



# TEXAS

*A Publication of the Texas Association of Business*  
*Volume 28 | Issue 3 | March 2013 | [www.TXBIZ.org](http://www.TXBIZ.org)*

# BUSINESS REPORT



# MEMBER PROFILE

## OneStar Foundation – Building a Stronger Nonprofit Sector for a Better Texas

OneStar Foundation, headquartered in Austin, knows that healthy, sustainable communities include not only a welcoming environment for business but also a vibrant nonprofit sector effectively serving Texans. OneStar connects business, government, faith-based and community organizations, and foundations to resources and information about the nonprofit sector.

The Texas nonprofit sector is a powerful economic force in our state. Our state's nonprofit sector employs more than eight times as many workers as its utilities industry, nearly five times the state's oil and gas extraction industry, and twenty percent more than all of Texas state government. What's more, those employees earn close to \$17 billion in wages annually, translating into roughly \$1.6 billion in state and local tax revenues.<sup>1</sup>

Achieving measurable impact in education, health care, and any number of social concerns, requires a coordinated approach involving policy makers, state agencies, foundations, businesses, and nonprofit leadership. With this in mind, OneStar promotes innovative public private partnerships to drive community solutions. Recognized as a neutral convener, OneStar was directed by legislation to chair an interagency council of high level liaisons from 25 state agencies, charged with making it easier for nonprofits to work with state government. OneStar also administers the Nonprofit Management Alliance of Texas (NMAT), promoting high quality, affordable management and governance resources and consulting services for Texas nonprofits.

Elizabeth "Liz" Darling is the President and CEO of OneStar Foundation, a position to which she was appointed by Texas Governor Rick Perry in 2009. Not long after beginning her career with OneStar, Darling was named Woman of the Year in Nonprofit and Social Services by the National Association of Professional and Executive Women (NAPEW). Darling is actively involved in the community, serving on many boards, including TAB's. She is skilled in handling public service and policy at

the local, state, and federal levels. The knowledge Darling has gained from such experiences has given her perspective on the value of TAB's work.

"Belonging to TAB gives us additional credibility," explains Darling. "TAB understands the importance of bringing business, government, nonprofits and philanthropy together for greater collective impact than any one sector can have alone."

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***- Liz Darling,  
President/CEO,  
OneStar Foundation***

To strengthen the sector further, OneStar developed the Texas Connector, an online interactive geo-mapping tool of the nonprofit sector that includes socioeconomic and demographic data in a user-friendly system. The Texas Connector has the most robust statewide nonprofit data set of any in the country.

The Texas Connector's powerful combination of nonprofit and demographic data provides users the insight needed to better understand the issues in their regions, helping to advance causes and achieve community change through cross-sector collaboration.

OneStar's work, purpose, and determination are helping to build a better, stronger Texas.

<sup>1</sup> *Texas Nonprofit Employment Update* by Lester M. Salamon and Stephanie Lessans Geller (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, July 2010). The full text of this report is available on the OneStar Foundation's website ([www.onestarfoundation.org](http://www.onestarfoundation.org)) and the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies website ([www.ccss.jhu.edu](http://www.ccss.jhu.edu)).



**Left to Right: Daniel Dunlop, Texas State Program Specialist, Corporation for National and Community Service; Liz Darling, President/CEO, OneStar Foundation; Terry Gunnell, Director, Texas State Office, Corporation for National and Community Service; Emily Steinberg, Associate Director of AmeriCorps, OneStar Foundation**