



# NEWS

---

## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 4, 2008

Contact: Gordon Anderson 512.475.4743  
Jill McFarren 512.475.2844

### **State housing agency awards \$238,095 for Brownsville home rehabilitation**

(AUSTIN) — Realizing that maintaining the stock of safe, decent single family housing is essential to the vitality of Texas communities, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) has announced a funding award to a nonprofit organization serving Brownsville and surrounding communities that will provide home rehabilitation assistance to eligible homeowners and much-needed benefits to the local economy.

TDHCA awarded \$238,095 in home rehabilitation funds to the Community Development Corporation of Brownsville, a 34-year old nonprofit provider of affordable housing, to help repair the homes of eight area low income residents who own the homes in which they live.

“Promoting homeownership is a critical mission of the Department, but equally important is our goal to ensure each home offers a healthy, safe environment,” said TDHCA Executive Director Michael Gerber. “Together with our partners at the local level, we’re putting families in safer homes, creating more cohesive neighborhoods, and increasing area construction jobs and the local tax base.”

This rehabilitation assistance award was made through the Department’s Housing Trust Fund, portions of which help in repairing and improving single family housing, including help with architectural barrier removal. Assistance will be in the form of a zero percent interest, 20-year deferred, forgivable loan, and the maximum loan amount per homeowner is \$30,000.

The Housing Trust Fund is the Department’s only affordable housing program to receive funding from state revenue for the acquisition, rehabilitation and new construction of housing to serve qualifying low income Texans. Eligible applicants include qualifying nonprofit housing organizations, units of local government, public housing authorities, and certain for-profit entities.

Under Housing Trust Fund rules, funds may be used to serve households earning no more than 80 percent of the area median family income. For Brownsville and Cameron County, this equals an annual income of \$34,900 for a family for four.

- more -

**About The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs**

*The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is the state agency responsible for affordable housing, community and energy assistance programs, and colonia activities. The Department annually administers more than \$400 million through for-profit, nonprofit, and local government partnerships to deliver local housing and community-based opportunities and assistance to Texans in need.*