



CHC OUTREACH PROGRAM

County Historical Commissions (CHCs) are appointed by county government to preserve local historic resources. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) created the CHC Outreach Program in 2008 to support these unpaid appointees who play a vital role in our efforts to save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas. Currently, there are more than 200 CHCs, made up of 3,500 appointees who donate more than 450,000 hours of service each year.



CHC Outreach staff develop CHC educational workshops. Above training was held at the King Ranch Museum.

WHAT WE DO: HOW CHCS BENEFIT

The CHC Outreach Program was initiated by the THC to provide improved services to these valued partners who volunteer to steward local cultural and historic properties across the state. CHC Outreach staff creates opportunities for each CHC to build the capacity of its organization.

Staff provides the following services to CHCs:

- Educate through training and technical assistance
- Promote achievements to county officials and the public
- Expand partnership and communication networks
- Provide CHC recommendations to county officials
- Empower appointees to be local preservation leaders

State statutes direct CHCs to follow recommendations of the county commissioners court and THC. For this reason, CHC Outreach staff provides recommendations that are specific to the programs and initiatives that THC experts feel are most beneficial to the short- and long-term success of local preservation efforts. Staff works with other THC personnel to define preservation technical recommendations and standards.

HOW TO REACH US

CHC Outreach staff is available to answer questions and provide assistance. Please contact us at:

Phone: 512-463-5853

Email: history@thc.texas.gov

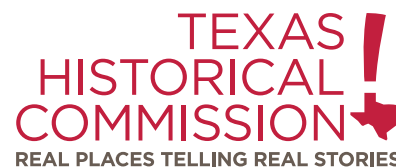
CHC STATUTORY PARAMETERS

The Texas Legislature authorized counties to establish CHCs to assist county commissioners courts and the THC in the preservation of our historic and cultural resources—this is the mission of each CHC.

The responsibilities of a CHC are set forth in the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 318. The statute is fairly broad, leaving latitude for CHCs to organize and undertake activities appropriate to their county's region and resources. CHCs vary in size and workload, which affects the number/type of projects each CHC pursues.

The capacity of a CHC depends on amount of support—monetary and in-kind—from county officials and the breadth of appointee skill sets. Regardless of size, CHCs are valuable resources for county history and wonderful partners for area organizations.

Additional information about CHCs is available at thc.texas.gov/chcoutreach.



thc.texas.gov