



Community Solutions to End Homelessness

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

**TEAMING UP FOR
TARRANT COUNTY**

Your impact. Our community.

A YEAR OF GROWTH

Nothing changes if we don't act.
Everything can and does change if we do.

**A REVIEW OF OUR YEAR
& ALL THE GOOD WE'VE
ACCOMPLISHED**

Yes, that means YOU!





Tony Wilson, LMSW
Executive Director

MEETING THE MOMENT

Stepping into my first year as Executive Director of DRC Solutions has been both a profound responsibility and a deep privilege. Each day I am reminded that our work is not simply about programs or numbers; it is about people. It is about neighbors who have endured loss, hardship, and uncertainty, yet still carry hope for something better. I am grateful to serve alongside a team that meets that reality with compassion, determination, and an unwavering belief that change is possible.

Over the past year, our Outreach teams served more than 2,000 individuals living unsheltered across our community, meeting people where they are in tents, vehicles, wooded areas, and other places most never see. Through persistence, trust, and coordinated support, 229 people moved from the streets into stable housing, gaining not only a roof overhead but a foundation for rebuilding their lives.

Stability often begins with the smallest building blocks. Something as basic as identification can determine whether someone can access housing, employment, or healthcare. This year, the DRC team ordered more than 3,600 critical documents, helping remove one of the most common and overlooked barriers faced by people experiencing homelessness. These steps may seem small, but they open doors that would otherwise remain closed.

The year also brought unexpected challenges. Due to funding reductions beyond our control, we faced the difficult task of helping households transition out of a housing program earlier than anyone anticipated. Rather than allowing families to slip back into crisis, our staff leaned in with urgency and care. Working alongside community partners, we successfully relocated 37 households, ensuring those families remained stably housed and continued moving forward.

These outcomes are possible because of the extraordinary people who make up the DRC team. Outreach workers walk miles each day across our city, meeting people in some of their hardest moments with patience and respect. Case managers navigate complex systems to open doors that often feel closed. Their work reflects the core values that guide DRC Solutions every day: respect for every person, responsibility to our community, and effectiveness in everything we do.

At the same time, we must acknowledge a sobering reality: unsheltered homelessness continues to rise across our community. The need is growing faster than the resources available to meet it. Yet even in the face of that challenge, I remain hopeful. I see that hope in the resilience of the people we serve, in the dedication of our staff, and in the partners and supporters who believe that homelessness is not inevitable; it is solvable when a community chooses to act.

DRC Solutions remains committed to being part of that solution. Together, with your partnership and support, we will continue meeting people where they are, restoring dignity, and helping our neighbors move from surviving to thriving.

Thank you.

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TARRANT COUNTY IS GROWING. SO IS HOMELESSNESS.

With Fort Worth named 11th largest city in the country during 2025, its growing population includes neighbors who are living unsheltered. Stagnant, minimum wages cannot compete against inflation or the rising cost of living. Lack of realistic, affordable housing has impeded community development. Although homelessness is a growing problem in every major city across America, Tarrant County has a unique opportunity to lead with evidence-based, housing-focused solutions that make unsheltered homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring—strengthening the health, safety, and economic vitality of our entire community. Take a look at how Tarrant County is doing from its latest data snapshot in December 2025.

DATA SOURCES: Partnership Home & National Alliance to End Homelessness

2,705

people experiencing
homeless in Q4 2025

43%

living unsheltered

12%

are children

\$13,000,000+

estimated proposed funding cuts for
permanent housing

966

households in danger of losing housing
due to proposed funding cuts

Counting on the DRC



2025 PROGRAM RESULTS

2,006

individuals evaluated for housing solutions and support services by Street Outreach



93

unsheltered clients were reunited with their loved ones, ending their homelessness through diversion



1,777

individuals in active service working towards stable housing opportunities and acquiring needed resources.

\$75,249

total of lump sum benefits located by DRC's new on-staff Benefits Specialist, with 78 clients served in Q4 2025 alone.

3,679

critical documents replaced for 2,313 individuals in need of identification and personal records

182

households maintained by DRC Permanent Housing & Case Management

136

individuals and families were successfully placed in housing by DRC Solutions

37

households successfully relocated due to federal funding and budget cuts (read more on page 8)

2026 DRC SOLUTIONS PROGRAMS & GOALS

STREET OUTREACH (MOBILE ASSESSMENT)

Our award-winning Street Outreach teams go into the most impacted areas of Tarrant County to deliver crucial resources to those living unsheltered. Team members check in with clients and work to enroll them into housing-focused solutions. DRC is the only organization that partners with the Fort Worth Police and Fire Departments and the Arlington Police Department (HEART Team), by riding with officers daily to provide resources to our most vulnerable neighbors.

2026 GOALS: Street Outreach will assess 2,200 individuals and families for housing opportunities and move at least 200 people into permanent housing programs.

CRITICAL DOCUMENT REPLACEMENT

PERSONAL BENEFITS NAVIGATION

DRC Solutions removes barriers to housing beginning at Street Outreach, where our Critical Document Specialist joins outreach staff at campsites to assess identification needs. Clients then meet with DRC staff to apply for essential records such as birth certificates, state IDs, and Social Security cards. Our Benefits Specialist also helps clients navigate eligibility for income supports, including VA and Social Security benefits, often restoring or increasing monthly income. DRC staff provide transportation and advocacy at local Department of Public Safety offices and partner agencies to ensure documents are secured. Follow-up appointments are scheduled as needed, removing barriers to housing, employment, and healthcare.

2026 GOALS: Critical Document Replacement will assist 2,000 individuals by replacing 3,000 documents. Benefits Navigation aims to help at least 200 people walk through Social Security benefits.

PERMANENT HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT

Our Permanent-Supportive Housing (PSH) Case Management department combines affordable housing assistance and individualized, client-driven support services to ensure personal success for housed clients. PSH Case Managers work with every client to identify their personal goals and then make a hands-on action plan to support them in their journey to happy, healthy independence.

2026 GOALS: Permanent Housing will provide intensive case management to 150 households to maintain success and prevent re-entry into homelessness.

THE COST OF CHANGE & IMPACT IN 2025

MISSION

The mission of the DRC is to provide respectful, responsible, and effective community-based solutions to help individuals and families emerge from homelessness as productive, healthy people.

VISION

The DRC envisions an end to homelessness achieved through investments that make permanent shelter a reality for all who need it.

PHILOSOPHY

Everyone deserves a safe place to call home.

Community isn't just where we live, it's how we show up for one another

Every Day.

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REVENUE

Churches	\$71,291
Foundations	\$ 477,024
Corporations	\$68,267
Organizations	\$ 50
Individuals	\$111,228
Events	\$ 150,444
Investment	\$5,274
Federal Gov't Grants	\$ 342,428
Non-Federal Gov't Grants	\$1,680,420
TOTAL	\$2,906,426

EXPENSES

Program Personnel	\$1,354,774
Administrative Personnel	\$ 166,007
Development Personnel	\$ 145,408
Administrative	\$131,950
Program	\$623,803
Operating	\$134,759
Fundraising	\$48,487
TOTAL	\$2,605,188

DECEMBER 2024

DRC Program Manager Victoria Kaelin spent the past year securing stable housing for our most vulnerable clients through HUD. In just a few weeks, she and her fellow DRC Housing team members would learn that the HUD-funded program would be terminated in one year. DRC Housing knows relocation needs to start now!

37 HOUSEHOLDS, DUE TO NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN, NEED TO BE TRANSFERRED TO DIFFERENT PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING FORCED BACK INTO HOMELESSNESS.



JANUARY - APRIL 2025



The DRC officially gets notified that HUD has defunded the program. DRC case managers start collaborating with the Tarrant County Continuum of Care lead agency, Partnership Home, to form an action plan to transfer clients to different programs, but with already limited housing inventory, only three are moved by March. During planning, the team is also met with more bad news that an apartment site that houses multiple clients is being permanently shut down in 2026.

DANGEROUS DEADLINES

With funding loss doesn't just come frustration, it comes with real threats and danger for the people whose decisions are made for them. Housing is lost. Safety and stability are lost. Time, effort, and money invested in better futures are wasted. In 2025, DRC Housing Case Managers and 37 of their supported households received news that HUD was defunding their scattered-site housing program at the end of the year. Through no fault of their own, the stability they've fought to build was on borrowed time. With proactive collaboration and tenacious problem-solving, did the case managers find solutions before clients would face returning to the streets?

MAY - JULY 2025

With extremely limited housing voucher opportunities being prioritized for the most vulnerable (ex. disabled, families with small children), it's time to think outside the box. DRC Housing partners with other service providers, like Recovery Resource Council, to host a roommate mixer in an attempt to consolidate clients into established programs. Unfortunately, the clients' needs are still too widespread to be successfully matched together at this time. Service providers are helpless in waiting for any influx of vouchers. Only four are transferred to other programs.



AUGUST 2025

With more than 100 supported households in danger of returning to the streets in Tarrant County, service providers can finally breathe when some limited replacement vouchers start to become available. By the end of the summer, DRC Housing is sweaty and exhausted with more housing vouchers transferred and clients moved-in by DRC Housing case managers themselves! It is also during this time that case managers start to encounter pushback and fear of leaving their established homes from a handful of clients.

30 ~~37~~ HOUSEHOLDS REMAINING

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2025

DRC Housing is feeling the weight of the year, but they know they cannot slow down. The remaining individuals and families are still hoping to be saved. Some clients, however, meet the stress with denial. Victoria recalls having some extremely hard conversations with clients who couldn't understand the urgency in needing to be rehoused. Those three households would, most unfortunately, return to the streets because it's the only other home they've known. Five more households are relocated in time for Thanksgiving.



SEPTEMBER 2025

Move-ins gain momentum as eighteen more households are transferred to alternative programs by the end of the summer. Some clients are able to be rehoused with other service providers. DRC is able to pay move-in and application fees, due in large part to donors, but it still has some obstacles ahead. Some clients have to wait weeks in limbo as emergency client funds deplete. Some pivots are necessary to avoid homelessness as move-ins are stalled.

12 ~~30~~ HOUSEHOLDS REMAINING

DECEMBER 2025

The holiday season slows the business of move-ins, but the DRC has no time left. And now, The Springs lets housing case managers know they are closing immediately, before the announced date. The four remaining clients need to be moved immediately. Only one is able to be moved before Christmas.

On New Year's Eve, seven additional DRC staff are contacted. There are no days left now. Is it possible for them to help assist housing case managers in relocating the remaining three households? No answers needed, no questions asked. It is all hands on deck. Hands to grab bags. Hands to carry boxes. Hands to comfort pets while more hands sign leases.

When asked about the year, Victoria was optimistic. "With all the barriers we faced, those were great outcomes. We had very few people return to homelessness. [2025] tested

everyone's patience and skills. Clients were afraid of the possibility of returning to homelessness and losing everything they had built."

"My biggest obstacle was that [clients] come to us when they're in need, and we help build them back up again. We spent so much time helping them get better. So, to house them and get it taken away affects so much more than them; it affects us and everyone else who worked, and donated, and helped. It's the [clients'] mental and emotional health, and ours," Victoria remembers.

By the evening, dirty and tired, staff returned to their homes with the peace that clients were able to do the same. While most of Tarrant County was starting their nights and celebrating a year that turned out for better or worse, DRC Solutions was ending its year *successfully*.



Small gestures make a BIG impact.

- a message from the DRC 2026 Board Chair -
Bernie Scheffler

To our Tarrant County Community:

Over the past year, DRC Solutions has navigated a season of real change. Organizations, like communities, are occasionally asked to take stock of themselves- to adjust course, renew their energy, and clarify their purpose. I'm proud to say that our team did exactly that and emerged stronger for it.

What inspires me most is the way our staff approaches the work: not through sweeping promises, but through steady, practical improvements that ripple outward.

The challenges are real. As we tackle 2026, we know that homelessness in our region, especially unsheltered homelessness, will continue to test our resolve. But we also know something equally important. We have the compassion, the experience, and the determination required to meet those challenges head-on.

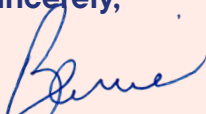
The staff and board of DRC Solutions remain committed to this mission. We believe that homelessness is not an abstract issue but a human one, experienced by neighbors whose stability depends on the strength of the community around them. It is an honor to serve alongside a team that approaches this work with such dedication and care.

I invite you to stay connected with our efforts. Reach out. Learn more about the work being done across our community. And when you see an opportunity to contribute—whether through partnership, advocacy, or generosity—I hope you'll take it.

Your support makes this work possible, and it reminds us that meaningful change happens when a community chooses to act together.

Thank you, always, for standing with us.

Sincerely,



Bernie Scheffler, DRC Board Chair



DRC Solutions

Board of Directors 2026

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LEARNING THAT LASTS

Every year, DRC Solutions hosts social work interns from local institutions. Kennedy Green, a senior at Texas Christian University, shares her DRC experience ahead of graduation this Spring!



Kennedy (furthest right) helped run Home Court Heroes, DRC's Annual Pickleball Tournament in November.

Over the past two semesters, I've had the opportunity to intern at DRC Solutions to expand my knowledge about the Social Work profession. Before accepting this opportunity, I will be honest; this decision was more difficult to make. I found myself questioning whether I would fit with the community already established, but I was gladly mistaken. The moment I started interning at this agency, I felt welcomed and accepted.

During my first semester, I learned a lot about the Outreach team and the process of housing. The Outreach team showed me the importance of building rapport in the community. During my outings with DRC



Kennedy, with Harriet Willis (Marketing & Development) and Brodie Harrison (Housing) receive a donation from GFWAR.

Outreach, I had the opportunity to talk with clients and learn about their stories. I also saw how Outreach goes above and beyond by making sure clients had access to resources they were lacking. I also had the opportunity to engage in DRC's marketing and fundraising efforts. The events showed the importance of creating community and awareness regarding the unsheltered population. Everyone in attendance learned about the DRC program and how they could partner with the agency to bring more awareness to this vulnerable population. In December 2025, I presented my research project about the Housing First Model and its positive impacts on the unhoused population. This research was inspired by the DRC program and staff. I remember talking with my practicum instructor, Tony Wilson, and he stated, "homelessness is like



Kennedy presents and discusses her senior year thesis at TCU, inspired by her time at the DRC (above). After finding a family living out of their car on a very hot day, Kennedy entertains a young child in the DRC Outreach truck's A/C while the mother is assessed for services (below).



this huge umbrella of systemic failures.” With this statement, Tony showed me that homelessness isn’t just one “problem,” but if viewed with a trauma-informed lens, we can see the other system failures and stressors connected to homelessness. This view helped me understand why it’s so important to advocate for this population that is so often overlooked.

During my final semester, I had the opportunity to serve alongside DRC’s Housing Case Managers. Case management allowed me to see the impact of prioritizing housing (safe shelter on Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs) for clients in order for them to accomplish anything else. I had the opportunity to work with a client who was already housed and helped connect them with other resources needed for them and their family. I also learned about policies and their impacts on this vulnerable population, which helped me see how social justice plays a huge role in social work practice. Working with DRC Case Manager Johnetta Hudspeth truly allowed me to see the importance of human relationships and advocating for my clients.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone at the DRC for helping me grow- not just as a future social worker, but as a person. This opportunity will always be a pivotal moment of my academic and professional career.

First comes housing, then comes change.

For more than 10 years, Diana lived unsheltered in Fort Worth, camping in parks and surviving on the streets. Estranged from her family due to a serious addiction and minor criminal offenses tied to her homelessness, she had no steady income and little support. Stability felt out of reach.

In May 2023, Diana was assigned to DRC Solutions' Scattered Site Housing Program. Despite having no income and continuing to battle addiction, the DRC case management team began working to secure appropriate housing. By August 2023, Diana moved into her own apartment.

Her case manager, David, met with her two to four times per month. Early progress was uneven. Often, Diana would not open the door because unauthorized occupants were inside and she did not want David to see she was still struggling with addiction. David consistently offered supportive services and encouragement, but she declined help. Eventually, the property issued a notice of non-renewal. The apartment had become severely unclean, unauthorized guests were frequently present, and lease violations continued. The situation was urgent.

David brought Diana to the office for a difficult and honest conversation, joined by his supervisor, Cindy. Together, they explained that she was at risk of losing her housing and that DRC could not reverse the decision given the apartment's condition and ongoing violations. To underscore the seriousness, Diana was told she would need to locate a new apartment that would accept her voucher. She was given two weeks.

As Diana searched for an all-bills-paid apartment willing to overlook her rental history and background, she found that no property would accept her. The barriers were overwhelming. Faced with the possibility of returning to homelessness, Diana made a decision.

She called David and told him she wanted to change and would prove it.

David responded with encouragement and practical support. He provided cleaning supplies and answered her text messages with steady reassurance. Within two weeks, he visited again—and this time, Diana opened the door. The transformation was clear. The apartment was clean and orderly. Unauthorized guests were gone. Diana had told them her home was no longer a place to gather or use drugs. She had set boundaries and committed to doing better. David met with the property manager and owner to advocate for her. They agreed to reconsider the non-renewal if her improved behavior continued.

14 It did.

Diana has now been clean for over two months. She has applied for several part-time jobs, following David's advice to start slowly after many years without employment. With documented progress, the property approved her lease renewal.

Today, David checks in weekly to offer continued support and connection to services. Diana has gained weight, looks healthier, and carries renewed hope. She has reconnected with family and is determined to move forward. David's refusal to give up, combined with Diana's decision to change, resulted in more than a lease renewal. After more than a decade living unsheltered, Diana now has not only housing, but a second chance at the life she wants to build.

2025 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

To our community partners and sponsors, thank you for standing beside us in the work of making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring in Tarrant County. Your leadership and investment create lasting change. We are equally grateful to the individuals and families who give so generously and faithfully throughout the year. Your support fuels outreach, restores dignity, and helps open doors to permanent housing every single day. We are stronger together.

- AdventHealth
- Alexander Foundation
- American National Bank & Trust
- Amon G. Carter Foundation
- Ann and John Mason Charitable Fund
- Anne T. & Robert M. Bass Foundation
- AOA Orthopedic Specialists
- Atmos Energy
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- Ryan Foundation
- Sharefest Texas
- Sid W. Richardson Foundation
- South Hills Christian Church
- Southside Bank
- St. Stephen Presbyterian Church
- Stryker Corporation
- Target
- Tarrant County Community Development
- Texas Christian University
- Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- Trinity Methodist Church
- United DFW Properties
- United Way of Tarrant County
- University Christian Church
- US Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Virginia Clay Foundation
- Walmart
- White's Chapel United Methodist Church



**WANT TO JOIN THE DRC MISSION IN 2026?
SCAN TO HELP OUR TARRANT COUNTY COMMUNITY**

Meet Clifton.

Clifton, a blind U.S. Naval veteran, was living beside a dumpster at a gas station on Hemphill Street when our Street Outreach team met him. Week after week, former U.S. Marine Will McNichols checked on Clifton's safety, built trust through shared military experience, and connected him to benefits and identification support. Despite enduring heat, rain, and cold, Clifton never lost his humor or hope for a home.



After one housing placement fell through due to his vision impairment, he refused to give up and neither did we. Together with community partners, we secured an accessible home where Clifton could finally shower, share a hot meal, and rest safely in his own adaptable home.

**YOUR SUPPORT HAS MADE
STORIES LIKE CLIFTON'S
POSSIBLE.
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING
HIM AND SO MANY OTHER
NEIGHBORS HOME IN 2025.**



DRC

Community Solutions to End Homelessness



**this
is where
it goes.**