



## Celebrating 80 Years

Founded in 1938, Fort Worth Housing Solutions (FWHS) has been serving the affordable housing needs of the Fort Worth community for the past 80 years. Today we serve more 13,922 seniors, adults and children through our housing programs and projects.

Our priority for the immediate future is using HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program to convert our entire public housing portfolio to the Housing Choice Voucher program. Through RAD, we are changing the face of affordable housing by providing mixed-income rental opportunities throughout the city of Fort Worth.

"It really means that we're mixing our families," says Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price about RAD. "There's always been a lot of fear about apartments moving in. This is your entry-level firefighter. Your entry-level police officer. That first-year teacher, second-year teacher. The young nurse who's got a child or two."

"These are working people who just need a break on their housing," she says.

[Click here](#) to hear Mayor Price talk about our initiative to de-concentrate the city's public housing into vibrant, mixed income and mixed use neighborhoods throughout our community.

[Learn all about RAD on our website.](#)

**Moving Quickly to Self-Sufficiency**



Meet Rundee Thomas. As a teenage mother, Rundee worked two to three jobs so she wouldn't have to be fully dependent on Fort Worth Housing Solutions. She grew up in Butler Place and was determined not to be a statistic. "By the grace of God I realized He had a better plan for my life," she says. As Rundee learned more about our programs, she realized she could do even more with her life -- and she did.

Rundee enrolled in the agency's Family Self-Sufficiency program and grew inspired to pursue not just a college degree, but also a graduate education.

She earned a B.A. in Early Childhood Education from Texas Wesleyan University and a M.A. in Child and Adolescent Psychology from Capella University. Newly married, Rundee now works at Safe Haven, where she designs lesson plans and educates middle- and high school students about dating abuse.

Rundee describes the Family Self-Sufficiency program as "life-changing," in part because she is learning the ins-and-outs of managing her finances and building good credit. Only a year away from self-sufficiency, Rundee is grateful to Fort Worth Housing Solutions, calling it a "life-saver." Today Rundee is empowered not only to make a difference in her community, but also to achieve her personal and financial goals.

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## April is Fair Housing Month

Fair Housing Month celebrates its 50th anniversary this month! On April 11, 1968 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968 on April 11. It included Title VIII, which is also known as the Fair Housing Act and which prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing.

Initially, the Fair Housing Act prohibited discrimination based on race, color, religion and national origin. Later, the Act added protections from discrimination based on sex, disability and familial status. The Act also includes provisions for enforcement. Housing discrimination cases can be pursued through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of Justice, a private court action or any combination of these. [Watch this video](#) about the Fair Housing Act.

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