

## 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 always 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 Ed Gonzalez



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



[www.sheriff.hctx.net](http://www.sheriff.hctx.net) | [www.hcsojobs.com](http://www.hcsojobs.com)

[homelessoutreach@sheriff.hctx.net](mailto:homelessoutreach@sheriff.hctx.net)  
[www.sheriff.hctx.net](http://www.sheriff.hctx.net)

In October 2015, the **Harris County Sheriff's Office** formed the **Homeless Outreach Team (H.O.T.)** in an effort to locate, engage, stabilize, educate, and assist our homeless community.

**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. Mental illness, substance abuse, or both, are commonly present within the homeless community.

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



- ✦ Mental illness and/or substance abuse commonly present.
- ✦ The **Harris County Sheriff's Office** is seeking to find innovative ways to help end homelessness in Harris County. Reducing calls for service, loitering, and solicitation on our 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.
- ✦ **H.O.T.** services are provided to all areas in greater Harris County.
- ✦ The Harris County Sheriff's Office Foundation (HCSOF) provides donations to support **H.O.T.** with the purchase of 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.