FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 1, 2019 Contact: Sam Robles sam@texascomms.com (56)407-0661

## Houston Community and Labor Advocates Will Remain Vigilant

Houston Chronicle: Houston Council Approves \$400M in Contracts for Harvey Home Repairs

<u>STUDY</u>: Wage Theft and Worker Misclassification Run Rampant in Houston

HOME Executive Director: "Houston Must Distribute Harvey Funds Strategically"

Transparency and access in a more diplomatic way getting a piece of the pie. The way that we approach this to be transformative to hold accountable. Remain vigiliant to holding contractors and houston to high standard.

**Houston** -- Today, labor and community advocates released a statement regarding Houston City Council approval of \$400M in contracts for Harvey home repairs.

"We will remain vigilant in holding Houston contractors and city council to high standards when addressing strategic focus of Harvey recovery funds. For far too long before the flood waters, Houston residents have been impacted through housing, working, and environmental inequities. Our city representatives must approach rebuilding efforts with transparency and equity to allow that all Houstonians, not just developers and contractors, are able to rebuild and profit."

###

Houston Organizing Movement for Equity (HOME) is a coalition of community, policy and service-based organizations committed to an equitable recovery from Hurricane Harvey for all Houstonians. For updates, follow us on Twitter <u>@HOME\_Coalition</u>. Social Media

HAPPENING NOW: Houston's Housing and Community Affairs Committee is meeting to discuss the contractors for master contract agreement. We want local contractors that will help bring jobs to our neighbors most impacted by #HurricaneHarvey

Wage theft and worker misclassification run rampant in Houston, let's ensure quality contractors that will bring good, safe jobs to Houston @citycouncil @workersdefense build a better south report

Only 35% of construction workers have health insurance. 40% have no benefits of any kind - no health, retirement, paid time off or sick leave.

Houston should ensure that projects are built right and done on time and on a budget. It does this by ensuring a stable, skilled, accident-free workforce through fair and competitive wages, effective training, safety on the job and labor peace.

Houston maximizes the economic impact of disaster recovery expenditures by creating career-ladder employment for those need it most and ensuring wages circulate in the local economy