

Interagency Coordinating Group
Legislative Report to the 83rd Texas Legislature

Prepared by
The Interagency Coordinating Group (ICG)

Submitted to

Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Office of the Speaker of the House
House Committee on Public Health
Senate Health and Human Services Committee

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the passage of House Bill (H.B.) 492, 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009 and House Bill (H.B.) 1965, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011 Texas became the first state in the country to pass legislation specifically to expand and improve the relationship between state government and faith- and community-based organizations (FCBOs) seeking to partner with the state to help meet health and human service needs. These two bills directed the chief administrative officer of the named entities to appoint, in consultation with the Governor, a faith and community liaison in each agency. These liaisons serve on the Interagency Coordinating Group (ICG) chaired by the CEO of the State Commission on National and Community Service (OneStar Foundation), also a named member of the ICG. OneStar Foundation also serves as the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives for the State of Texas. (APPENDIX F)

H.B. 492 directed agency liaisons to work within their respective agencies to: 1) identify and remove unnecessary barriers to partnerships between the state agency the liaison represents and faith- and community-based organizations; 2) provide information and training, if necessary, for employees of the state agency the liaison represents regarding equal opportunity standards for faith- and community-based organizations seeking to partner with state government; 3) facilitate the identification of practices with demonstrated effectiveness for faith- and community-based organizations that partner with the state agency the liaison represents; and 4) work with the appropriate departments and programs of the state agency the liaison represents to conduct outreach efforts to inform and welcome faith- and community-based organizations that have not traditionally formed partnerships with the agency.

H.B. 1965 directed agency liaisons to: 1) develop and implement a plan for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organization; 2) develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with faith- and community-based organizations; 3) identify and address duplication of services provided by the state and faith- and community-based organizations; and 4) identify and address gaps in state services that faith- and community-based organizations could fill.

To assist the ICG in carrying out its duties H.B.1965 also created the “Task Force on Improving Relationships with Nonprofits.” Task Force members served with agency

liaisons on each of four subgroups: Improving Contracting Relationships; Cross-Agency Programs; Sharing Information and Resources; and Enhanced Training. ICG liaisons frequently sought the advice of Task Force members on issues such as effective messaging, outreach, and use of language that can be more easily understood by nonprofits. This report highlights several innovative programs and strategies initiated by state agencies in collaboration with the Task Force and FCBOs. These best practices can serve as a guide to other agencies and FCBOs who might wish to employ similar strategies.

The Task Force officially expired per H.B. 1965 September 1, 2013. The members of the ICG would like to thank the members of the Task Force for their guidance and insight over the biennium. Their dedication as volunteers representing the nonprofit sector was inspiring and motivating to the members of the ICG and strengthened the outcomes delineated in this report. (APPENDIX H)

Building upon the success of the Task Force and its role in advising the Interagency Coordinating Group, S.B. 993, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, was passed and signed into law by the Governor creating the first Texas Nonprofit Council. The passage of this Act is an acknowledgement of the critical importance of faith-and community-based organizations as partners with state government. The needs of our state are great and require effective and innovative collaborations if we are to leverage the unique strengths of each.

The purpose of the Council is to assist with faith-and community-based initiatives and to coordinate with the ICG in furthering the activities under H.B. 1965 as outlined above. The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in consultation with the presiding officer of the ICG (OneStar Foundation) appointed twelve members to the new council, through a competitive process, to represent the categories outlined in the bill.

As presiding officer of the ICG, I respectfully submit this year's report on the goals, activities and progress of the ICG from January through December 2013. Previous reports submitted outline specific actions taken since the passage of the initial legislation in 2009. These reports can be found on the OneStar Foundation website.

II. ICG DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ICG Duties and Responsibilities (APPENDIX A)

- Sec. 535.053. (c)(1) – Meet periodically at the call of the presiding officer.
- Sec. 535.053. (c)(2) – Work across state agencies and with State Commission on National and Community Service to facilitate the removal of unnecessary interagency barriers to partnerships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations.
- Sec. 535.053. (c)(3) – Operate in a manner that promotes effective partnerships between those agencies and organizations to serve residents of this state who need assistance.

ICG Additional Duties and Responsibilities (APPENDIX B)

- Sec. 535.055. (c) – In addition to the Interagency Coordinating Group’s other duties, the Interagency Coordinating Group, in coordination with the Task Force, shall:
 1. Develop and implement a plan for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations;
 2. Develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with faith- and community-based organizations;
 3. Identify and address duplication of services provided by the state and faith- and community-based organizations; and
 4. Identify and address gaps in state services that faith- and community-based organizations could fill.

(SB 993 shifts the responsibilities above to the Texas Nonprofit Council in coordination with the ICG)

ICG Reporting Duties

- Sec. 535.054. (a) – Not later than December 1 of each year, the Interagency Coordinating Group shall submit a report to the legislature that describes in detail the activities, goals, and progress of the Interagency Coordinating Group.
- Sec. 535.054. (b) – The report made under Subsection (a) must be made available to the public through posting on the Office of the Governor’s website.

III. TEXAS NONPROFIT COUNCIL

The Texas Nonprofit Council (APPENDIX C) was established by S.B. 993 during the 83rd Legislative Session in 2013. The purpose of the Council is to assist with faith-based and community-based initiatives. The Council will help direct the work of the Interagency Coordinating Group (ICG). The Council, in coordination with the ICG will: 1) make recommendations for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations; 2) develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with faith- and community-based organizations; 3) identify and address duplication of services provided by the state and faith- and community-based organizations; and 4) identify and address gaps in state services that faith- and community-based organizations could fill.

The legislation directed the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to provide administrative support to the Council and further gave the HHSC executive director responsibility to appoint the council members. Toward that end, in the summer of 2013, HHSC developed the application and selection process and made official announcements, inviting all interested applicants to respond by August 30, 2013. The goal, per legislation, was to name the council by October 1, 2013. The announcement was posted by HHSC Office of Communications and was also published in the August 9, 2013 issue of the Texas Register. Additionally, many advocacy groups shared the information with their members.

The review team reviewed each of the 41 applications submitted to HHSC. Applicants were scored on the quality of the information included in their applications, relevant nonprofit experience, and relevant training background. The list of recommended applicants was provided to the HHSC executive commissioner for approval.

The Council was named and held its initial meeting in October 2013. Officers were selected, and they will move the group forward in planning and implementing its designated duties. (APPENDIX G)

IV. ICG GOALS, ACTIVITIES, AND PROGRESS (January – December 2013)

1. Goal - Develop and implement a plan for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations

Activity and Progress:

The committee on Improving Contracting Relations was composed of subject matter experts from several different ICG agencies. The work plan (APPENDIX D) for this group was based upon the issues as noted in the November 2010 report from the Task Force on Strengthening Nonprofit Capacity (H.B. 492). In 2013 under the leadership of this committee the ICG and its member agencies accomplished the following:

1. An Request for Proposal (RFP) template was approved by member agencies (APPENDIX E)
2. The template was posted on the Comptroller's website
3. The template was adopted for use by many member agencies
4. A letter was sent in June 2013 to the executive officer of each ICG member agency listing ICG recommendations for strengthening the relationship between state agencies and FCBOs. Recommendations included actions related to procurement, and contract management:

Procurement:

- a. Use the ICG developed RFP template for client service procurements.
- b. Ensure the use of easy to understand language (plain English) in funding notices, procurement documents, and contracts.
- c. Continue assessment of procurement requirements including solicitation documentation requirements, to determine if the level of requirement is comparable to the level of funding.
- d. Provide as much time between funding announcements and application deadlines as possible.

- e. Provide an agency contact and/or host a procurement conference, to provide specific and or technical guidance related to the procurement process for organizations.
- f. Design vendor/contractor qualifications in the most inclusive manner possible to ensure a wide pool of possible applicants, including FCBOs.

Contract Management:

- a. Review prompt payment requirements, and ensure that your agency is compliant as well as proactive in ensuring contractors are paid timely.
- b. Review and establish how reasonable, allowable indirect costs and administrative costs can be reimbursed.
- c. Review and establish reasonable and consistent metrics for measuring contract effectiveness.

2. Goal - Develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with faith- and community-based organizations

Activity and Progress:

Sharing Information and Resources

In an effort to strengthen the state's sharing of information and agency resources in a coordinated, easily accessible, user friendly manner, ICG member agencies have been updating their partnership and funding opportunities on the OneStar website onestarfoundation.org. The home page features the "Texas Faith-Based and Community Initiative" and includes:

- General information for FCBOs on partnering with state agencies
- FAQs on contracting from the Improving Contracting Relationships subgroup
- The Equal Treatment training module produced by the Enhanced Training subgroup
- Information about the legislation creating the ICG
- Links to the Task Force site 1965taskforce.wordpress.com/
- Current opportunities by agency

Best Practices Between State Agencies and Faith- and Community Based Organizations

H.B. 1965 directed members of the ICG to operate in a manner that promotes effective partnerships between those agencies and organizations to serve residents of this state who need assistance and to develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with FBCOs. Effective collaboration often involves multiple partners; shared understanding of goals; resources including time to manage the partnership; and an understanding of the urgency to deliver on outcomes. What agencies and Task Force members learned in 2013 was the importance of proceeding thoughtfully in a manner conducive to developing long-term partnerships rather than event driven short-term activities. This learning is reflected in the update below on the programs highlighted in the 2012 ICG Report:

UPDATE ON BEST PRACTICES FROM 2012

- **Health and Human Service Commission “Community Partners & Your Texas Benefits”**

This program continues to expand into regions of the state through collaboration with FCBOs and is a model best practice for building efficiencies for the state, clients, and community organizations.

- **Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) “Summer Meals Program”**

OneStar, TDA, and an Informatics class at the University of Texas School of Social Work collaborated on a research project to identify potential summer meal providers in school districts that had requested a waiver from the requirement to provide 30 days of summer meals. This information was made available to TDA to use as an outreach tool to help provide alternative feeding sites.

- **Department of Family and Protective Services “Adoption Month”**

Task Force members met with DFPS to learn more about resources and materials available to congregations interested in helping to meet the needs of children in out-of-home care. FCBO networks that had planned to disseminate information determined that more time was needed to implement a strategy that better aligned the state’s goals with those of congregations desiring a menu of service options.

For example, options could range from supporting foster families providing temporary care, to supporting family members as caregivers, or recruiting adoptive families.

- **Department of Family and Protective Services Independent Living Centers**

A second proposed initiative was to help bring additional resources to the twelve Independent Living Centers (ILC) across Texas who provide services to foster youth who have aged out of care or are soon to age out. Due to the complexity of partnering with so many widely dispersed agencies, it became clear that this type of collaboration requires an intensity of time and resources that may not be currently available to the FCBOs interested in this work. Connecting at a more local level with individual agencies might be a workable strategy. The guidance of the newly appointed Texas Nonprofit Council could be helpful in moving this initiative forward.

- **The Public Utility Commission's (PUC) "Power to Choose Program"**

PUC worked diligently with Task Force members to produce training materials that were easy to understand and helpful in navigating the complexity of electric choice. The intent was for nonprofit networks to help disseminate the information to potential users. Another aspect of the initiative was to train volunteers to help clients navigate electric choice. This is a program designed to reach low income and vulnerable populations. It was determined that moving ahead on this particular initiative might be premature as there were legislative proposals being discussed in the last session that could affect the way these populations interact with the market.

- **OneStar and the Military Child Education Coalition's (MCEC) *Living in the New Normal***

OneStar helped MCEC convene over 100 participants in December 2012 to educate Texans across all sectors regarding the needs of military connected kids. In 2013, workgroups were formed around issue areas. OneStar hosted several webinars to introduce Texas Connector, an online GEO mapping tool of the Texas

nonprofit sector, to participants who desired to learn more about resources available by region of the state. OneStar is working with the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) on usage of Connector as a resource for the military connected kids in Texas schools. The potential for impact and outcomes when so many cross sector participants share the same goal is exciting to see. However, maintaining communication and convening in the face of scarce or nonexistent resources to do so often keeps such efforts from flourishing at the desired rate.

- **The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) partnership with OneStar Foundation and AmeriCorps**

In this pilot program, several DARS clients expressed interest in applying for AmeriCorps programs and were provided assistance to do so. This initiative has great promise as interest grows and AmeriCorps programs learn more about supporting reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities.

ADDITIONAL BEST PRACTICES FROM 2013

The passage of legislation creating the Interagency Coordinating Group (ICG) was a catalyst for state agencies to refresh and renew discussions on how best to engage faith and community organizations in partnering with the state. The following initiatives are highlighted as illustrations of effective partnerships that further agency goals through strong collaboration with FCBOs.

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

DADS has begun a new initiative, “**Age Well Live Well**” (AWLW), that develops local collaborations to promote volunteerism and health and wellness and to provide information on services and programs for older Texans and people with disabilities. Through this initiative, local organizations work together to provide residents with information and volunteer opportunities on local, state and federal programs. Local communities that are implementing the program include Denton, Abilene, Houston, San Antonio, Tarrant County, Fort Bend County and Sherman. Key organizations include DADS state and local offices; Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs); area

agencies on aging (AAAs); AgriLIFE extension agents; civic and social organizations; hospital groups; city parks and recreation departments; and aging and disability service providers.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

- The “**Abstinence Education Program**” partnered with faith-based entities in local coalitions, as well as distributed toolkits for faith based organizations to implement with their youth in their congregations.
- The “**Diabetes Prevention and Control Program**” contracts with ten community-based diabetes projects to conduct diabetes prevention and management interventions and implement evidence-based programs and strategies at the local level to initiate policy, systems and environmental change. Participation in interventions by Texans with or at risk for diabetes has resulted in positive preliminary health outcome and behavior change measures. Results include improved emotional well-being, increased physical activity and decreased blood pressure, waist circumference, and diabetes measures.
- The “**HIV/STD Prevention & Care**” Branch contracts with 17 community-based organizations throughout the state of Texas to provide HIV Prevention services.

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA)

- TDHCA was able to reduce a duplication of efforts by relying on nonprofit organizations and local units of government for the allocation of “**Emergency Solutions Grants**” (ESG) Program funds. Continuums of Care (CoCs) are community collaborative applications for homelessness assistance that are led by nonprofit organizations or local units of government. Texas receives ESG funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in two forms: 1) an allocation made directly to the state, and 2) individual awards allocated directly to CoCs. After the state receives the funds from HUD, TDHCA awards homeless service providers through a competitive application process. In an effort to streamline its processes, the Department determined that the state’s allocation of ESG funds would work better through a direct allocation from the

state to CoCs' collaborative applications, allowing the CoCs to award the funds locally. In making this determination, the Department sought to remove the duplicative application and award process and to tap into the local planning that was already taking place. As a result of this TDHCA effort to maximize efficiency, many CoCs no longer have to initiate a separate planning process to HUD and the state; they can use the same planning process for both funding sources. Also, the state no longer has to have a competitive application process, since the CoCs prioritize their activities at the local level.

- One barrier to partnering with local faith-and community-based groups is creating an atmosphere for meaningful participation in program development. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) believes that consultation with community advocates, funding recipients, and potential applicants for funding is an essential prerequisite to the development of effective policies, programs, and rules. In order to augment TDHCA's formal public comment process, the **“Disability Advisory Workgroup”** (DAW) was created in 2002, affording staff the opportunity to interact more informally and in greater detail with various stakeholders and to get feedback on designing more successful programs.
- Providing services and housing to persons with disabilities presents unique challenges and opportunities. Through the DAW, the perspective of local faith-and community-based groups, along with other stakeholders and advocates, provide ongoing guidance to the Department on how TDHCA's programs can most effectively serve persons with disabilities. The workgroup is facilitated by staff at TDHCA. One suggestion of the DAW, which was implemented in 2013, was reaching out to Independent Living Centers and attempting to partner with them in TDHCA's tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program which funds persons exiting institutions with rental subsidies.

Office of the Governor, Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities (GCPD)

- The **“Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities”** consistently works with a network of community-based disability organizations. One of their on-

going goals is to provide these community groups with information and training on the rights and responsibilities of Texans with disabilities. Another goal is to continually increase their network of contacts in local communities throughout Texas. Examples of community-based organizations with which the GCPD regularly communicates include: local chapters of The ARC of Texas, Goodwill Industries, Easter Seals, Paralyzed Veterans (of Texas and of America), the Down Syndrome Partnership, Special Olympics Texas, the Autism Society, the United Way, VSA Texas (the state organization on arts and disability), parent organizations focused on special education issues, and community-based recreational organizations for people with disabilities.

- In 2013, GCPD provided training on the rights of volunteers with disabilities to an audience of AmeriCorps and Vista (federal volunteerism organizations) site managers, sponsored by OneStar Foundation.
- Also in 2013, GCPD provided guidance on legal standards related to hiring practices for people with disabilities. The end product was a manual, “**Everyone Can Serve.**” The manual has been widely distributed by OneStar Foundation throughout Texas and has also served as a model for other states seeking to provide volunteer opportunities for people with disabilities through AmeriCorps programs.
- The GCPD’s indirect interactions with faith-and community-based organizations include the dissemination of disability-related information through our GovDelivery push notification system (similar to a listserv) and public presentations and webinars on disability issues. The GCPD also maintains a quarterly calendar, available online, of disability-related events throughout Texas, which helps to promote the activities of faith-and community-based organizations.

Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD)

- The Governor’s Criminal Justice Division promotes strategies that improve and support criminal justice efforts across Texas by directing funding to first

responders and service providers through the administration of grants from a variety of state and federal sources.

- Resources are dedicated towards programs that protect people from crime, reduce the number of crimes committed, respond to the needs of crime victims and promote accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness within the criminal justice system. Nonprofit and faith-based organizations are eligible grant recipients within several of the fund sources CJD administers. In Fiscal Year 2014 over 200 nonprofit agencies from across the state will receive CJD funding totaling nearly \$37 million. Of that, about \$1.2 million is going to faith-based programs.

Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

A. Orphan Care Ministry

- The Department of Family and Protective Services is committed to collaborating with faith-based partners to help children who are waiting for families. This commitment has blossomed around the state to a broader partnership between the department and the faith-based community to serve children and families involved in the Child Protective Services (CPS) system. While achieving permanency for children remains an important goal of the collaboration, each congregation has the freedom to personalize its "**Orphan Ministry**" to meet the needs of its members and community.
- Participating congregations may provide any combination of services ranging from prevention to permanency, and could include an adoption ministry. Each congregation has a unique role within its community and in partnership with CPS by determining its own unique mission. A congregation, for example, may choose to provide respite care for foster parents who need time away from their parenting responsibilities to rest and recharge. Alternatively, the congregation may choose to support adoptive families or families considering adoption in a myriad of ways that could include holding an adoption consummation party, assisting with the cost of tuition for daycare, tutoring or extracurricular activities. Or a church could choose to provide assistance to any child within their county by sponsoring an emergency resource room, a store-like setting for

CPS caseworkers who need to find clothing, school supplies or personal hygiene products for children and families receiving CPS services.

- Over 300 families have benefitted from these innovative partnerships. Some families have been able to adopt sibling groups with the church's support. Other churches commit to strengthening biological families through supportive services such as birth parent mentoring. DFPS is excited to be partnering with over 93 churches that have launched their orphan care ministries, with their focus ranging from prevention to permanency. Over 1000 other churches are currently in the process of developing their orphan care ministries.

B. Advisory Committee on Promoting Adoption of Minority Children (ACPAMC)

- As directed by Texas Family Code (TFC), Section 162.309, ACPAMC studies programs and projects relating to community awareness and education, family support, counseling, parenting skills and education, and reform of the child welfare system. The ACPAMC makes recommendations to DFPS to promote the adoption and provision of services to children of color. This year, ACPAMC has been instrumental in facilitating “**Adoption Forums**” intended to raise awareness of the need for adoptive families, and recruit churches to develop orphan ministries. The partnership between ACPAMC, CPS and Casey Family Programs to facilitate regional adoption forums has heightened interest and response, engaging more than 70 churches across Texas to find families for children waiting to be adopted and increasing support for children and families in all stages of service.
- In November 2013, faith leaders from across the state met at the Capitol for the Faith Leaders' Summit to discuss faith-based efforts to care for children and families. These leaders are collaborating with DFPS to assist churches in developing their “Orphan Care” ministries. The faith leaders used the summit to create a unified vision and guiding principles for this partnership between the church and state.

Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)

- In 2013 Texas Division of Emergency Management was able to coordinate state/non-profit/faith-based services to West, Texas following the explosion in April; the tornadoes in Granbury; as well as flooding in Eagle Pass and Travis County. Nonprofits and faith-based organizations, through TDEM coordination, brought more than \$200,000 in the form of gift cards and services to individuals in all the 2013 disasters. TDEM, in coordination with OneStar Foundation, managed more than 6,000 volunteers in West, Texas in 5 days, and processed more than 120 tons of donated items.



Volunteers in West from American Youth Works- AmeriCorps managing Volunteers and Donations



Donations in West, Texas

- TDEM was able to train state and faith-based and community organizations in donations and volunteer management and facilitated conversations leading to a better understanding and coordination between volunteer organizations and government.



Training in Galveston by Team Rubicon and American Youth Works-AmeriCorps

- TDEM has been able to recognize other volunteer organizations involved in the Response and Recovery phases of a disaster and coordinate their services. TDEM, in coordination with OneStar Foundation, provided a training for Volunteer Centers in Texas on how to set up a “**Volunteer Reception Center**” (VRC) following a disaster. TDEM has provided outreach to faith- and community-based organizations through the Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL), speaking at meetings, and offering TDEM courses to faith- and community-based organizations that were traditionally reserved for government only.

3. & 4. Goals - Identify and address duplication of services provided by the state and faith- and community-based organizations; and identify and address gaps in state services that faith- and community-based organizations could fill.

Activity and Progress:

Texas Connector texasconnects.org is an interactive geo-mapping tool designed by OneStar Foundation and the North Central Texas Council on Governments to assist nonprofits, government agencies, local governments, elected officials, grant-makers and researchers to analyze community needs and nonprofit services; to address gaps in service; identify nonprofits by service category to promote collaboration or show duplication; and create customized demographic, statistical and provider reports for user

identified regions of interest. Connector has been recognized nationally as the nation's most robust statewide nonprofit database.

- ICG member agencies were encouraged to use Texas Connector to help identify duplication in services and gaps in services that FCBOs might fill.
- Several Texas Connector demonstrations were provided to ICG members that requested hands on demonstrations.
- ICG agency executive leaders were informed about Connector and provided a free access code to distribute throughout their agencies. It was recommended that agency leaders encourage use of Texas Connector in pertinent divisions within their agencies to identify and address duplication of services and gaps in state services that FCBOs could fill.
- The best practices outlined in the previous section provide examples of agencies identifying gaps in services that FCBOs can fill.

V. NEXT STEPS FOR 2014

ICG members, in coordination with the Texas Nonprofit Council, will:

- 1) Keep agency information up-to-date on the OneStar website and continue to add new resources;
- 2) Develop a tutorial on the contracting lifecycle so faith and community organizations can better understand the contracting process from solicitation through reporting, monitoring and closeout;
- 3) Develop additional training curriculum as identified through the Texas Nonprofit Council;
- 4) Encourage their respective agencies to use the standardized RFP template;
- 5) Promote the use of the Texas Connector www.texasconnects.org as a resource for state agencies to identify duplication of services and gaps in services;
- 6) Further develop best practices for cooperation and collaboration between state agencies and FCBO networks;
- 7) Continue to work with their agency leadership to reduce barriers for FCBOs and streamline procurement and contracting per the above recommendations, as much as is practicable.

For questions related to this report or to obtain more information on the work of the Interagency Coordinating Group, please contact Elizabeth Darling, President/CEO of OneStar Foundation, at 512-287-2035 or liz@onestarfoundation.org .

VI. APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

H.B. No. 492

AN ACT

relating to the expansion of faith- and community-based health and human services and social services initiatives.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. (a) Subtitle I, Title 4, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 535 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 535. PROVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES AND OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES THROUGH FAITH- AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 535.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Community-based initiative" includes a social, health, human services, or volunteer income tax assistance initiative operated by a community-based organization.

(2) "Community-based organization" means a nonprofit corporation or association that is located in close proximity to the population the organization serves.

(3) "Faith-based initiative" means a social, health, or human services initiative operated by a faith-based organization.

(4) "Faith-based organization" means a nonprofit corporation or association that:

(A) is operated through a religious or denominational organization, including an organization that is operated for religious, educational, or charitable purposes and that is operated, supervised, or controlled, wholly or partly, by or in connection with a religious organization; or

(B) clearly demonstrates through the organization's mission statement, policies, or practices that the organization is guided or motivated by religion.

(5) "State Commission on National and Community Service" means the entity used as authorized by 42 U.S.C. Section 12638(a) to carry out the duties of a state commission under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Section 12501 et seq.).

Sec. 535.002. PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to strengthen the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations and to forge stronger partnerships between those organizations and state government for the legitimate public purpose of providing charitable and social services to persons in this state.

Sec. 535.003. CONSTRUCTION. This chapter may not be construed to:

(1) exempt a faith- or community-based organization from any applicable state or federal law; or

(2) be an endorsement or sponsorship by this state of the religious character, expression, beliefs, doctrines, or practices of a faith-based organization.

Sec. 535.004. APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAW. A power authorized or duty imposed under this chapter must be performed in a manner that is consistent with 42 U.S.C. Section 604a.

[Sections 535.005-535.050 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER B. GOVERNMENTAL LIAISONS FOR FAITH- AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Sec. 535.051. DESIGNATION OF FAITH- AND COMMUNITY-BASED LIAISONS. (a) The executive commissioner, in consultation with the governor, shall designate one employee from the commission and from each health and human services agency to serve as a liaison for faith- and community-based organizations.

(b) The chief administrative officer of each of the following state agencies, in consultation with the governor, shall designate one employee from the agency to serve as a liaison for faith- and community-based organizations:

(1) the Office of Rural Community Affairs;

(2) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

(3) the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;

(4) the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs;

(5) the Texas Education Agency;

(6) the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission;

- (7) the Texas Veterans Commission;
- (8) the Texas Workforce Commission;
- (9) the Texas Youth Commission; and
- (10) other state agencies as determined by the governor.

Sec. 535.052. GENERAL DUTIES OF LIAISONS. (a) A faith- and community-based liaison designated under Section 535.051 shall:

(1) identify and remove unnecessary barriers to partnerships between the state agency the liaison represents and faith- and community-based organizations;

(2) provide information and training, if necessary, for employees of the state agency the liaison represents regarding equal opportunity standards for faith- and community-based organizations seeking to partner with state government;

(3) facilitate the identification of practices with demonstrated effectiveness for faith- and community-based organizations that partner with the state agency the liaison represents;

(4) work with the appropriate departments and programs of the state agency the liaison represents to conduct outreach efforts to inform and welcome faith- and community-based organizations that have not traditionally formed partnerships with the agency;

(5) coordinate all efforts with the governor's office of faith-based and community initiatives and provide information, support, and assistance to that office as requested to the extent permitted by law and as feasible; and

(6) attend conferences sponsored by federal agencies and offices and other relevant entities to become and remain informed of issues and developments regarding faith- and community-based initiatives.

(b) A faith- and community-based liaison designated under Section 535.051 may coordinate and interact with statewide organizations that represent faith- or community-based organizations as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 535.053. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING GROUP. (a) The interagency coordinating group for faith- and community-based initiatives is composed of each faith- and community-based liaison designated under Section 535.051 and a liaison from the State Commission on National and Community Service.

(b) The commission employee designated as a liaison under Section 535.051 is the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group.

(c) The interagency coordinating group shall:

(1) meet periodically at the call of the presiding officer;

(2) work across state agencies and with the State Commission on National and Community Service to facilitate the removal of unnecessary interagency barriers to partnerships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations; and

(3) operate in a manner that promotes effective partnerships between those agencies and organizations to serve residents of this state who need assistance.

Sec. 535.054. REPORTS. (a) A liaison designated under Section 535.051 shall:

(1) provide periodic reports to the executive commissioner or other chief executive officer who designated the liaison, as applicable, on a schedule determined by the person who designated the liaison; and

(2) report annually to the governor's office of faith- and community-based initiatives and as necessary to the State Commission on National and Community Service regarding the liaison's efforts to comply with the duties imposed under Sections 535.052 and 535.053.

(b) Each report made under Subsection (a)(2) must be made available to the public through posting on the office of the governor's Internet website, and the reports may be aggregated into a single report for that purpose.

Sections 535.055-535.100 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER C. RENEWING OUR COMMUNITIES ACCOUNT

Sec. 535.101. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "account" means the renewing our communities account.

Sec. 535.102. PURPOSES OF SUBCHAPTER. Recognizing that faith- and community-based organizations provide a range of vital charitable services to persons in this state, the purposes of this subchapter are to:

(1) increase the impact and effectiveness of those organizations;

(2) forge stronger partnerships between those organizations and state government so that communities are empowered to serve persons in need and community capacity for providing services is strengthened; and

(3) create a funding mechanism that builds on the established efforts of those organizations and operates to create new partnerships in local communities for the benefit of this state.

Sec. 535.103. RENEWING OUR COMMUNITIES ACCOUNT. (a) The renewing our communities account is an account in the general revenue fund that may be appropriated only to the commission for the purposes and activities authorized by this subchapter and for reasonable administrative expenses under this subchapter.

b) The account consists of:

(1) all money appropriated for the purposes of this subchapter;

(2) any gifts, grants, or donations received for the purposes of this subchapter; and

(3) interest earned on money in the account.

(c) The account is exempt from the application of Section 403.095.

(d) The purposes of the account are to:

(1) increase the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations to provide charitable services and to manage human resources and funds;

(2) assist local governmental entities in establishing local offices to promote faith- and community-based initiatives; and

(3) foster better partnerships between state government and faith- and community-based organizations.

Sec. 535.104. POWERS AND DUTIES REGARDING ACCOUNT. (a) The commission shall:

(1) contract with the State Commission on National and Community Service to administer funds appropriated from the account in a manner that:

(A) consolidates the capacity of and strengthens national service and community and faith- and community-based initiatives; and

(B) leverages public and private funds to benefit this state;

(2) develop a competitive process to be used in awarding grants from account funds that is consistent with state law and includes objective selection criteria;

(3) oversee the delivery of training and other assistance activities under this subchapter;

(4) develop criteria limiting awards of grants under Section 535.105(1)(A) to small and medium-sized faith- and community-based organizations that provide charitable services to persons in this state;

(5) establish general state priorities for the account;

(6) establish and monitor performance and outcome measures for persons to whom grants are awarded under this subchapter; and

(7) establish policies and procedures to ensure that any money appropriated from the account to the commission that is allocated to build the capacity of a faith-based organization or for a faith-based initiative, including money allocated for the establishment of the advisory subgroup under Section 535.108, is not used to advance a sectarian purpose or to engage in any form of proselytization.

(b) Instead of contracting with the State Commission on National and Community Service under Subsection (a)(1), the commission may award account funds appropriated to the commission to the State Commission on National and Community Service in the form of a grant.

(c) Any funds awarded to the State Commission on National and Community Service under a contract or through a grant under this section must be administered in the manner required by this subchapter, including Subsection (a)(1).

(d) The commission or the State Commission on National and Community Service, in accordance with the terms of the contract or grant, as applicable, may:

(1) directly, or through agreements with one or more entities that serve faith- and community-based organizations that provide charitable services to persons in this state:

(A) assist faith- and community-based organizations with:

(i) writing or managing grants through workshops or other forms of guidance;

(ii) obtaining legal assistance related to forming a corporation or obtaining an exemption from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code; and

(iii) obtaining information about or referrals to entities that provide expertise in accounting, legal, or tax issues, program development matters, or other organizational topics;

(B) provide information or assistance to faith- and community-based organizations related to building the organizations' capacity for providing services;

(C) facilitate the formation of networks, the coordination of services, and the sharing of resources among faith- and community-based organizations;

(D) in cooperation with existing efforts, if possible, conduct needs assessments to identify gaps in services in a community that present a need for developing or expanding services;

(E) work with faith- and community-based organizations to identify the organizations' needs for improvements in their internal capacity for providing services;

(F) provide faith- and community-based organizations with information on and assistance in identifying or using practices with demonstrated effectiveness for delivering charitable services to persons, families, and communities and in replicating charitable services programs that have demonstrated effectiveness; and

(G) encourage research into the impact of organizational capacity on program delivery for faith- and community-based organizations;

(2) assist a local governmental entity in creating a better partnership between government and faith- and community-based organizations to provide charitable services to persons in this state; and

(3) use funds appropriated from the account to provide matching money for federal or private grant programs that further the purposes of the account as described by Section 535.103(d).

(e) The commission shall monitor the use of the funds administered by the State Commission on National and Community Service under a contract or through a grant under this section to ensure that the funds are used in a manner consistent with the requirements of this subchapter.

Records relating to the award of a contract or grant to the State Commission on National and Community Service, or to grants awarded by that entity, and records relating to other uses of the funds are public information subject to Chapter 552.

(f) If the commission contracts with or awards a grant to the State Commission on National and Community Service under this section, this subchapter may not be construed to:

(1) release that entity from any regulations or reporting or other requirements applicable to a contractor or grantee of the commission;

(2) impose regulations or reporting or other requirements on that entity that do not apply to other contractors or grantees of the commission solely because of the entity's status;

(3) alter the nonprofit status of that entity or the requirements for maintaining that status; or

(4) convert that entity into a governmental entity because of the receipt of account funds through the contract or grant.

Sec. 535.105. ADMINISTRATION OF ACCOUNT FUNDS. If under Section 535.104 the commission contracts with or awards a grant to the State Commission on National and Community Service, that entity:

(1) may award grants from funds appropriated from the account to:

(A) faith- and community-based organizations that provide charitable services to persons in this state for capacity-building purposes; and

(B) local governmental entities to provide seed money for local offices for faith- and community-based initiatives; and

(2) shall monitor performance and outcome measures for persons to whom that entity awards grants using the measures established by the commission under Section 535.104(a)(6).

Sec. 535.106. REPORTS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a) The commission shall provide a link on the commission's Internet website to the Internet website of the State Commission on National and Community Service if the commission contracts with or awards a grant to that entity under Section 535.104. The entity's Internet website must provide:

(1) a list of the names of each person to whom the entity awarded a grant from money appropriated from the account and the amount and purpose of the grant; and

(2) information regarding the methods by which the public may request information about those grants.

(b) If awarded a contract or grant under Section 535.104, the State Commission on National and Community Service must provide to the commission periodic reports on a schedule determined by the executive commissioner. The schedule of periodic reports must include an annual report that includes:

(1) a specific accounting with respect to the use by that entity of money appropriated from the account, including the names of persons to whom grants have been awarded and the purposes of those grants; and

(2) a summary of the efforts of the faith- and community-based liaisons designated under Section 535.051 to comply with the duties imposed by and the purposes of Sections 535.052 and 535.053.

(c) The commission shall post the annual report made under Subsection (b) on the commission's Internet website and shall provide copies of the report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the members of the legislature.

Sec. 535.107. TASK FORCE ON STRENGTHENING NONPROFIT CAPACITY. (a) The executive commissioner, in consultation with the governor, shall establish a task force to make recommendations for strengthening the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations for managing human resources and funds and providing services. The members of the task force must include:

(1) representatives from state agencies, nonprofit organizations, the academic community, and the foundation community; and

(2) other individuals who have expertise that would be valuable to the task force.

(b) Using money appropriated from the account, the task force shall hold at least three public hearings in various geographic areas of this state, at least one of which must be outside of Central Texas. The task force shall hear testimony at the hearings regarding strengthening the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations to manage human resources and funds and provide services.

(c) The task force is not required to hold a public hearing if the remaining money appropriated from the account to the commission for the state fiscal biennium is insufficient for the performance of the duties or activities under this subchapter.

(d) The task force shall present a report and legislative recommendations to the House Subgroup on Human Services or its successor, the House Subgroup on Public

Health or its successor, and the Senate Health and Human Services Subgroup or its successor not later than September 1, 2010, regarding its recommendations.

(e) This section expires September 1, 2011.

Sec. 535.108. RENEWING OUR COMMUNITIES ACCOUNT ADVISORY SUBGROUP. (a) The executive commissioner shall appoint leaders of faith- and community-based organizations in this state to serve on the renewing our communities account advisory subgroup. The advisory subgroup members must be representative of the religious, cultural, and geographic diversity of this state and the diversity of organization types and sizes in this state.

(b) The advisory subgroup shall make recommendations to the executive commissioner regarding the powers and duties with respect to the account as described by Section 535.104.

(c) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the advisory subgroup shall meet at least twice each calendar year. The advisory subgroup is not required to meet if the remaining amount appropriated from the account to the commission for the state fiscal biennium is insufficient for the performance of any duties or activities under this subchapter.

(d) Chapter 2110 does not apply to the advisory subgroup.

(e) The advisory subgroup is subject to Chapter 551.

(b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission and the chief executive officers of the Office of Rural Community Affairs, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, the Texas Veterans Commission, the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Youth Commission, and any other state agency as determined by the governor shall designate the liaisons for faith- and community-based initiatives as required under Section 535.051, Government Code, as added by this section, not later than December 1, 2009.

(c) The interagency coordinating group established under Section 535.053, Government Code, as added by this section, shall hold its first meeting not later than February 1, 2010.

SECTION 2. This Act does not make an appropriation. A provision in this Act that creates a new governmental program, creates a new entitlement, or imposes a new duty on a governmental entity is not mandatory during a fiscal period for which the legislature has not made a specific appropriation to implement the provision.

SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision, the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the waiver or authorization is granted.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 492 was passed by the House on April 24, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 119, Nays 15, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 492 on May 18, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 492 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 14, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____
Date

Governor

AN ACT

relating to the expansion of faith- and community-based health and human services initiatives.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 535.051, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(b) The chief administrative officer of each of the following state agencies, in consultation with the governor, shall designate one employee from the agency to serve as a liaison for faith- and community-based organizations:

- (1) the Texas Department [Office] of Rural [Community] Affairs;
- (2) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;
- (3) the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;
- (4) the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs;
- (5) the Texas Education Agency;
- (6) the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission;
- (7) the Texas Veterans Commission;
- (8) the Texas Workforce Commission;
- (9) the Texas Youth Commission;
- (10) the office of the governor;
- (11) the Department of Public Safety;
- (12) the Texas Department of Insurance;
- (13) the Public Utility Commission of Texas;
- (14) the office of the attorney general;
- (15) the Department of Agriculture;
- (16) the office of the comptroller;
- (17) the Department of Information Resources;
- (18) the Office of State-Federal Relations;
- (19) the office of the secretary of state; and

~~(20)~~ [(40)] other state agencies as determined by the governor.

(c) The commissioner of higher education, in consultation with the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group, shall designate one employee from an institution of higher education, as that term is defined under Section 61.003, Education Code, to serve as a liaison for faith- and community-based organizations.

SECTION 2. Sections 535.053(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The interagency coordinating group for faith- and community-based initiatives is composed of each faith- and community-based liaison designated under Section 535.051 and a liaison from the State Commission on National and Community Service. The commission shall provide administrative support to the interagency coordinating group.

(b) The liaison from the State Commission on National and Community Service [commission employee designated as a liaison under Section 535.051] is the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group. If the State Commission on National and Community Service is abolished, the liaison from the governor's office is the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group.

SECTION 3. Section 535.054, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 535.054. REPORT [REPORTS]. (a) Not later than December 1 of each year, the interagency coordinating group shall submit a report to the legislature that describes in detail the activities, goals, and progress of the interagency coordinating group. [A liaison designated under Section 535.051 shall:

~~[(1) provide periodic reports to the executive commissioner or other chief executive officer who designated the liaison, as applicable, on a schedule determined by the person who designated the liaison; and~~

~~[(2) report annually to the governor's office of faith and community-based initiatives and as necessary to the State Commission on National and Community Service regarding the liaison's efforts to comply with the duties imposed under Sections 535.052 and 535.053.]~~

(b) The [Each] report made under Subsection (a) [(a)(2)] must be made available to the public through posting on the office of the governor's Internet website[, and the reports may be aggregated into a single report for that purpose].

SECTION 4. Subchapter B, Chapter 535, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 535.055 to read as follows:

Sec. 535.055. TASK FORCE ON IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH NONPROFITS. (a) The interagency coordinating group task force is established to help direct the interagency coordinating group in carrying out the group's duties under this section. The commission shall provide administrative support to the task force.

(b) The executive commissioner, in consultation with the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group, shall appoint as members of the task force one representative from each of the following groups and entities:

- (1) a statewide nonprofit organization;
- (2) local governments;
- (3) faith-based groups;
- (4) community-based groups;
- (5) consultants to nonprofit corporations;
- (6) experts in grant writing; and
- (7) a statewide association of nonprofit organizations.

(c) In addition to the interagency coordinating group's other duties, the interagency coordinating group, in coordination with the task force, shall:

- (1) develop and implement a plan for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations;
- (2) develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with faith- and community-based organizations;
- (3) identify and address duplication of services provided by the state and faith- and community-based organizations; and
- (4) identify and address gaps in state services that faith- and community-based organizations could fill.

(d) The task force shall prepare a report describing actions taken or not taken by the interagency coordinating group under this section and include in the report any recommendations relating to legislation necessary to address an issue identified by the group under this section. The task force shall present the report to the House Subgroup on Human Services or its successor, the House Subgroup on Public Health or its

successor, and the Senate Health and Human Services Subgroup or its successor not later than September 1, 2012.

(e) This section expires September 1, 2013.

SECTION 5. Not later than October 1, 2011, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall appoint members to the interagency coordinating group task force in accordance with Section 535.055, Government Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1965 was passed by the House on April 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1965 was passed by the Senate on May 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Texas Nonprofit Council to assist with faith-based and community-based initiatives.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 535.055, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 535.055. TEXAS NONPROFIT COUNCIL [~~TASK FORCE ON IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH NONPROFITS~~]. (a) The Texas Nonprofit Council [~~interagency coordinating group task force~~] is established to help direct the interagency coordinating group in carrying out the group's duties under this section. The commission shall provide administrative support to the council [~~task force~~].

(b) The executive commissioner, in consultation with the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group, shall appoint as members of the council two representatives [~~task force one representative~~] from each of the following groups and entities:

- (1) [~~a~~] statewide nonprofit organizations [~~organization~~];
- (2) local governments;
- (3) faith-based groups;
- (4) community-based groups;
- (5) consultants to nonprofit corporations; and
- (6) [~~experts in grant writing; and~~
- [(~~7~~) ~~a~~] statewide associations [~~association~~] of nonprofit organizations.

(c) The council [~~In addition to the interagency coordinating group's other duties, the interagency coordinating group~~], in coordination with the interagency coordinating group [~~task force~~], shall:

(1) make recommendations [~~develop and implement a plan~~] for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations;

(2) develop best practices for cooperating and collaborating with faith- and community-based organizations;

(3) identify and address duplication of services provided by the state and faith- and community-based organizations; and

(4) identify and address gaps in state services that faith- and community-based organizations could fill.

(c-1) The council shall elect a chair or chairs and secretary from among its members and shall assist the executive commissioner in identifying individuals to fill vacant council positions that arise.

(c-2) Council members serve three-year terms. The terms expire on October 1 of every third year. A council member shall serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

(d) The council [~~task force~~] shall prepare a biennial report detailing the council's work, including [~~describing actions taken or not taken by the interagency coordinating group under this section and include~~] in the report any recommendations relating to legislation necessary to address an issue identified [~~by the group~~] under this section. The council [~~task force~~] shall present the report to the House Committee on Human Services or its successor, the House Committee on Public Health or its successor, and the Senate

Health and Human Services Committee or its successor not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year [~~September 1, 2012~~].

(e) Chapter 2110 does not apply to the Texas Nonprofit Council.

(f) The Texas Nonprofit Council is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act).

Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the council is abolished and this section expires September 1, 2019. [~~This section expires September 1, 2013.~~]

SECTION 2. Not later than October 1, 2013, and by October 1 every three years thereafter, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall appoint members to the Texas Nonprofit Council in accordance with Section 535.055, Government Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect August 31, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 993 passed the Senate on April 18, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 25, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 993 passed the House, with amendment, on May 22, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 2, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor

APPENDIX D

Interagency Coordinating Group for Faith and Community Based Initiatives Plan for Improving Contracting Relationships between State Agencies & Faith and Community-based Organizations Status Update: November 15, 2013

Background: HB 1965 directs the ICG to develop and implement a plan for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and Faith and Community Based Organizations (FCBOs). With input from data collected in FY 2010 from the state agency ICG liaison internal barrier assessments and subcommittee review and in-depth discussion of the Task Force on Strengthening Non-Profit Capacity November 2010 report, the ICG subcommittee on Improving Contracting Relationships has developed a plan for ICG approval and implementation.

Full ICG approval of the plan was received on **May 23, 2012**.

FY 2012 and 2013 Plan Components and Implementation: It is the recommendation that the contracting relationships may be improved by implementing the following:

	Improvement Component	Proposed Timeline	Lead/How	Notes/Status
A.	Provide online information to FCBOs on the state procurement and contracting process, which follows the contracting lifecycle	TBD	TBD	
B.	Provide an online Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for common issues/concerns	Aug 31 2012	CPA/ICG Subcommittee participation and collaboration	Completed
C.	Provide online external resources for additional grant and contracting education	Aug 31 2012	HHSC/ICG subcommittee review/approval	Completed
D.	Provide online information for FCBO self -assessment of contracting readiness	TBD	TBD	
E.	1. From the assessment of FCBO issues from the November 2010 report, provide awareness and communication to ICG state agencies	FY 2013	Sub-Workgroup lead and develop	Completed
	2. From the assessment of FCBO issues from the November 2010 report, annually, identify one contracting related process/procedures or forms for which agencies can collaborate and agree to revise or amend in an effort to streamline or promote consistency.	Ongoing	TBD	1st process selected/completed - RFP template for client services procurements developed and shared.
F.	From the assessment of FCBO issues from the November 2010 report, identify the issues that would require legislative action for change/consistency	Ongoing	TBD	

Implementation: The plan will be implemented incrementally beginning in FY 2012, and through ICG collaboration. Since the Plan is extensive, priorities and specific timelines will be set each fiscal year.

APPENDIX E

Interagency Coordinating Group Subcommittee: Improving Contracting Relationships RFP Template for Client Services Procurements*

***Client Services Procurement is defined as the purchase of goods or services that benefit the clients or recipients of a State agency.**

Section I: General

Scope
Terms and Conditions
Compensation
Schedule of Events
Agency Point of Contact
Definitions
(Additional components may be added as needed)

Section II: Statement of Work

Service Requirements
Subcontractors
Performance Tracking
(Additional components may be added as needed)

Section III: Proposal Information

Revision to Schedule
Pre-Proposal Conference
Proposal Requirements
Inquiries
Proposal Submission
Delivery of Proposals
Proposal Opening
Proposal Evaluation and Award
(Additional components may be added as needed)

Section IV: Historically Underutilized Business Participation

Section V: Contract Information

Section VI: Attachments

APPENDIX F

APPOINTED ICG LIAISONS

Betsey Bishop - Department of Aging and Disability Services

Catherine Wright - Steele Department of Agriculture

David Hagerla - Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services

Wynne Breece - Department of Family and Protective Services

Amy Baillargeon - Department of Information Resources

Ricardo Garcia - Department of State Health Services

Liz Garbutt - Health and Human Services Commission

Jim Beck - Office of Secretary of State

Dan Wilmot - Office of State-Federal Relations

Jerry Strickland - Office of the Attorney General

Janie Ramirez - Institution of Higher Education

Ron Pigott - Office of the Comptroller

Becky Dean - Office of the Governor

Gabriel Cardenas - Public Utility Commission of Texas

Elizabeth Darling - Texas State Commission on National and Community Service

Brian Christian - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Marvin Dunbar - Texas Department of Criminal Justice

Elizabeth Yevich - Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

Melissa Hamilton - Texas Department of Insurance

Nim Kidd - Texas Department of Public Safety

Tammy T. Holland - Texas Juvenile Justice Department

Nydia D. Thomas - Texas Juvenile Probation Commission

Kathy Wood - Texas Veterans Commission

Phyllis Coombes - Texas Workforce Commission

APPENDIX G

Appointed Members of the Texas Nonprofit Council 2013-2016

Bee Moorhead, Chair – Texas Impact

Vicki Niedermayer, Secretary – Helping Restore Ability

Donna Chatham – Association of Rural Communities in Texas

Celia Cole – Texas Food Bank Network

Froswa' Booker-Drew – US Programs, World Vision

Tod Marvin – Easter Seals of Texas

Lidya Osadchey – ESCAPE Family Resource Center

Laurie Paarlberg – Bush School, Texas A&M University

Amy Ledbetter Parham – Habitat for Humanity Texas

Gabriela Saenz – CHRISTUS Health

Marolyn Stubblefield – University of the Incarnate Word

APPENDIX H

H.B. 1965

Task Force on Improving Relations with Nonprofits September 2011 – September 2013

Bee Moorhead (*Co-chair*)
Executive Director, Texas Impact

Barry Silverberg (*Co-chair*)
Chief Executive Officer, Texas Association of Nonprofit Organizations

Juanita Budd,
Executive Director, Austin Free.Net

Donna Chatham
Executive Director, Association of Rural Communities in Texas

Jody Hopkins
Executive Director, Lone Star Association of Charitable Clinics

Lucila Garcia Lagace
Director - Stronger Together Initiative, University of Texas Pan American

Beth Olson Drew
Manager, Texas Hunger Initiative

Courtney Groves
Consultant, CPG Partners