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COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, EXPANDED LEADERSHIP IN FORT BEND COUNTY

Houston, Texas (October 5) – After receiving overwhelmingly positive results in the 2016 Homeless Count & Survey earlier this year, the [Coalition for the Homeless](#) has announced its services expansion into Montgomery County and Conroe as well as enhanced services in Fort Bend County as a part of its leadership to [The Way Home](#). Montgomery County was recently absorbed by The Way Home, the collaborative model to prevent and end homelessness in Houston, Pasadena, Conroe; and Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery Counties. This service expansion will broaden the reach of a homeless services system that is leading the nation in results.

In May 2016, the Coalition announced that The Way Home had continued its five-year trend of reducing homelessness, noting a one-year reduction of 21 percent since 2015 and a 57 percent cumulative reduction since 2011. At the time of the 2016 count, The Way Home encompassed Houston, Harris County, Pasadena, and Fort Bend County. With the addition of Montgomery County and Conroe, there's an opportunity to bring best practices to reach even more homeless individuals in need.

“We’re excited to take what we’ve learned and executed through our efforts of reducing homelessness and provide leadership in expanding the work for our neighbors in Montgomery County” said Marilyn Brown, CEO and President of the Coalition for the Homeless. “Through service expansion into this region, our collective impact on the state of homelessness in the metro Houston area can grow exponentially.”

The Coalition is answering the system growth with the hiring of Nancy Heintz as Montgomery County Project Manager. Heintz has an extensive background with non-profit organizations. Serving in various roles, she has worked for the First United Methodist Church in Conroe for the last 30+ years. She has held titles such as Director of Children’s Ministry and Director of Missions and Community Outreach. She has served on the board of the Montgomery County Homeless Coalition as well as Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity. Her expertise and experience with non-profits will be carried over into her role as the Montgomery County Project Manager with the Coalition for the Homeless.

The Coalition is also enhancing its efforts in Fort Bend County - an existing partner region of The Way Home – with the placement of Amber Paaso as Fort Bend County Project Manager. Paaso, who has a Masters in Women’s Studies, brings a great deal of non-profit experience to her new role. She spent nearly a decade working for the Fort Bend County Women’s Center, first as a Learning Resource Coordinator and most recently as the Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator. Focusing specifically on Fort Bend County, she’ll bring her project management, program execution and experience into this position with the Coalition.

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For more information on the Coalition, including a snapshot of efforts from 2012 to present, please access our [Press Kit](#). For additional information on The Way Home, please visit the system’s digital [Press Kit](#). Find [Nancy Heintz’s headshot](#) and [Amber Paaso’s headshot](#) here.

The Coalition for the Homeless is a non-profit, 501(c)3 whose mission is to provide leadership in the development, advocacy and coordination of community strategies to prevent and end homelessness. Learn more at www.homelesshouston.org.