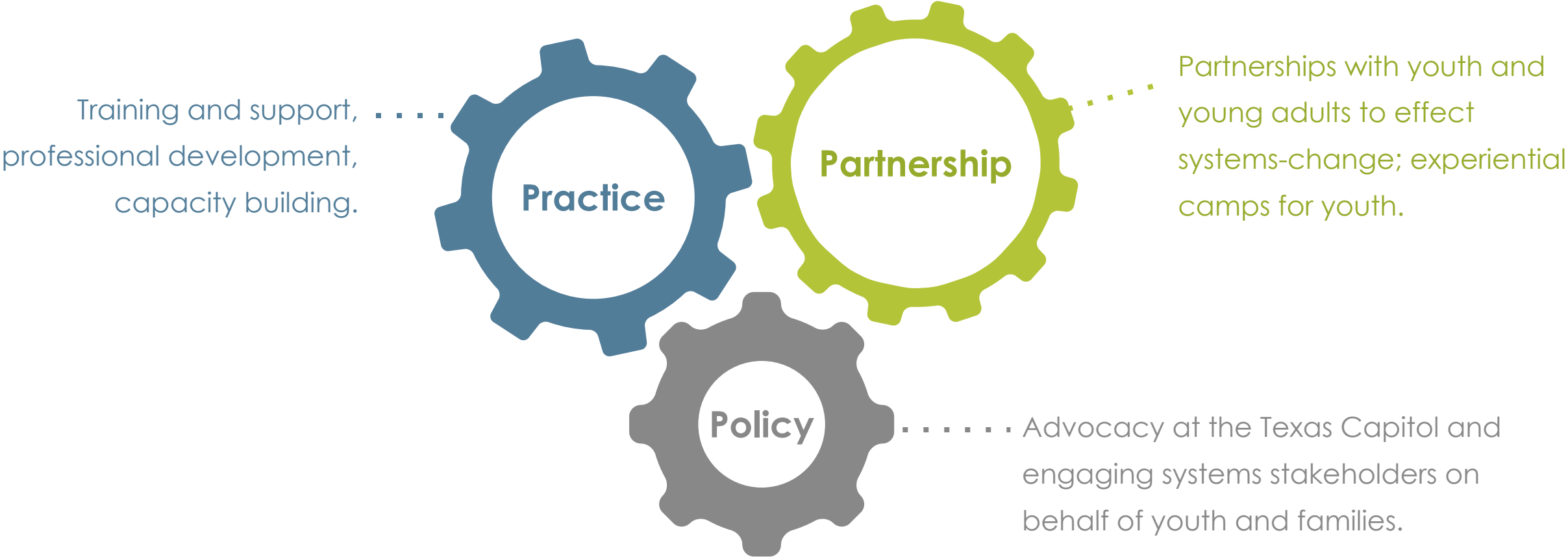TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

The mission of TNOYS is to strengthen services and support for Texas youth and families to help them overcome challenges and achieve healthy development.
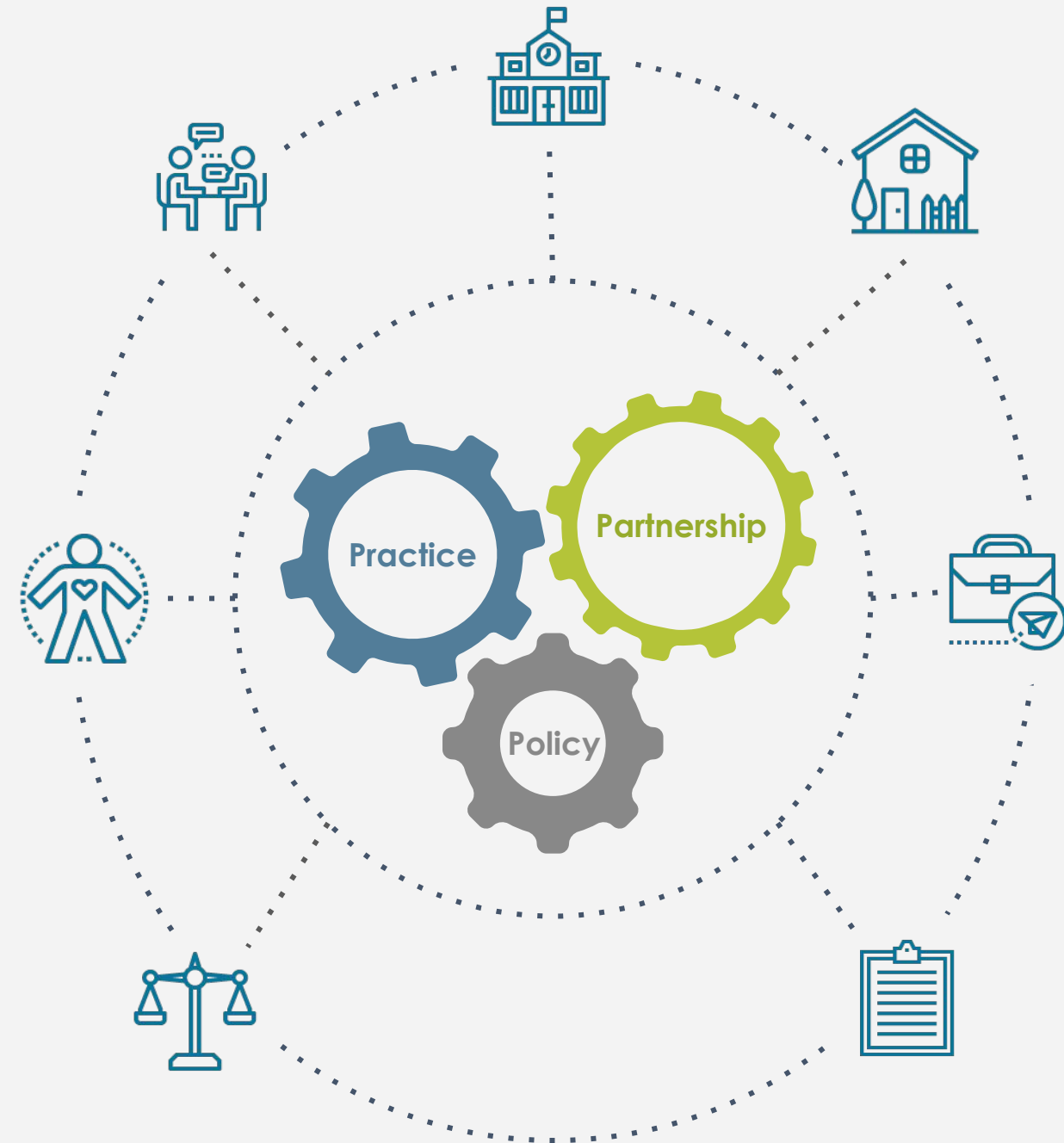
TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# Membership at a Glance

- Over **100 Organizational and Professional Members** serving youth, young adults, and families in **every Texas region.**

- A diverse range of individual members, including frontline staff.

- Representation across systems such as **education, child welfare, housing, and much more.**

TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# Our work is guided by a comprehensive **systems-change** approach

Training and support, professional development, capacity building.

**Practice**

**Partnership**

Partnerships with youth and young adults to effect systems-change; experiential camps for youth.

**Policy**

Advocacy at the Texas Capitol and engaging systems stakeholders on behalf of youth and families.

**TNOYS**
TEXAS NETWORK OF YOUTH SERVICES

By working **across systems,** we foster collaboration, build organizational capacity, and effect systems change.

TNOYS works across seven systems:

- Health
- Housing
- Child Welfare
- Victim Services

- Justice
- Workforce
- Education

**TNOYS**
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# Policy

We work with youth and providers on **research-driven** policy advocacy.

**Past Win**

First-ever line item in the state budget to serve youth and young adults experiencing homelessness.

**Looking Ahead**

Working alongside state agencies, TNOYS members, and youth and young adult partners to implement policy enacted during the 88th Texas Legislative Session

## TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# Practice

TNOYS equips professionals with **skills and resources** to meet the complex needs of youth and families.

**Past Win**

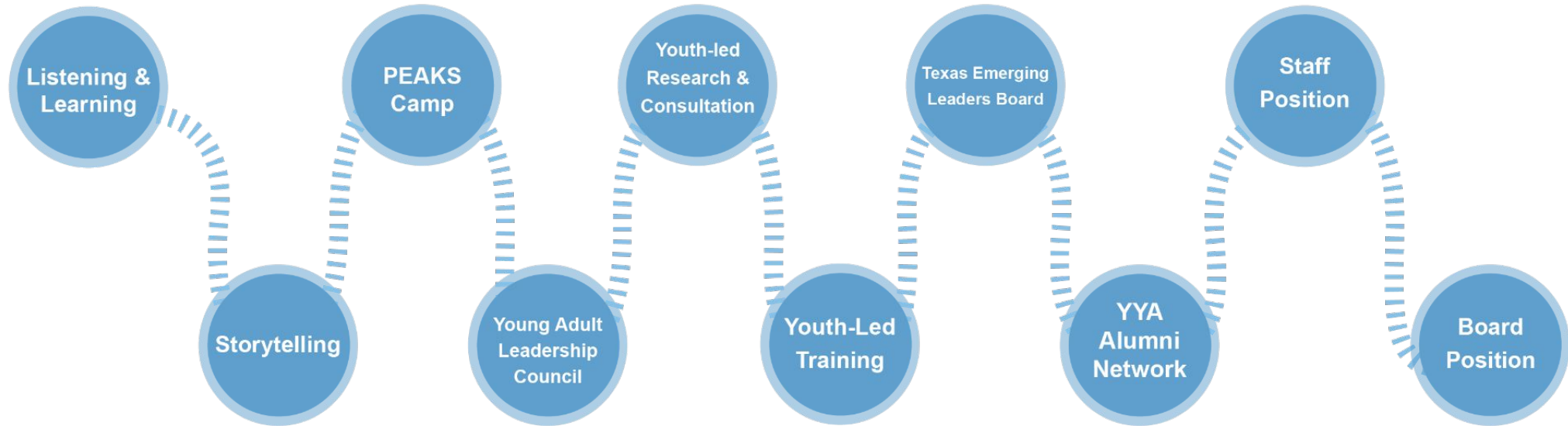Provided professional development to thousands of youth services professionals across Texas.

**Looking Ahead**

TNOYS' 41st Annual Conference on Services to Youth and Families takes place June 4-7 in Houston, Texas.

**TNOYS**
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# Partnerships

TNOYS **centers youth and young adult voice** in everything we do. TNOYS offers many opportunities for youth to engage in our work in both big and small ways.

## TNOYS' Youth Engagement Roadmap



Listening & Learning

Storytelling

PEAKS Camp

Young Adult Leadership Council

Youth-led Research & Consultation

Youth-Led Training

Texas Emerging Leaders Board

YYA Alumni Network

Staff Position

Board Position

TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF YOUTH SERVICES

# Young Adult Leadership Council (YALC)

The YALC empowers youth and young adults by elevating their stories and lived expertise.

> The YALC is a 12-month leadership development program for youth and young adults from across Texas.

**TNOYS**
TEXAS NETWORK OF YOUTH SERVICES

# Equity & Inclusion

A commitment to **diversity**, **equity**, **and inclusion** underscores our work.

TNOYS elevates the voices and experiences of youth and providers who have been underrepresented in the past, including people of color and those in the LGBTQ+ community.
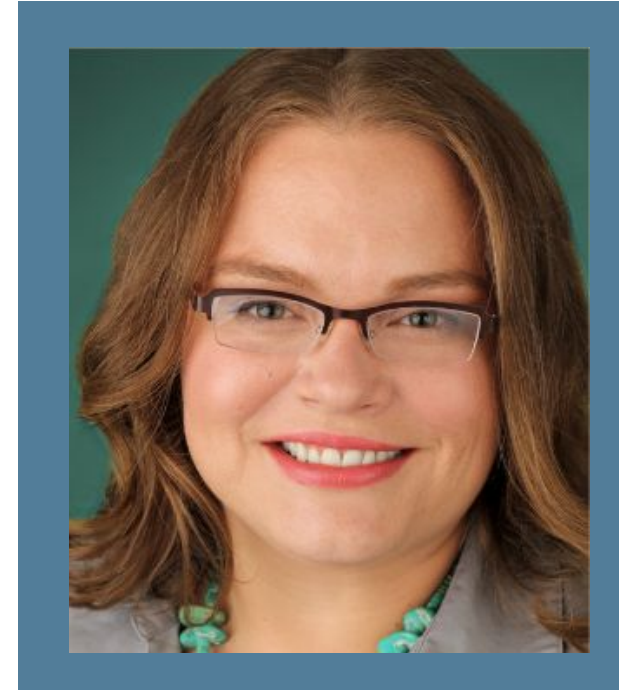
![TNOYS - TEXAS NETWORK OF YOUTH SERVICES]

# The Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grants

**Fedora Galasso (She/Her), MSSW, MPAff**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Lauren Rose (She/Her), MPAFF**

**Director of Public Policy**

TNOYS
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YOUTH SERVICES

# Overview of YHSI Grant Objectives

1. Improve the capacity of youth in the community.

2. Establish partnerships: Bring together system partners who also work with youth who are living in unstable housing.

3. Improve the centralized or coordinated assessment system also known as the Coordinated Entry Systems (CES).

4. Improve data collection and use between systems that work with youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.

5. Assess, address, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems.

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# TNOYS Approach to Systems Improvement

Systemic change is often larger than one Continuum of Care. **HUD is including additional points for statewide or cross-community project proposals to emphasize the need for coordination across communities.** TNOYS plans to take a statewide approach to systems improvement for the youth and young adult homeless response system by:

- Leveraging our statewide network of providers providing supports and services along with critical partnerships with state agency partners through the Statewide Collaborative on Homelessness, Texas Interagency Council on Homelessness, and long established agency partnerships.

- Scaling TNOYS expertise as the state leader on authentically engaging and supporting youth and young adults experiencing homelessness.

- Partnering with the Texas Homeless network to improve data capacity.

# TNOYS Approach to Grant Objective #1 Planning

Improve the capacity of youth in the community: Developing peer support models, including training, project design, and implementation; creating Youth Action Board training, including government rules, leadership, and other skills; community training and outreach on how to work with youth and integrate youth leadership in an authentic way.

- Established Young Adult Leadership Council who have partnered with TNOYS to develop and design the project proposal.

- Scaling TNOYS expertise as the state leader on authentically engaging and supporting youth and young adults experiencing homelessness through statewide training and technical assistance through the Blueprint for Youth Engagement with the goal of increasing statewide youth action boards and improved processes.

- Statewide listening sessions with youth, young adults, providers, and agencies.

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YOUTH SERVICES

# TNOYS Approach to Grant Objective #2 Partnerships

Establish partnerships: Bringing together system partners who also work with youth who are living in unstable housing. This could include partnerships with Tribes and cultural organizations in the community, K-12 schools, higher education, juvenile justice, child welfare, employment services, etc.

- Leveraging statewide network of providers and established partnerships with state agencies to better identify and understand the needs of youth, including exit strategies from youth-systems such as:
  - DFPS - PEAKS Camp, Preparation for Adult Living, PPP/CARP,
  - OOG -  Improving the capacity to address and respond to Commercial Sexual Exploitation
  - HHSC - Improvement/support of Prevention and Early Intervention programming, CRCGs
  - TJJD - Regionalization and capacity/needs assessment of youth exiting the JJ system
  - TEA - Training and technical assistance of McKinney Vento Homeless liaisons
  - TWC/THECB - Ongoing  work to address youth disconnected from school and work - TOYN
- Amplify the TICH, Statewide Collaborative on Youth Homelessness, and Texas Nonprofit Council to improve response

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# TNOYS Approach to Grant Objective #3 CES

Improve the centralized or coordinated assessment system also known as the Coordinated Entry Systems (CES).

- Coordinate with Continuums of Care statewide, especially those implementing YHDP: Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (Travis, Harris, Bexar, McLennan, Tarrant, Dallas) and those interested in applying to improve coordinated entry e.g., Balance of State and El Paso.

- Gather and assess CES tools to develop a Texas youth-specific assessment tool along with an ongoing evaluation process.

- Create a prioritization plan for youth experiencing homelessness within the larger CES.

- Conduct a statewide survey to better understand the needs of youth experiencing homelessness within CES.

TNOYS
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YOUTH SERVICES

# TNOYS Approach to Grant Objective #4 Data

Improve data collection and use between systems that work with youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.

- Partner with the Texas Homeless Network and Texas Data Sharing Network.

- Advance data interoperability to identify where the systems overlap and what clients they may share through a collaborative analysis of the data each system collects. Following these analyses, a road map can be constructed to move toward interoperability between youth-serving data systems.

- Expand the network of youth-serving providers that enter data into HMIS and assist them in working towards more collaborative care coordination across the state.

**TNOYS**
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# TNOYS Approach to Grant Objective #5 Equity

Assess, address, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems.

- Conduct statewide Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) to amplify & leverage youth and young adult expertise. YPAR is an innovative approach to positive youth and community development in which YYAs are trained to conduct systematic research to improve their lives, communities, and the systems intended to serve them.

- Scale the Positive Youth Development approach to create supportive youth systems where the assets and resources in a young person's life are aligned with their strengths and needs.

- Conduct a statewide analysis focused on the current outcomes for youth experiencing homelessness and make recommendations for statewide solutions and improvements.

TNOYS
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YOUTH SERVICES

# TNOYS Ask for the TICH and member agencies

1. Approve a Letter of Support for TNOYS' application to the YHSI grant.

2. Support the project when and where applicable. Ex:

    a. Participate in survey responses

    b. Participate in listening and learning activities

    c. Encourage your colleagues to participate

3. Stay informed about the project and be the first to know major updates!

4. Attend meetings of the Statewide Collaborative on Youth Homelessness

    Next Meeting: **Tuesday, February 6,** 3:00 – 4:30pm (zoom)

    Email [policy@tnoys.org](mailto:policy@tnoys.org) to be added to SCYH distribution list

TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

# Save the Date: TNOYS' 41st Annual Conference

June 4-7 2024 in Houston, Texas

## Join nearly 500 attendees from across youth services

- 50+ workshops led by professionals and young people
- Inspiring keynote speakers
- Networking with professionals from across youth services



tnoys.org/2024-annual-conference/ | annualconference@tnoys.org

# Get Involved

Join our mailing list at
http://tnoys.org/subscribe or with the
QR code below!

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**TNOYS**
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

<Letterhead>

Your Agency
POC
Address
City, State, Zip Code

Date

Texas Network of Youth Services
Attn: Fedora Galasso
7703 N Lamar Blvd #260,
Austin, TX 78752

Subject: Letter of Support for the YHSI Grant

Dear Fedora Galasso,

We are writing on behalf of Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless. In 1995, the 74th Texas legislature established the Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless (TICH). Legislation requires TICH to coordinate the state's resources and services to address homelessness. TICH serves as an advisory committee to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). Representatives from eleven state agencies sit on the council along with members appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives.

The Council's duties are outlined in the Texas Government Code §2306.905:

- Survey current resources for services for the homeless in the state;
- Assist in coordinating and providing statewide services for all homeless individuals in this state;
- Increase the flow of information among separate providers and appropriate authorities;
- Provide technical assistance to TDHCA in assessing the need for housing for individuals with special needs in different localities; and
- Maintain a central resource and information center for homeless services. [Organization Name], which [organization overview].

The TICH commits to working with the Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS) on the Youth Homelessness System Improvement Grant to support their projects to:

- Improve the capacity of youth in the community: Developing peer support models, including training, project design, and implementation; creating Youth Action Board

training, including government rules, leadership, and other skills; community training and outreach on how to work with youth and authentically integrate youth leadership.
- Establish partnerships: Bringing together system partners who also work with youth who are living in unstable housing. This could include partnerships with Tribes and cultural organizations in the community, K-12 schools, higher education, juvenile justice, child welfare, employment services, etc.
- Improve the centralized or coordinated assessment system also known as the Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- Improve data collection and use between systems that work with youth at risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Assess, address, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems.

The TICH understands the significance of this grant which aims to improve the capacity of youth in the community, establish partnerships, improve centralized or coordination assessment systems, improve data collection, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems. TNOYS is dedicated to making a meaningful impact on the lives of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness in Texas, and we believe that the YHSI grant will be a powerful tool to achieve that vision.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or have any questions.


Sincerely,


<SIGNATURE>


[Your name]
[Position]
{Organization]
[Contact info]

# January 2024 Report

## Texas Balance of State CoC

The THN team dedicated to the 215 county TX continues to work hard on behalf of those communities. Some highlights include:

The FY 23 CoC grant was submitted on behalf of the TX BoS CoC early last fall. We are still waiting on the funding announcement. Some details:

- Staff helped communities submit 27 applications,
- 8 for new funding for $3.2 mil
- 19 for renewal funding for $13.4 mil
- THN submitted 4 applications for funding to support communities.
- Total request $18.2 mil

THN staff leading the Emergency Housing Voucher program recently reported:

- 672 households referred/393 housed totaling at least 918 individuals.
- over 1,100 applications received
- Top Counties served:
  1) Denton
  2) Galveston
  3) Victoria
  4) Lubbock

## Statewide Initiatives

A small group of THN team members continue to work with partners statewide across each of the 11 homeless response systems. Some highlights include:

Texas Conference on Ending Homelessness

- The 2023 conference last fall was the largest to date, 680 registrants, speakers, exhibitor/sponsor staff, and scholarship registrants attended
- The 2024 conference will be September 11 – 13 at the Houston Omni Galleria Hotel

THN provided at least 1,397 people with referral assist that were experiencing or at risk of homelessness between Sept 1, 2022 – Aug 31, 2023
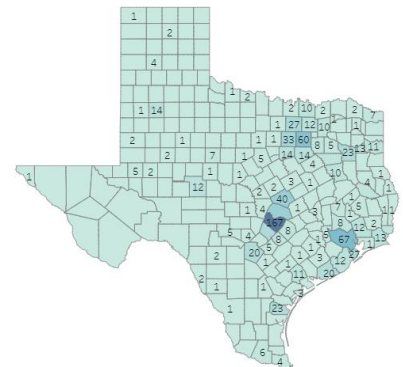


**22-23 Referrals** by Texas Homeless Network

Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network

- Thanks to the generosity of TSAHC the project is fully funded for 2024 but funding for '25 and years beyond is still needed
- The up-to-date data dashboard shows that over 74K Texans fell into homelessness in 2023 through September.
- THN continues to receive requests for data through the THDSN for research purposes. Two current project descriptions are on the following page.

# January 2024 Report

Research Requests

## Upstream Eviction Prevention Pilot Program

-        Harvard Law School (Access to Justice Lab), Connective, and University of Houston Law Center

Project Description:

This pilot project will assess the operation feasibility of a study to investigate a proposed intervention to transform eviction legal services from reactive and downstream to preventive and upstream. The intervention is the provision of legal information at the time when tenants are in danger of informal eviction. The information both describes further resources tenants can access, and articulates recommended courses of action for tenants facing informal eviction.

It is the belief that tenants are unaware of legal services available should they face formal eviction nor of their pre-litigation legal rights and responsibilities with respect to their housing. As a result, high rates of tenants are evicted – formally and informally. Thus, this pilot will research the following questions: *Do those receiving housing-related Know-Your-Rights-information via text remain more housing-secure than those not receiving such information? And, do those receiving information via text about available services use those services more frequently?*

The aim is to enroll 100 unduplicated clients in the pilot project for research purposes. **To date, 15 clients have been identified to participate in the study. Out of these 15 clients, 4 were found in the Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network database.** Enrollment in the program is ongoing.

## City of Houston Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security

-        Regional Coordinators from the City of Houston Mayor's Office

Project Description:

The City of Houston Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security is building a tool that emergency managers can use to make better data-driven and more inclusive decisions during disasters. This data will serve as a GIS layer incorporated into the tool that will inform preparedness and response activities for communities in the H-GAC region (made up of 13 unique counties).

The data will be used to better inform emergency managers and those with a need to know about the unhoused population, their locations, and any other information related to impacts on the community before, during, and after disasters. **A list of zip codes from the 13-county region was received in December 2023. Texas Homeless Network (THN), on behalf of the Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network (THDSN), is working with our Data Warehouse vendor, Green River, on pulling requested information for clients who have received services at a site location in one of the identified zip codes.** This is also an ongoing research partnership.

# State-Level Homelessness Report 2023
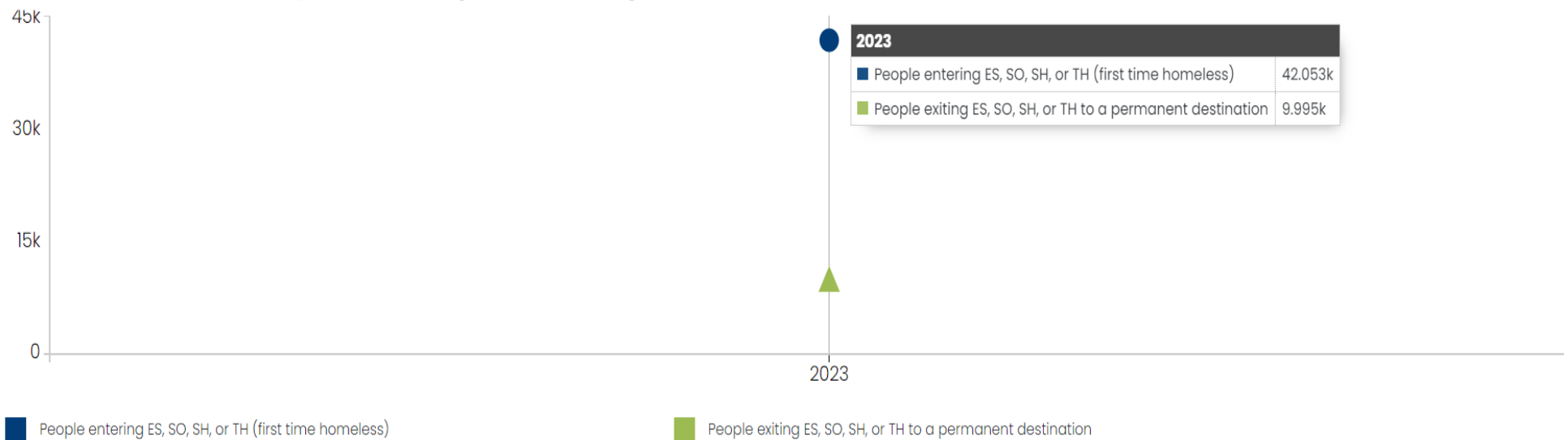
**56,664**

Homeless Households ⓘ

**22%**

Unsheltered ⓘ

\*

**74,245**

Total People Experiencing Homelessness in 2023 ⓘ

## Total Number of People Entering and Exiting Homelessness ⓘ



| 2023 | |
|---|---|
| ■ People entering ES, SO, SH, or TH (first time homeless) | 42.053k |
| ■ People exiting ES, SO, SH, or TH to a permanent destination | 9.995k |

■ People entering ES, SO, SH, or TH (first time homeless)

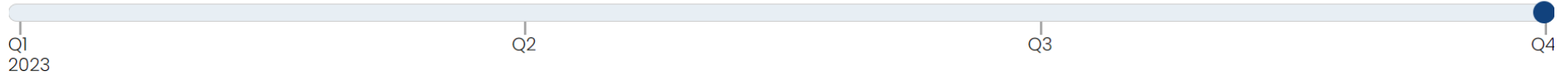■ People exiting ES, SO, SH, or TH to a permanent destination

\* The Statewide Homelessness Report or Data Dashboard includes client statistics pulled from 237 of 254 Texas counties. This data is provided by the Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network (THDSN), which currently receives client-level data from nine (9) of the eleven (11) Continuum of Care (CoC) regions throughout Texas. It is crucial to note that this report captures the **minimum** number of documented homeless individuals or households in Texas.
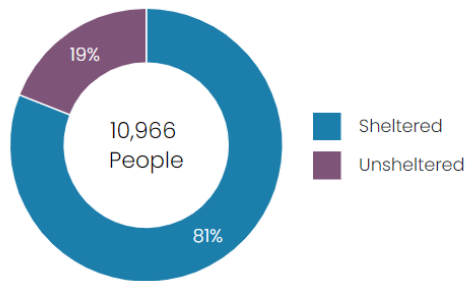
This data is up-to-date and includes data from all participating CoCs, with the exception of Austin, Waco/McLennan County, Houston, and Amarillo so it's not 100% complete
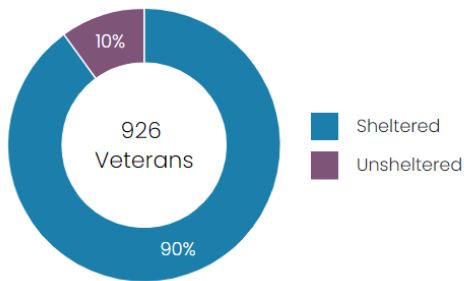
# State-Level Homelessness Report 2023

Q1 2023 — Q2 — Q3 — Q4

## All People
Q4 2023

- 19% Unsheltered
- 81% Sheltered
- 10,966 People

Legend:
- Sheltered
- Unsheltered

## Veterans
Q4 2023

- 10%
- 90%
- 926 Veterans

Legend:
- Sheltered
- Unsheltered

## Household Type
Q4 2023

- 8%
- 91%
- 8,817 Households

Legend:
- Adult Only
- Adults with Children
- Children-Only Households
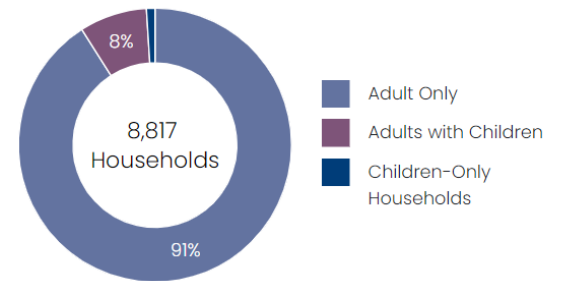
## Racial Composition
Q4 2023

**Homeless Population**

| 43% | 27% | | 26% | |
|---|---|---|---|---|

**Overall Population**

| | 12% | 64% | | 11% | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Legend:
- American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous
- Asian or Asian American
- Black, African American, or African
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Doesn't know, prefers not to answer, or not collected
- Multi-Racial
- Other or Unknown

# State-Level Homelessness Report 2023



| None | Any - 3 per 10,000 | 4 - 6 per 10,000 | 7 - 9 per 10,000 | 10 - 12 per 10,000 | 13 - 15 per 10,000 | 16 - 18 per 10,000 | 19+ per 10,000 |

Population group rate by location
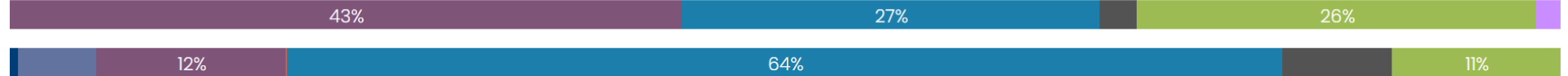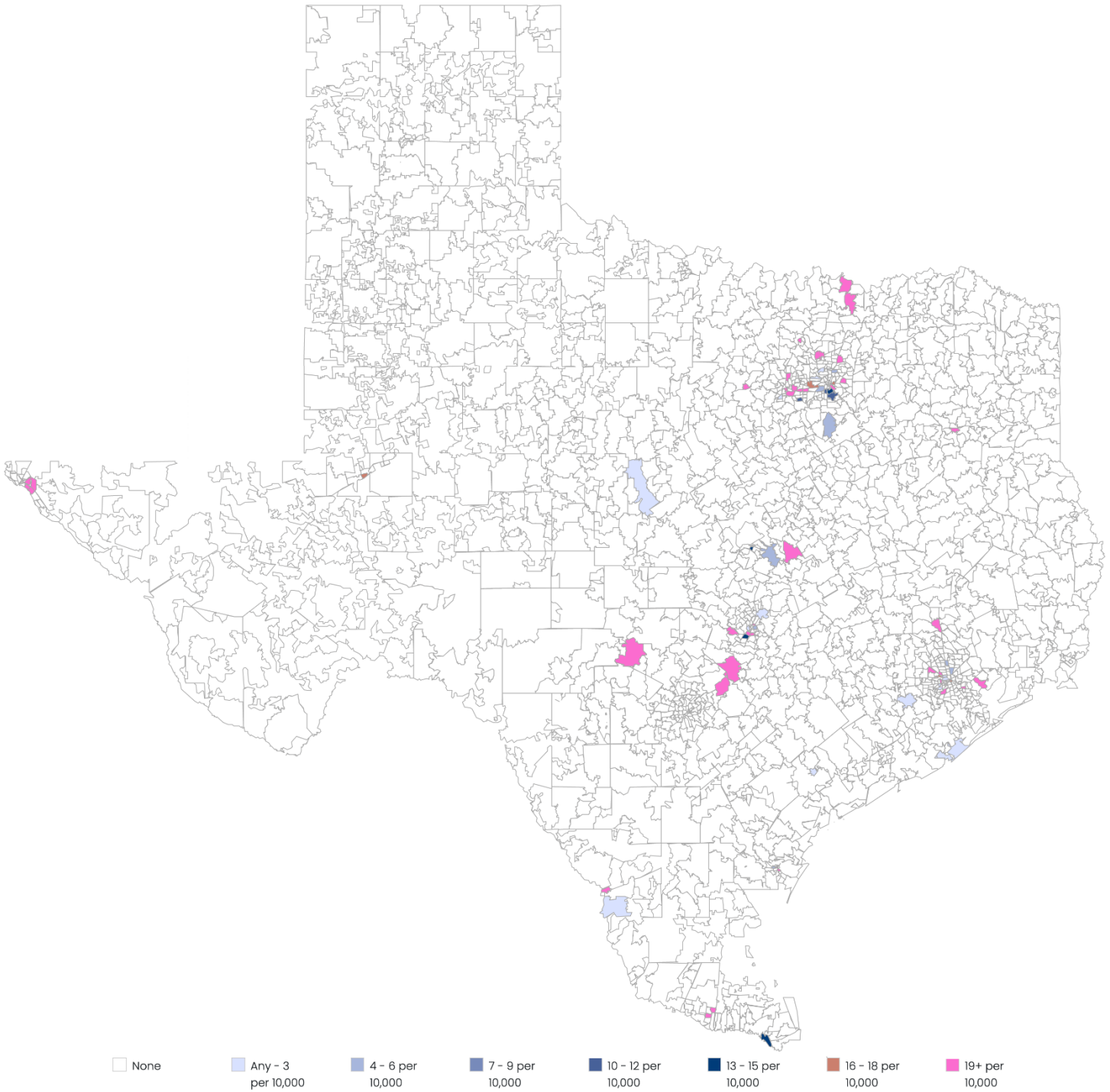
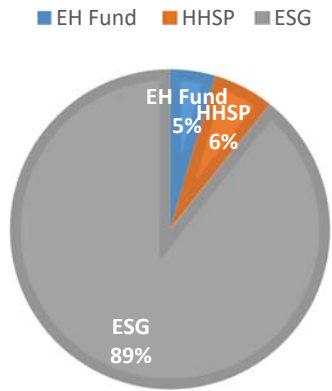Please note: the map above shows the number of individuals and families receiving homelessness services based on the ZIP code of the providers' principal site during the selected period.

The map above shows rates of homelessness by zip code. Pink indicates the rate of homelessness is 19 or more people experience homelessness for every 10,000 people in the zip code region.

# TDHCA Homeless Programs



**FUNDING SOURCES**

- EH Fund
- HHSP
- ESG

EH Fund 5%
HHSP 6%
ESG 89%

**FUNDING BREAKDOWN**

- Committed Funds
- Funds Expended

| | EH FUND | HHSP | ESG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Funds Expended | $45,862 | $165,323 | $2,136,570 |
| Committed Funds | $576,936 | $778,468 | $11,296,301 |

**Services Provides**

| | EH/HHSP | ESG - HP | ESG - RRH | ESG- ES | ESG - SO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Persons Served | 4,485 | 492 | 470 | 8,423 | 924 |
| HH Served | 2796 | 208 | 213 | 6005 | 872 |

- Persons Served
- HH Served
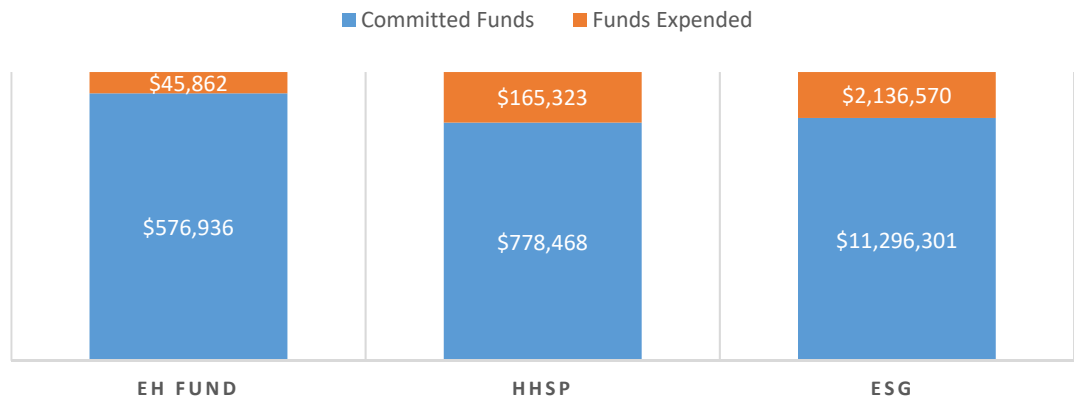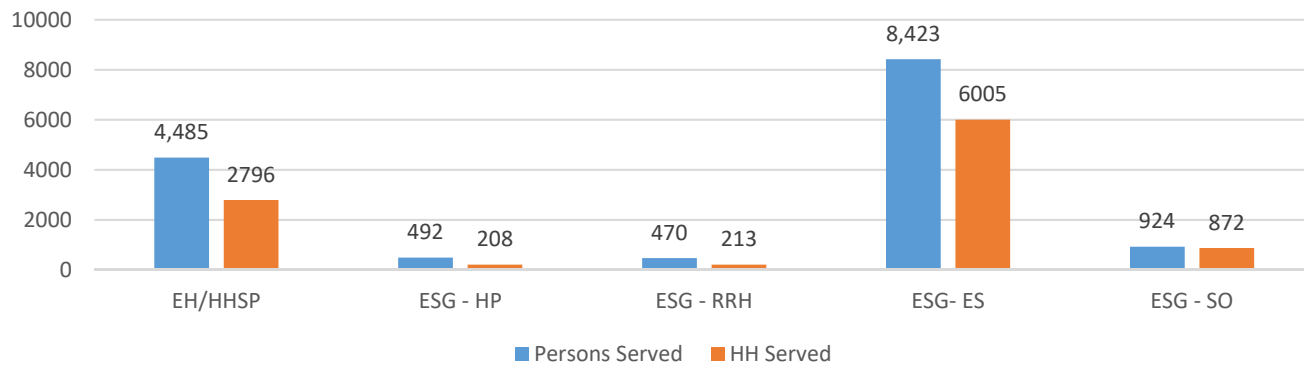
# TDHCA Homeless Programs

## EH/HHSP Categories



- $296,189, 10%
- $264,736, 8%
- $243,356, 8%
- $573,725, 19%
- $98,071, 3%
- $1,608,698, 52%
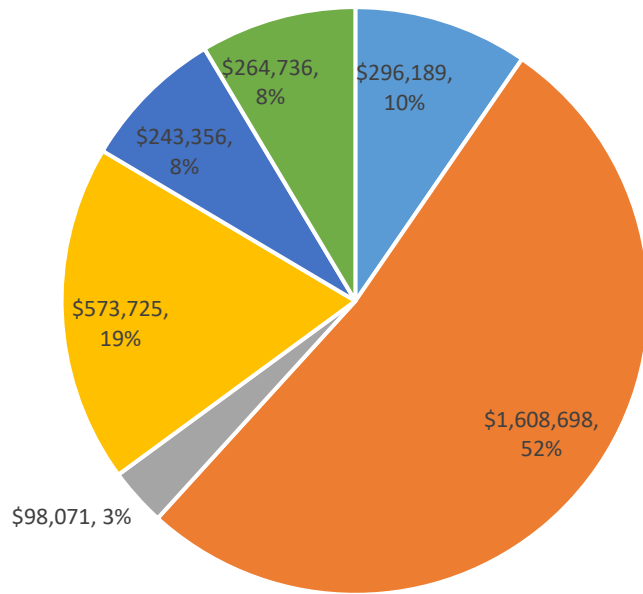
Legend:
- ■ Administration
- ■ Case Management
- ■ Essential Services
- ■ Homeless Assistance
- ■ Homeless Prevention
- ■ Shelter Operations

## ESG Components



- $40,055, 2%
- $67,380, 3%
- $150,044, 7%
- $494,155, 23%
- $937,591, 44%
- $447,346, 21%
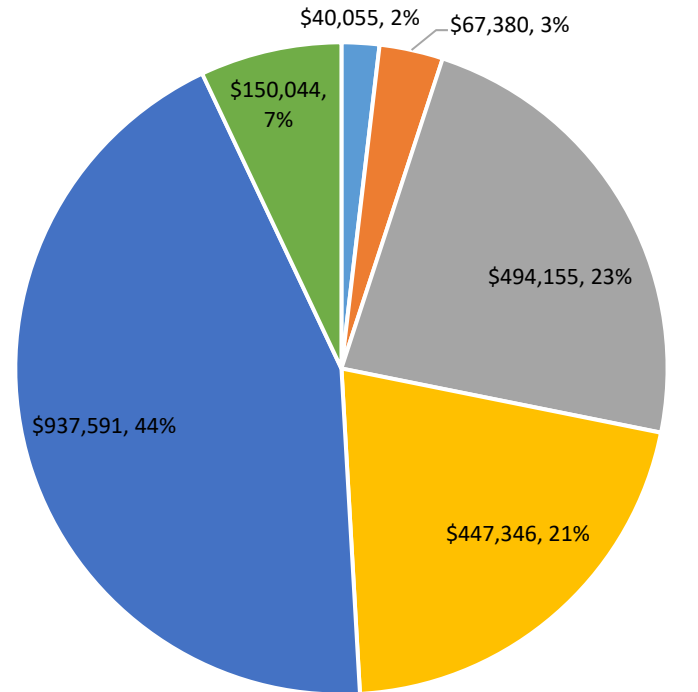
Legend:
- ■ Administration
- ■ HMIS
- ■ Homeless Prevention
- ■ Rapid Re-Housing
- ■ Shelter
- ■ Street Outreach

# TDHCA Homeless Programs
## Pandemic Response – ESG CARES



|  | ESG - HP | ESG - RRH | ESG - ES | ESG - SO |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ■ Persons Served | 25,573 | 12,557 | 49,068 | 12,915 |
| ■ Households Served | 10,950 | 7,793 | 39,218 | 12,521 |
| ■ Funds Committed | $40,098,668 | $34,932,953 | $16,349,543 | $3,001,169 |
| ■ Funds Expended | $39,354,151 | $33,320,648 | $15,400,882 | $2,773,100 |

ESG - HP, $39,354,151
ESG - HP, 25,573
ESG - RRH, $33,320,648
ESG - RRH, 12,557
ESG - ES, 49,068
ESG - ES, $15,400,882
ESG - SO, 12,915
ESG - SO, $2,773,100

### ESG CV Components



Administration , $5,629,007, 6%
HMIS, $2,498,958, 2%
Street Outreach , $2,773,100, 3%
Shelter, $15,400,882, 15%
Homeless Prevention , $39,354,151, 40%
Rapid Re-Housing, $33,320,648, 34%

- ■ Administration
- ■ HMIS
- ■ Street Outreach
- ■ Shelter
- ■ Homeless Prevention
- ■ Rapid Re-Housing