

How Will H.O.T. Improve our Community?

The **Harris County Sheriff's Office** understands the positive impact created from building proactive relationships with those in need. We are sensitive to the struggle that many of Houston's homeless endure, often time resulting in loitering or soliciting along roadways, busy intersections, near neighborhoods, and places of business. Proactive engagement allows **H.O.T.** to achieve the primary goal of connecting the homeless population to needed service providers within our community.

The law enforcement community continues to explore best practice for taking care of our homeless population. Issuing citations and jailing homeless persons is not effective—we care for all members of this community. With **H.O.T.** in place, the program will allow for new strategies that are vital to the homeless population, reconnecting them to supportive community resources. Law enforcement-community partnerships are a best-practice approach to safely engage with those most in need within Harris County, allowing for assistance with housing, nutrition, medical and mental health care.

Can H.O.T. Help You? Or Someone Else in Need of Services?



Harris County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Ron Hickman



Emergency? Dial 9-1-1



Coalition for the Homeless
713-739-7514



Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)
281-885-4555



Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
713-970-7070



Council on Alcohol and Drugs of Houston
713-942-4100



Veterans Administration (VA)
713-794-8700



Suicide Hotline
1-800-SUICIDE

Bristow Homeless Unit
713-970-7413



1200 Baker St. Houston, TX 77002
Non-Emergency Line (713)221-6000
Administrative Services (713)755-6044
Public Information (713)755-5300



14511 Falling Creek
Houston, TX 77014
(281)587-0654

homelessoutreach@sheriff.hctx.net
www.sheriff.hctx.net

What is Harris County Sheriff's Office H.O.T.?

The Coalition for the Homeless estimates there are approximately 4,400 sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in Harris County in January 2015. Mental illness, substance abuse, or both, are commonly present within this population. In October 2015, Sheriff Ron Hickman formed the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homeless Outreach Team (**H.O.T.**) in an effort to locate, engage, and assist our homeless population. The **H.O.T.** program began with only two deputies and continues to grow today. **H.O.T.** is not only an outreach effort, but also a promise and dedicated partnership to Harris County's homeless community.

H.O.T. Helps!

H.O.T. has partnered with established homeless assistance groups ready to offer aid and assistance in the form of temporary housing, nutrition, medical and psychological services, and vocational training on a moments notice.

The **H.O.T.** van and utility transport vehicle (UTV) will accommodate necessary humanitarian supplies and allow access to rural, wooded and wet locations.



H.O.T. Facts

- ★ In January 2015, the Coalition for the Homeless estimated there were 4,400 sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in Harris County
- ★ Mental Illness and/or substance abuse commonly present
- ★ Our agency understands concerns and dangers regarding the homeless trespassing, loitering and soliciting on or near roadways
- ★ New strategies are in place in order to render aid and/or assistance to those most in need
- ★ The **Harris County Sheriff's Office** cares about all members of this community
- ★ Housing, nutrition, medical and mental health care, and vocational training are just some of the incredible resources produced from public-private partnerships among law enforcement and the community
- ★ Services will be provided throughout NW Harris County—upon roll out, more areas will be covered
- ★ **H.O.T.** participating deputies will train with the Houston Police Department-H.O.T. for 30 days, as well as Cypress Creek EMS for advanced first aid
- ★ Commissioners Court approved monetary donations through the Harris County Sheriff's Office Foundation for a van, UTV, trailer and personal hygiene supplies
- ★ Dedicated personnel assigned to **H.O.T.** are proactively building long-lasting relationships with various local initiatives, such as Coalition for the Homeless, NW Assistance Ministries (NAM) and the Houston Police Department's-Homeless Outreach Team