

Texas Recovery Office
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**HURRICANE HARVEY** 

## News Release

## High rent got you down? Check out these cost-saving resources

**AUSTIN, Texas** — Hurricane Harvey destroyed thousands of homes in August 2017, sending families on long, stressful searches for new places to live. Today, many of those families are still looking for affordable long-term apartments or short-term rentals while rebuilding their homes.

Fortunately the links below provide resources Texans can use to find help paying their rent or locating an affordable apartment:

- 1. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is a good place to start. Its website, <a href="www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm">www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm</a>, provides resources to help find an apartment with reduced rent or get help paying rent and utilities.
- 2. **The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** (HUD) website enables renters to search for subsidized apartments throughout Texas at <a href="https://www.hud.gov/states/texas">www.hud.gov/states/texas</a>.
- 3. **Public housing agencies** assist Texans throughout the state. To find local Texas agencies, use this directory compiled by HUD: <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xE87p">https://go.usa.gov/xE87p</a>.
- 4. **Housing counseling agencies** sponsored by HUD provide advice on renting or buying a home. Find a list of HUD-approved agencies at <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xmqet">https://go.usa.gov/xmqet</a>.
- 5. **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families** is available to eligible Texans who have children and need help with rent, utilities and other basic living needs. Apply at <a href="https://yourtexasbenefits.hhsc.texas.gov/programs/tanf/">https://yourtexasbenefits.hhsc.texas.gov/programs/tanf/</a>.
- 6. The Texas Apartment Association lists post-hurricane housing resources by region, including guidance for renting in Texas, at <a href="https://www.taa.org/renters/helpful-info">www.taa.org/renters/helpful-info</a>.
- 7. **The Texas Low Income Housing Information Service** provides a web application, "Texas Housing Counselor," that estimates rents for subsidized housing programs in Texas and provides a resource for exploring housing opportunities in Texas cities: http://texashousingcounselor.org.
- 8. **Affordable Housing Online** maintains a database of Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list openings as well as information on apartment communities that receive federal housing funding: <a href="https://affordablehousingonline.com/housing-search/Texas">https://affordablehousingonline.com/housing-search/Texas</a>.

For additional information on Hurricane Harvey and Texas recovery, visit the Hurricane Harvey disaster web page at <a href="www.fema.gov/disaster/4332">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, Facebook at <a href="www.facebook.com/FEMAHarvey">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, Facebook at <a href="www.fema.gov/disaster/4332">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, Facebook at <a href="www.fema.gov/disaster/4332">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, Facebook at <a href="www.fema.gov/femaharvey">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, Facebook at <a href="www.fema.gov/femaharvey">www.fema.gov/disaster/4332</a>, Facebook at <a href="www.fema.gov/femaharvey">www.fema.gov/fema.gov/femaharvey</a>, the FEMA Region 6 Twitter account at <a href="www.twitter.com/FEMARegion6">www.twitter.com/FEMARegion6</a> or the Texas Division of Emergency Management website at <a href="www.dps.texas.gov/dem">www.dps.texas.gov/dem</a>.

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Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (voice, 711/VRS - Video Relay Service) (TTY: 800-462-7585). Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish).