



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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### Broadcast #168

November 12, 2014

**TO:** Executive Director, Texas Council of Community MHMR Centers  
Executive and Behavioral Health Directors, Local Mental Health Authorities  
North Texas Behavioral Health Authority

**FROM:** Trina Ita, MA, LPC, Director *(SKO)*  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program Services Section

**Subject:** Local Housing Inventory for Local Mental Health Authorities and North Texas Behavioral Health Authority

#### Overview:

The Department of State Health Services (Department) is asking Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs) and North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA) to complete the attached Housing Inventory spreadsheet. The Department will quantify information provided that relates to the availability of permanent, affordable housing in each of the LMHA's and NTBHA's jurisdictions across the state. The Department is interested in collecting this information for several reasons:

- by gathering this information, LMHAs and NTBHA are encouraged to identify and track ongoing the status of permanent affordable housing in their jurisdiction for the benefit of their consumers;
- the Department intends to foster working relationships between LMHAs and NTBHA with the local Public Housing Authorities in their jurisdiction and this request may be the starting point for some to reach out and increase understanding;
- in preparation for the up-coming legislative session, the Department intends to demonstrate statewide housing needs and gaps and be able to provide this information to interested parties when requested; and
- the Department plans to utilize this information in the preparation of the CABHI-State grant proposal.

To gather the appropriate information, LMHAs and NTBHA are encouraged to reach out to their Local Public Housing Authorities (PHA) and other housing providers/resources to collect current information on available housing resources. Detailed instructions on how to complete the attached Housing Inventory are provided on the first tab of the spreadsheet.

Please identify the Supportive Housing Contact (SHC) at your LMHA or NTBHA that will be

DSHS no later than Wednesday, November 26, 2014. Please be sure to identify the LMHA's SHC's name, and contact information in the email, and submit all assignments to the following email addresses and format:

To: [Anna.Sonenthal@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Anna.Sonenthal@dshs.state.tx.us)  
Cc: [Carissa.Dougherty@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Carissa.Dougherty@dshs.state.tx.us)  
Subject: Housing Inventory (add LMHA's name or NTBHA)

An email confirmation of receipt will be issued upon submission.

Please call (512) 206-5073 if you do not receive confirmation within one business day of submission. Should you have any further questions, please contact Anna Sonenthal at 512-206-5073 or [anna.sonenthal@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:anna.sonenthal@dshs.state.tx.us).