



# FORT WORTH HOUSING AUTHORITY

*"Investing in the Community"*

Barbara Holston, President & CEO

## HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM FACTS

Fort Worth Housing Authority (FWHA) has established a new housing program using funds provided by Fannie Mae and their DFW Community Development team. The Housing First Program is a new program that specifically targets chronically homeless individuals.

### WHAT'S HOUSING FIRST?

- Housing First is an approach that centers on providing homeless individuals with housing quickly and then providing social services as needed. This approach rests on the premise that helping people access and sustain permanent, affordable housing should be the central goal of working with people experiencing homelessness.

### WHO'S ELIGIBLE FOR HOUSING FIRST?

- Homeless individuals – those living in Fort Worth shelters and/or on the streets
- Disabled – physical, mental, chronic substance abuse, HIV/AIDS
- Ineligible (or not engaged) in other housing or social case management services

### WHAT'S THE TARGET POPULATION FOR HOUSING FIRST?

- Homeless individuals who consistently require the use of emergency services
- Individuals who desire to improve living and health conditions, financial status and education and employment situation

### HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

- FWHA identifies eligible clients who will enter into a behavioral contract
- FWHA provides intensive case management to clients in program
- FWHA provides housing assistance that range from paying security deposits and a minimum of one-month's rent to provision of long-term housing subsidy
- FWHA identifies landlords in private sector and negotiates lease agreements for rental housing
- Approximately three to six months - the client will be expected to assume more responsibility for becoming self-sufficient

### ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT FACTS:

- The Housing First Program also supports the overall initiative of the City of Fort Worth's "10-Year Plan to End Homelessness" by providing additional housing to the city's homeless population. For more information please visit [www.fortworthgov.org/homelessness](http://www.fortworthgov.org/homelessness).
- The Fort Worth Housing Authority (FWHA) administers various assisted housing programs. FWHA's purpose is to provide quality affordable housing to low and moderate income individuals and families and to create opportunities for families to achieve self-sufficiency. For more information on the Housing First Program please contact [susanc@ftwha.org](mailto:susanc@ftwha.org).