



Memorandum

Commission

Mark C. Hill, Chair
Jason Hall
Greg Scott
Yolanda Rodela
Jesse Aguilera
Andy Taft
Carol Klocek
Mike Doyle
Eric Niedermayer
James Tapscott
Sheryl Kenny
Paul Paine
Dr. Vicki Nejtek
Rev. Melinda Veatch
Suzy Rhodes
Barbara Holston
Dr. Susan Blue

To: Task Force on Homelessness
From: Fort Worth Advisory Commission on Ending Homelessness
Date: May 29, 2014
Subject: Task Force Interim Report

The Fort Worth Advisory Commission on Ending Homelessness met on May 28th to review and discuss the draft of the Task Force's Interim Report to the City Council. We applaud the good work that the Task Force has undertaken and were encouraged to see the degree to which your findings mirror the assumptions on which the City's homelessness plan, Directions Home, was based.

Specific recommendations from the Commission include:

1. For the long-term well-being of our City, the Council should create a Task Force of key, public and private partners to identify the resources from both public and private sources necessary to create/ identify at least 544 additional units of permanent supportive housing.
2. Leadership from the Council is needed in securing and incenting needed partnerships and to establish policies and practices that encourage and support the creation and maintenance of not only permanent supportive housing units but quality affordable housing for our City's working poor.
3. To support our community- and faith-based partners in their efforts to address homelessness, the City of Fort Worth should include a minimum budget allocation for the Housing & Economic Development Department of \$3M per year for homelessness programs.

4. To foster partnerships and encourage collaborative problem solving, the City of Fort Worth should continue to promote and encourage community participation in best practice efforts to end homelessness.

The Commission believes that the City has benefited from the coordinated action and shared vision of the Directions Home plan. The returns on investment in evidenced-based practices include improved quality of life for neighborhoods and individuals as well as reduced charges for tax payers in publically-funded health care, EMS, and behavioral health care.

cc: Fort Worth City Council

