

For Immediate Release
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DISABLED RESIDENTS RECEIVE HOME MODIFICATIONS THROUGH HARRIS COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY'S AMY YOUNG BARRIER REMOVAL PROGRAM

Harris County, Texas - June 7, 2016 - The Harris County Housing Authority has begun housing rehabilitation on two homes in Humble and Channelview for homeowners who have household members with disabilities and are in need of home modifications to increase accessibility throughout their homes.

Paula Burns, Asset Manager at Harris County Housing Authority, says that there is a significant need for this type of housing assistance throughout the county where the Authority partners with contractors to help homeowners who are disabled or are housing disabled persons.

"Although these projects are usually small and can be completed fairly quickly, they have a large impact on the recipient and create a lifetime of safety and comfort," said Mrs. Burns. "The joy and sense of relief on our clients' faces once the project is complete is truly rewarding."

Every year, as an administrator of The Amy Young Barrier Removal Program (AYBRP) through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the HCHA is able to provide a one-time construction grant of up to \$18,000 to a few homeowners who are persons with disabilities and are in need of home modifications to increase accessibility and eliminate hazardous conditions. Program beneficiaries must include a person with a disability, must have a household income that does not exceed 80% of the Area Median Family Income. The homes sought by the Authority must be constructed after year 1978 and in good repair with foundation and roofing.

"We have an overarching goal of providing quality housing for the constituents of the unincorporated areas of Harris County in any way we can. The AYBRP is a unique way for us to fulfill that mission," said Samson Babalola, HCHA's Director of Real Estate Development. "Although the program only allows us to help a few families a year, we provide this service with the same standards of excellence and safety as we would with any of our larger development projects," Samson said.

Harris County Housing Authority's two current projects are expected to be completed early June of 2016.

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About Harris County Housing Authority

For over 40 years, HCHA has offered desirable, livable, and sustainable communities for low income residents including families with school aged children, seniors, veterans and persons with disabilities. HCHA is the general partner of eight affordable housing developments and administers more than 4,500 Housing Choice Vouchers. HCHA is committed to helping low income residents in the unincorporated areas of Harris County achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence through housing services which include Affordable Housing, Homeownership Program, Moderate Rehabilitation Program, Amy Young Barrier Removal Program, Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers (VASH), Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) and the Single Room Occupancy Program. Learn more at www.hchatexas.org and follow us on Facebook and Twitter, @hchaTexas.