

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****November 4, 2025**

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**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON HIGH IMPACT OUTCOMES AND PROGRAM EXPANSION**

Established in May of 2024 as a 17-month pilot, the High ImpACT program addresses the intersection of severe mental illness and unsheltered homelessness in seven target areas of Fort Worth through housing assistance and support from a Assertive Community Treatment Team (ACT Team). The City contracts with My Health, My Resources of Tarrant County (MHMR), Partnership Home (formerly Tarrant County Homeless Coalition), and Acclaim Health to provide the services.

The ACT Team includes medical and psychiatric professionals able to provide services on the street and after the person is housed. Referrals to the program largely come from neighborhood police officers in the target areas based on considerations of both the length of time someone has been unsheltered in that target area or if the unsheltered individual may have severe mental illness.

Homelessness is an outsized problem, meaning that, while persons experiencing homelessness comprise 0.02% of the population, the perception is that the numbers are much higher due to the high visibility of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. For example, in highly trafficked areas like Beach Street, over 14,000 people may see the same person experiencing homelessness in a day (per 2023 traffic count data from North Texas Council of Governments).

By focusing medical, psychiatric, and housing resources in specific areas, the goal of High ImpACT is to both reduce homelessness and reduce the impact of unsheltered homelessness on neighborhoods and businesses.

While many areas of Fort Worth have seen an uptick in unsheltered homelessness and the issues associated with it, MyFW app and Point In Time Count data show that there are seven areas that have been hit especially hard. These areas were selected as target areas for High ImpACT:

- Camp Bowie West/Las Vegas Trail (CD 3)
- Seminary/La Gran Plaza/Hemphill (CD 9 and 11)
- Downtown (CD 9)
- Near Southside (CD 9)
- Historic Southside/Near Eastside (CD 8)
- Northside/Stockyards (CD 2)
- Beach Street Intersections – from East Lancaster to North Tarrant Parkway (CD 2, 4, 8 and 11)
- City-wide HOPE referrals are also considered

**High ImpACT Program 17-Month Performance**

High ImpACT had two components and associated goals for the first 17 months of the pilot:

1. Housing Assistance: Housing assistance for at least 40 eligible High ImpACT clients. Leverage existing housing vouchers with a goal of providing housing assistance for up to 40 more people.
2. ACT Team: Services for at least 80 severely mentally ill unsheltered and housed clients by a mobile, high-level team, including psychiatric and medical professionals

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The 17-month pilot of the High ImpACT Program concluded September 30, 2025 with strong performance in the programs performance measures and goals.

Performance Measures and Goals		Final Pilot Performance and Outcomes as of September 30, 2025	
<b>70%</b>	At least 70% of those offered housing enter housing within six months	<b>86%</b>	86% of referrals offered housing through master lease or Homeless Housing and Services Program have accepted
<b>70%</b>	After one year of entering housing, at least 70% are still housed	<b>94%</b>	94% of clients housed at least one year remain housed
<b>80</b>	Provide ACT Team services for 80 clients	<b>80</b>	80 clients are being provided ACT Team services
<b>40</b>	Provide High ImpACT housing assistance to 40 clients	<b>43</b>	43 provided housing assistance through High ImpACT master lease
<b>Up to 40</b>	Provide housing assistance to up to 40 additional clients by leveraging other programs	<b>33</b>	12 provided housing assistance through Homeless Housing and Services Program (state grant) 21 provided housing assistance through other programs

**Expanding High Impact**

Based on one-year results presented on June 17, 2025, Council voted on August 12, 2025 (M&C 25-0658) to continue the High ImpACT program. Council also requested staff develop a proposal to expand High ImpACT to serve more individuals.

Expanding High ImpACT involves identifying other funding sources for both the rental assistance and services. Maintaining a 1:10 case load for program caseworkers is essential for the success of the program. For every 10 rental assistance slots secured, another team member's salary must be added to the services budget.

The addition of Housing Choice Vouchers from Fort Worth Housing Solutions (FWHS) are an effective resource in increasing program capacity. Referrals can enter the program with the program's existing City funds to facilitate quicker housing and then transition to a voucher for the longer-term assistance.

MHMR has agreed to use its Project 40 set aside with FWHS for the High ImpACT program. The 30 vouchers would be added over the course of 6 – 8 months. This will allow 30 more High ImpACT

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referrals to be housed. Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs) have continued to provide new referrals, so those referrals will be prioritized for housing for the additional openings.

In order to meet the services needs for 30 more clients, Homeless Strategies has structured the FY 2026 High ImpACT contract and budget to allow the hiring of two team members.

As staff works with partners to implement the expansion of 30 additional clients, it will also work toward possibilities to secure additional vouchers and/or funding to continue reducing homelessness in target areas and reduce its effects on neighborhoods and businesses.

For more information, please contact Homeless Strategies Manager Tara Perez at [Tara.Perez@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:Tara.Perez@fortworthtexas.gov).

**Jesus "Jay" Chapa**  
**City Manager**