

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Tarrant County Samaritan House Receives a \$40,000 Grant

(Fort Worth)— Tarrant County Samaritan House (Samaritan House) accepted a \$40,000 grant from the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC) today. Accepting the check for Samaritan House was President and Chief Executive Officer, Norbert White. The grant award was presented by Fort Worth Council Member Ann Zadeh, David Long, TSAHC President and Bill Albers, TSAHC Advisory Council Member.

"We are impressed with the success that Samaritan House has had with its supportive housing program," said David Long, President of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation. "We are pleased to be able to support their efforts with a Texas Foundations Fund award that will expand the quality services they provide their residents."

The grant is part of TSAHC's Texas Foundations Fund Program. Samaritan House will use the award to provide supportive services to 300 very low-income residents of its supportive housing programs. All of the households to be served have a medical disability which impacts their ability to live independently. Samaritan House will leverage their award with federal, state and local funding, as well as partnerships with local health services providers.

"Our residents have major health issues and other special needs that make them some of the area's most vulnerable individuals," said Norbert White, President & Chief Executive Officer of Samaritan House. "Without question all of our residents need a decent and safe place to call home but just as important are the supportive services to meet their needs. This grant will help us continue to provide these essential services to our residents."

Samaritan House received one of 16 grants awarded this year across the state by TSAHC as part of the Texas Foundations Fund Program. Eligible grant applicants were nonprofit organizations and rural government entities. Specifically, grants were awarded for the construction, rehabilitation and/or critical repair of owner-occupied single family homes and for the provision of supportive services in multifamily housing. Altogether, the grants awarded in the first round of the Texas Foundations Fund Program will help nearly 1,500 very low income families and individuals throughout Texas access and preserve affordable homeownership opportunities or supportive housing services.

Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC) is a non-profit organization created at the direction of the Texas Legislature in 1994 for the promotion of public health, safety and welfare through the provision of safe, decent and affordable housing for low-income Texans and other underserved populations. Through the development and administration of innovative and unique housing programs, TSAHC facilitates affordable housing primarily for Texans who do not have comparable options through conventional financial channels.

The mission of Samaritan House is to create a supportive community providing housing and resources for positive change in the lives of persons living with HIV/AIDS and other special needs.

Samaritan House was established in 1991 to provide housing to persons living with HIV/AIDS. At the time, AIDS was a terminal diagnosis, requiring intensive medical care and support during residents' final days. With advances in medical care, life expectancies grew and Samaritan House realigned its mission to help clients establish goals, improve life skills, and work toward self-sufficiency.

Today, Samaritan House provides supportive housing to individuals and families who are impacted by major health issues such as HIV/AIDS and who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. Along with housing services, our residents participate in case management services, drug and alcohol abuse/dependency intervention, educational and employment assistance, and life skills training. Our comprehensive services open doors to hope and provide opportunities for independent, fulfilling lifestyles. Some of our residents continue their education, others obtain employment, and many begin contributing to the community through volunteer services.

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