



HOMELESSNESS IN HOUSTON DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

- Houston used to rank in the top 10 cities for homeless populations. Today, we have reduced our homeless population so drastically that we have become a model for the rest of the nation.
- Over the past 7 years, Houston's homeless service providers have collaborated in unprecedented ways to reduce our homeless population by more than 50%, and SEARCH has been a major contributor to this effort.
- More than 15,000 homeless individuals have been housed since 2012, including 6,435 veterans and 4,916 chronically homeless individuals.
- Despite our progress, there is much work to be done. According to this year's annual count, there are approximately 4,100 individuals experiencing homelessness in Houston on a given night. Over the course of a year, more than 36,000 individuals will experience homelessness.
- For the first time in seven years, Houston saw our homeless numbers grow. This trend-breaking increase was due in large part to Hurricane Harvey.
- SEARCH pursues a mission of *providing hope, creating opportunity, and transforming lives* for thousands of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in our community. SEARCH brings this mission to life every day by helping our clients obtain permanent housing, increase their income, improve their health, and regain stable, self-sufficient lives.
- SEARCH's work is carried out through intense, individualized case management and supportive services that help our clients every step of the way from the streets back into housing, work, and independence.
- SEARCH also serves the youngest victims of homelessness at the House of Tiny Treasures, a nationally accredited preschool for children whose families are or have been homeless. While the children are being prepared to succeed in school and beyond, their parents can go back to school or work and take the steps they need to get their lives back on track.
- Last year, SEARCH helped more than 4,000 individuals who were homeless. We invite you to join with us and to be part of the solution as we strive for our vision of a Houston without homelessness.

For more information or to get involved, please visit www.SEARCHhomeless.org or contact llevy@searchhomeless.org.



Kyonghui holding the keys to her new apartment

KYONGHUI: A SEARCH CLIENT SUCCESS STORY

Kyonghui's story is one of perseverance and determination against extremely difficult odds. Kyonghui and her husband were housed through SEARCH's Scattered Site Apartment Housing Program many years ago and were thriving in their environment. However, like so many other Houstonians, Hurricane Harvey turned their lives upside down. Having lost their apartment and all their belongings to the floodwaters, they sought shelter at the George R. Brown Convention Center; but when the shelter closed and FEMA assistance ceased, Kyonghui and her husband became homeless again after years of remaining stably housed.

While living on the streets, Kyonghui's husband became desperately ill, and they spent months in and out of hospitals before he finally succumbed to his illness, passing away in January 2018. Kyonghui's SEARCH Case Manager, Brittany, worked tirelessly on Kyonghui's behalf, enrolling her in SEARCH's programs and working through substantial bureaucratic red tape to transfer her husband's housing assistance into Kyonghui's name. After months of waiting, Kyonghui was approved for housing and was finally able to move into her new apartment in June. While she continues to heal from the trauma and grief of the past year, she is focused on going back to school and attaining employment. Brittany continues to support her through intensive case management services, and Kyonghui is overjoyed and grateful to once again have a place to call home.