



CHC OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) recognizes that County Historical Commissions (CHCs) play a vital role in our efforts to save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas. CHCs are made up of non-paid, county-appointed individuals. They are preservation leaders for their county and primary points of contact for the THC when discussing local preservation matters. The THC also serves as an advisor to CHCs, as per the Texas Local Government Code.

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 create 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/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 provide 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. CHC Outreach staff work with other THC staff to define preservation technical recommendations and standards.

How to Reach Us

County Historical Commission Outreach Program staff are available to answer questions and provide assistance. Please contact us at:
Phone: 512-463-5853
Email: amy.hammons@thc.texas.gov



CHC outreach staff develop educational training for CHCs.

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.

