

# DR. THERESA DANIEL DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023



## Dallas County Housing and Homelessness Efforts Get Funding

### Point-in-Time Count

The annual U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandated Point-in-Time (PIT) Count was conducted on January 26, 2023. By regularly counting the unhoused neighbors in our community, Housing Forward (formerly Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance) collects vital data on a population that can be difficult to quantify. These insights allow us to understand the extent of homelessness in North Texas, factors that are impacting current homelessness rates, and, the effectiveness of programs that seek to end homelessness.

Commissioner Theresa Daniel and team participate every year to help count our homeless neighbors and to help get the most accurate data possible for the region.

The data is being compiled and analyzed and will be shared on April 13th at the annual State of the Homelessness Address.

### Unsheltered Grant

In 2021, Dallas County launched the Dallas Real Time Rapid Rehousing (DRTRR) initiative in collaboration with several neighboring cities, the DHA Housing Solutions of North Texas, Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance, the Homeless Collaborative and the Continuum of Care in Dallas and Collin Counties. The DRTRR initiative will spend \$69.12 million to relocate 2,600 homeless people with rental deposits, housing navigation assistance, landlord incentives, move-in kits, etc.

Based partly on that effort, and the exponential increase in collaboration between homeless agencies in Dallas and Collin Counties, on February 2, 2023 HUD awarded the Housing Forward All Neighbors Coalition \$22.8 million. This award was the 3rd highest award in the nation and helps the local homeless response system expand diversion efforts that prevent people from becoming unsheltered and increases the availability of permanent supportive housing. Funds will go directly to several leading homeless service providers.

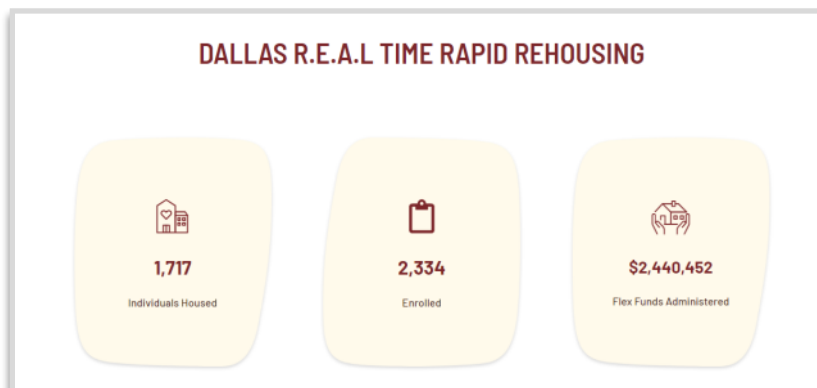
To monitor the success of the Dallas REAL Time Rapid Rehousing efforts and other information, visit [housingforwardntx.org/data/](https://housingforwardntx.org/data/)



*Top: Commissioner Daniel and staff at the annual Point-in-Time Count launch before going into the community to survey.*

*Middle: Commissioner Daniel joined Dallas Councilmembers Paul Ridley and Jesse Moreno, Housing Forward CEO Joli Robinson, and HUD staff to receive the unprecedented \$22.8 million dollar federal award.*

*Bottom: The monthly All Neighbors Coalition meeting where funding information is shared along with community updates.*



Source: <https://housingforwardntx.org/drtrr-community-dashboard/> as of 3/7/2023

Partnerships that Work I

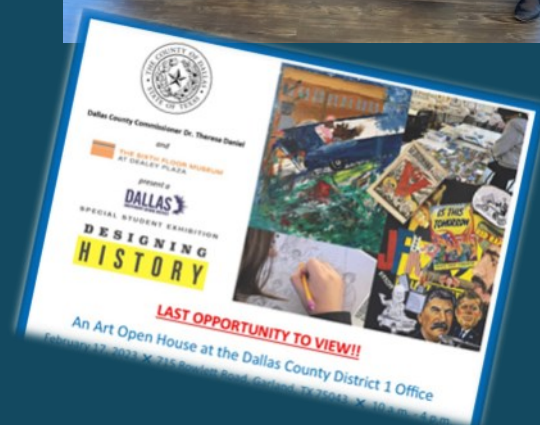
## Designing History Art Exhibit

Commissioner Dr. Theresa Daniel was very proud to host the Designing History Art Exhibit previously at The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza. This in-district exhibit extended the opportunity for the public to view this exceptional and unique artwork.

The Sixth Floor Museum partnered with Dallas Independent School District's Career Institute East to create a real world project for the school's Interior Design program. Over the course of the 2021-2022 school year, the students were tasked with designing a special art exhibit about President Kennedy, the city of Dallas and the 1960s to be presented at the Museum.

The students from six high schools in East Dallas embraced the challenge of sharing the story of someone they had never met and events that occurred decades before they were born for a place they had never visited. Through virtual field trips and research, each student created an artwork on topics including the life and legacy of President Kennedy, issues of the 1960s and the city of Dallas. Inspired by the students' in-depth learning experience with the Museum, the works on view explored President Kennedy's life and legacy and his lasting impact on the city of Dallas, the place they each call home. Students interrogated connections between their own lives and that of President Kennedy and the 1960s through topics including family and childhood, civil rights, the space race and technology, foreign relations, and life in Dallas.

The 23 pieces selected for the exhibit reflected the lasting connections the participants made between their lives and the lasting impact history has on the world today.

Partnerships that Work II

## East Dallas County included in Transportation Study

After having completed a successful transportation study in Southern Dallas County, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is looking at the Eastern part of Dallas County next. At the request of Mesquite, the study will focus on the development of a comprehensive public transportation plan for cities and areas that are not members of Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) or served by STAR Transit. Efforts of the transit plan include strategic implementation and coordination with other area planning initiatives.

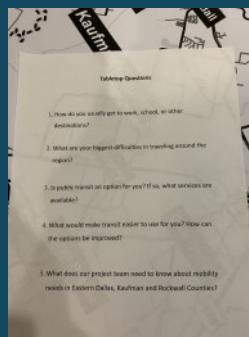
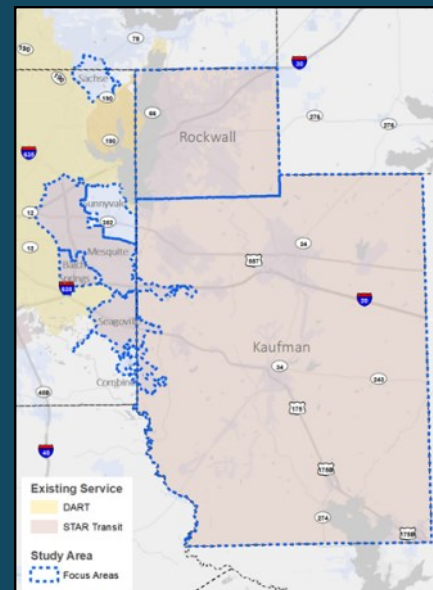
Residents will be provided a chance to share input regarding issues that are important to them, as well as ideas to improve transit services as the area continues to grow. The Dallas-Fort Worth area is the fourth-largest metropolitan region in the country, with a population of approximately 8 million people.

Population and employment are projected to grow substantially by 2045 in each of the counties involved in this study. According to NCTCOG's long-term forecast, Rockwall (82%) and Kaufman (81%) counties will lead the region in growth by percentage through 2045.

DART provides services to part of this area. These counties are also partially served by STAR Transit but are looking for additional transportation choices to complement the existing system.

This study will introduce the public to the purpose, overview and outcomes of the project plan. Components of the study include identifying transit options, funding and implementation strategies, delivery of recommended services, and potential impacts on the community.

For further information regarding the East Dallas, Kaufman and Rockwall Counties Regional Transit Study, or to sign up for email updates, visit the project website at [www.nctcog.org/edkr](http://www.nctcog.org/edkr).



# Around District 1 and Dallas County



*Left: Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel and staff toured the Dallas College El Centro Health Sciences Center to explore collaborating on workforce training*

*Below Left: Commissioner Daniel gives an update at the quarterly Ferguson Road Initiative meeting. Other elected officials in attendance were Dallas Councilmembers Jesse Moreno, Paula Blackmon and Adam Bazaldua, State Representative Venton Jones, DISD Trustee Dan Micciche, and Norma Minnis representing State Representative John Bryant.*

*Below Right: Commissioner Daniel was a guest at the annual health fair event for St. Michael's Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Garland.*

*Right: Commissioner Daniel practiced Wii bowling with the seniors at C.C. Young. The C.C. Young team "Split Happens" won 2nd place at the National Senior League Wii Bowling Championships.*



*Far Left: Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel was a featured speaker at the annual Balch Springs Economic Development Business Summit. Other featured speakers were Adriana Cruz, Executive Director of Economic Development & Tourism for Governor Greg Abbott, Ahmad Goree, Lead Economic Development Specialist for the U.S. Small Business Administration and Chris Dyser, the Director of Community Development for the City of Balch Springs.*

*Left: Commissioner Daniel and Chairman of the Board Haile Teklehaimanot at the Medhanealem Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church health fair event.*

## Resolution Spotlight



## *Honoring the First Families of “El Poso”*

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1, presented the following resolution honoring the history and legacy of the first families of the El Poso community.

- WHEREAS,** Dallas County is home to a diverse Hispanic population that has been integral to its formation and success, and symbolizes Dallas’ legacy as a multicultural hub in the twenty-first century and beyond; and
- WHEREAS,** The first Hispanic families to settle in Dallas from 1910 to 1930, whose descendants continue the legacy, have proved to be more durable than the forces of discrimination and have graced the social and cultural fabric of this area with a spirit of courage, hope, and fortitude; and
- WHEREAS,** On September 20, 2022, the first video-recorded bus tour of the bygone “Barrio of El Poso” sought to collect and document the remembrances of the last generation who lived there, and recognize both the Tejano and newly arrived families that continue to make an impact in the future of Dallas; and
- WHEREAS,** The Hispanic Organization for Genealogy and Research and the Dallas Mexican American Historical League partnered to acknowledge, recognize and declare the following “First Families of El Poso” who have documented proof of their antecedents’ dates of arrival to El Poso: (1) the Aniceto and Severiana Castro family arrived in 1923; (2) the Leondro and Jesusita Lopez family arrived in 1918; (3) the Blas and Asuncion Perez family arrived in 1920; (4) the Jose and Isabel Tafalla family arrived in 1918; (5) and the Juan and Belia Uribe family, arrived in 1915; and
- WHEREAS,** To commemorate and celebrate this endeavor, the Premiere Screening of the “El Poso Bus Tour Documentary” event was held on January 20, 2023, at the Latino Cultural Center.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa Daniel, do hereby proclaim January 20, 2023, as “First Hispanic Families of Dallas Day” in Dallas, Texas. The County of Dallas salutes those committed to this worthwhile endeavor and reaffirms its commitment to ensure equality and freedom for people of all cultures and backgrounds.