



MEDIA PACKET

The purpose of the Denton County Homeless Coalition is to serve as a catalyst for developing and providing needed services to those individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the county. To carry out this task most effectively, the Coalition, consisting of representatives from housing and social service providers (both public and private), non-profit organizations, local government agencies, special ministries, healthcare services, homeless persons and other concerned county residents, shall meet regularly to assess and prioritize needs specific to the homeless and at risk homeless in the county as well as the availability of services.

EMAIL: DCHCinfo@gmail.com

WEBSITE: EndHomelessnessDenton.com

FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/PointInTimeCount>

[Point in Time Count Data](#)

DCHC MEDIA CONTACT:

Leslie Wisenbaker, Chair DCHC

leslie@sontx.org

940-898-6202

GENERAL BODY MEETINGS

The Denton County Homeless Coalition **General Body** meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday in even-numbered months alternating between Denton and Lewisville.

General Body Meeting Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- February 3, 2016- Denton
- April 6, 2016 – Lewisville
- June 1, 2016- Denton
- August 3, 2016 – Lewisville
- October 5, 2016 – Denton
- December 7, 2016 – Lewisville

See full list: <https://endhomelessnessdenton.com/events-2/>

STORY IDEAS

The following organizations, segmented by basic need served, offer services to assist those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Each program will have a unique perspective on the issue of homelessness and how services are provided. Contact information is provided.

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2015-YEAR IN REVIEW

The following is a list of agency and community-wide efforts to impact homelessness or those at risk of homelessness that were organized by the coalition and/or reported at Denton County Homeless Coalition meetings.

There are so many positive things happening around the community benefiting the efforts to end homelessness. Any event or item is not included in this review was not intentional. If you would like to see a topic added to this report, please contact us.

- DCHC Steering Committee was restructured to have more capacity for growth and be more inclusive of sectors.
- [Mayor's Task Force for Housing the Homeless and Report](#) was released to the public.
- The City of Denton and United Way agree to jointly fund a Homeless Coordinator position. The position was filled in 2016.
- Monsignor King Outreach Center opens in a new facility provided by the City of Denton
- 2015 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count was completed in January 2015 providing a snapshot of homelessness in Denton County.
- 2nd Bridging the Gap event was held in April 2015
- 100K Homes Pilot - The placement of 3-5 chronically homeless in housing. Using data collection from a count in November 2014 that survey the chronically homeless to determine who was most at risk of dying on the street a piloting program was developed using the housing first model. Pilot data and results could inform new practices in housing. If proven successful, it could be scaled to house even more.
- HUD Emergency Solutions Grant funding in 2015 was \$625,000 (2104-15) in Denton County. Funds supported Street Outreach, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Rehousing and Emergency Shelter services.
- Veterans Summit in June of 2015 – Summit to look at how to better serve veterans
- Veteran Stand Down was held in October of 2015 – The event offered distribution of supplies and provided services to homeless veterans.
- Denton Housing Authority sets preferences for Section 8 Vouchers that included veterans and homeless.
- Community Presentations on homelessness
 - o City Council Meeting Homeless Presentation
 - o Rotary
 - o Charitable Clinics Coalition
- In the Media the Denton Record Chronicle featured many articles and multiple editorials in 2015 related to homelessness.
- The Wheeler House opened in July of 2015. The center brings more transitional housing to the City of Denton and addition of more health care options in downtown.

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Emergency Shelters:

[Salvation Army of Denton](http://www.salvationarmydfw.org/p/locations/Denton) - <http://www.salvationarmydfw.org/p/locations/Denton>

Salvation Army provides emergency shelter to people experiencing homelessness in Denton County. Salvation Army also provides food pantry services as well as breakfast and dinner for residents of Denton County.

Contact Person: Lt. Linda Choi, Salvation Army Lieutenant
Linda.choi@uss.salvationarmy.org
940-566-3800

[Monsignor King Outreach Center](http://www.kingoutreachcenter.com) - <http://www.kingoutreachcenter.com>

Monsignor King Outreach Center provides emergency shelter during extreme weather periods (32 degrees and below, 100 degrees and above) for people experiencing homelessness in Denton County.

Contact Person: Betty Kay, Executive Director
thebkays@yahoo.com
940-319-1919

Domestic Violence/Shelter:

[Denton County Friends of the Family](http://www.dcf.org) - <http://www.dcf.org>

Denton County Friends of the Family provides emergency shelter, advocacy, and counseling for people experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault.

Contact Person: Toni Johnson-Simpson, Executive Director
toni@dcfof.org
940-387-5131 ext. 107

Youth Shelter:

[Journey to Dream](http://www.journeytodream.com) - <http://www.journeytodream.com>

Journey to Dream will be providing shelter for homeless youth with the addition of Kyle's Place. Journey to Dream also provides peer-to-peer prevention assemblies, support groups, ministry and outreach to students.

Contact Person: Jessica Peters, Operations Director
jessica@journeytodream.com
469-470-2391

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Food Assistance:

[Our Daily Bread](http://ourdailybreaddenton.org) - <http://ourdailybreaddenton.org>

Our Daily Bread provides soup kitchen, referrals to agencies, and a weekly clinic for people experiencing, or at-risk of, homelessness. Denton.

Contact Person: Brenda Jackson, Executive Director
odbexecdirector@gmail.com
940-566-1308

[Vision Ministries](http://vision.dentonbible.org) - <http://vision.dentonbible.org>

Vision Ministries provides food, clothing and other essential items to those experiencing, or at-risk of, homelessness. Denton.

Contact Person: Michael Pirtle, Director
mpirtle@dentonbible.org
940-387-8230

[Denton Hunger Coalition](https://www.facebook.com/DentonHungerCoalition) - <https://www.facebook.com/DentonHungerCoalition>

The Denton Hunger Coalition's mission is to coordinate hunger relief efforts in Denton County and surrounding area by facilitating programs that address the issue of hunger.

Contact Person: Marty Otero - dentonhunger@gmail.com

Affordable/Subsidized Housing:

[Denton Affordable Housing Corporation](http://dentonaffordablehousing.org) - <http://dentonaffordablehousing.org>

Denton Affordable Housing Corporation is a community-based nonprofit organization which began operating in 1995 to address the need for affordable housing in Denton. **DAHC's** mission is to increase the supply of affordable housing in the Denton area through a variety of means.

Contact Person: Sheila Harper, Executive Director
denton@ddahc.org
940-484-7048

[Denton Housing Authority](http://www.dentonhousingauthority.com) - <http://www.dentonhousingauthority.com>

Denton Housing Authority provides housing assistance through HUD's section 8 program.

Contact Person: Sherri McDade
s.mcdade@dentonhousingauthority.com
940-383-1504

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Rental Assistance:

[Christian Community Action](http://cchelps.org) - <http://cchelps.org>

Christian Community Action provides rental assistance, medical care, food pantry services, and educational programs to residents of Southern Denton County.

Contact person: Michelle DeGrate, Vice President of Programs
michelle.derate@cchelps.org
972-221-1224

[Giving Hope, Inc.](http://www.hopeindenton.com) - <http://www.hopeindenton.com>

Giving Hope provides rental and utility assistance for the northern section of Denton County. Giving Hope also provides transitional housing for homeless single parents and Permanent Supportive Housing for homeless persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Contact Person: Dr. Alonzo Peterson, Executive Director
alonzo.peterson@hopeindenton.com
940-382-0609

[Interfaith Ministries](http://www.ifmdenton.org) - <http://www.ifmdenton.org>

Interfaith Ministries provides basic needs assistance for residents of Northern Denton County.

Contact Person: Condell Garden, Executive Director
condell@ifmdenton.org
940-565-5479

Veterans' Needs:

[Denton County Veterans Coalition](http://www.veteransofdentoncounty.org) - <http://www.veteransofdentoncounty.org>

Denton County Veterans Coalition helps veterans and their families, improve the quality of their lives by connecting their needs with solutions and resources that are available in Denton County and beyond.

Contact person: Ginger Simonson
vgws56@gmail.com
972-914-8387

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Medical Needs:

[Denton Community Health Clinic](http://www.dentonchc.org) - <http://www.dentonchc.org>

Denton Community Health Clinic provides sliding scale healthcare to Denton county residents and those experiencing homelessness.

Contact Person: Alice Masciarelli, Executive Director

alice@masciarelli.net

940-600-7527

[Health Services of North Texas](https://www.healthntx.org) - <https://www.healthntx.org>

Health Services of North Texas provides sliding scale healthcare to Denton county residents and those experiencing homelessness.

Contact Person: Louise Weston-Ferrill, Director of Programs

lferrill@healthntx.org

940-381-1501

Dental Needs:

[First Refuge Ministries](http://firstrefugeministries.org) - <http://firstrefugeministries.org>

First Refuge Ministries provides dental care, medical care as well as food pantry services to low-income residents of Denton County.

Contact Person: Paul Juarez, Executive Director

paulj@firstrefugeministries.com

940-484-4384 x107

Substance Abuse:

[Solutions of North Texas](http://sontx.org) - <http://sontx.org>

Solutions of North Texas provides substance abuse programs such as a Sober Living residential program, Intensive Outpatient Program, and a 12-step program.

Contact person: Leslie Wisenbaker, Program Director

leslie@sontx.org

940-898-6202

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Mental Health:

[Denton County MHMR](http://www.dentonmhmr.org) - <http://www.dentonmhmr.org>

Denton County MHMR provides services for people with mental illnesses, intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Contact Person: Pam Gutierrez, Executive Director
pamg@dentonmhmr.org
940-565-5260

Funding:

Denton Local Government Funding:

[City Of Denton](http://www.cityofdenton.com) - <http://www.cityofdenton.com>

The City of Denton provides support through funding to local social service and nonprofit agencies.

Contact Person: Danielle Shaw, Human Services Coordinator
danielle.shaw@cityofdenton.com
940-349-7237

Denton Local Private Funding:

[United Way of Denton County](http://www.unitedwaydenton.org) - <http://www.unitedwaydenton.org>

United Way of Denton County Assess the needs of our community and what assets are already at work meeting those needs. United Way of Denton County also supports various agencies through funding and advocacy.

Contact Person: Courtney Cross, Community Impact Coordinator
courtney@unitedwaydenton.org
940-566-5851 Ext. 116

Lewisville Local Funding:

[City of Lewisville](http://www.cityoflewisville.com) - <http://www.cityoflewisville.com>

City of Lewisville provides support through funding local social service and nonprofit agencies.

Contact Person: Jamie Kirby, Grants Coordinator
jkirby@cityoflewisville.com
972-219-3780