



Interagency Coordinating Group

Legislative Report to the 85th Texas Legislature

Prepared by

The Interagency Coordinating Group (ICG)

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OneStar Foundation

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2009 through House Bill (H.B.) 492, 81st Legislature, Regular Session, Texas became the first state in the country to pass legislation specifically to 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. Subsequent legislation passed in the 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, expanded this initiative through House Bill (H.B.) 1965, by adding additional state agencies in its charge. Both Acts directed the chief administrative officer of the named state agencies 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.

The first bill, 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.

Subsequently, 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.

In 2013 during the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, Senate Bill (S.B.) 993 created the Texas Nonprofit Council. The purpose of the Council is 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. The chair of the ICG and the chair of the Council developed initial strategies to engage Council members in the work of the ICG.

Following the 83rd Legislative Session, the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission, which is charged with periodic assessment of all state agencies, initiated a review of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Through an exhaustive process including public

comment and testimony, the Sunset Commission determined which HHSC programs and services should be eliminated, transferred to other agencies, or restructured to improve efficiency and reduce waste or duplication. The recommendations were presented to the 84th legislature in 2015 for consideration and debate in the form of S.B. 200.

Among the extensive recommendations of the Sunset Advisory Commission was the abolition of dozens of task forces, councils, and advisory committees. Included in this sweeping recommendation was the elimination of the Interagency Coordinating Group and the Texas Nonprofit Council, neither of which are advisory bodies to HHSC. By the end of the legislative session, the continuation of both the ICG and the Texas Nonprofit Council was addressed through an amendment that moved some responsibilities from the Health and Human Services Commission to the Governor's Office.

S.B. 200 removed the requirements for HHSC to provide administrative support to the Interagency Coordinating Group, and directed that the state agencies that make up the ICG provide administrative support as coordinated by the ICG's presiding officer. The bill also specifies that the state agencies on the Interagency Coordinating Group must provide administrative support for the Texas Nonprofit Council, as coordinated by the presiding officer of the ICG, and that the governor, instead of the executive commissioner of HHSC, shall appoint the members of the Council, which represent each group or entity's appropriate sector.

In 2016 the ICG met in March and September. At the March meeting ICG liaisons met in short sessions with at least 6 other state agency liaisons to learn about their programming and constituencies. Several agencies came away with new connections that will further their work. One example was the new connection between TCEQ and DIR related to DIR's work with DADS to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities. This cross agency collaboration is one of the goals of the ICG enumerated in the authorizing legislation. The liaison from the Comptroller of Public Accounts presented an impact analysis on the implications of SB 20 and the implications for statewide purchasing, including state agreements with nonprofit organizations.

On the agenda for the September meeting was a briefing on the HHSC reorganization. The largest change is in the medical and social services area. ICG liaisons from the Attorney General's Office and the Office of the Governor also explained some of the details regarding the implementation of HB 10 and HB 1846 from the previous legislative session which focuses on child sex trafficking. The presentation included the most current information on Child Sex Trafficking focusing on those children in Texas being trafficked by Texans. Many of the youth who are being served by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) are victims or become victims. The Governor's Office will work with other state agencies for assistance with this effort to build regional models of survivor care. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) provided packets for each ICG liaison that referenced some of their extensive volunteer programs. There is a model for other agencies as the application is online in both English and Spanish. Volunteers provide letters of recommendations and perform extensive background checks for all of volunteers. The Texas Workforce Commission liaison provided information on a

number of services that have been transferred from other agencies including vocational rehabilitation, the business enterprises of Texas, and work related services for the blind. It was determined that a third meeting in 2016 was not necessary. Each agency was asked to submit highlights of their programming by November 4th for inclusion in this report.

As presiding officer of the Interagency Coordinating Group, I respectfully submit this year's report on the goals, activities, and progress of the ICG from January through December 2016. 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 Texas Nonprofit Council (per S.B. 993 83R) 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.

ICG Reporting Duties

- Sec. 535.054. (a) — No 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 to 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 Council met in May of 2016 to discuss the research findings from Council member, Dr. Laurie Paarlberg, from the Bush School of Government and Public Service. Dr. Paarlberg shared recent research on nonprofits and philanthropy in Texas. Although philanthropy and nonprofit growth has more than tripled between 1990 and 2015, it is still inadequate for the need when compared to Texas’ growth in population. Not surprisingly, resources are not being distributed evenly across the state and most grant funds are going towards health/hospitals and education as opposed to broader human services. This is a significant finding because state agencies depend upon faith-based and community organizations to deliver services and these organizations in turn depend upon charitable contributions to augment their funding.

IV. (a) ICG GOALS, ACTIVITIES, AND PROGRESS *(January – December 2016)*

Goal 1 — Continue implementation of the plan for improving contracting relationships between state agencies and faith and community-based organizations. Activity and Progress:

One of Governor Greg Abbott’s priorities in 2015 was to address contracting and procurement issues within the state’s largest agency, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Based upon the March 2015 report of the Health and Human Services Strike Force as well as recommendations of the Sunset Advisory Commission, the HHSC was directed to make improvements in its procurement and contracting processes. Although some minor improvements to the contracting process had been initiated by ICG agencies in previous years, the ICG paused any additional work in this

area until HHSC restructured and implemented new protocols for procurement and contracting. The ICG directive to improve contracting relationships between state agencies and faith and community-based organizations will be addressed again in 2017 within the context of any changes to policy and practice based on HHSC improvements.

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

Activity and Progress:

An on-going activity of the ICG and the Texas Nonprofit Council is to highlight effective partnerships between ICG agencies and faith and community-based organizations as together they seek to effectively serve residents of the state who need assistance. By featuring what is working well, other agencies may choose to develop innovative practices they previously had not considered in their efforts to collaborate with FCBOs. Previous ICG annual reports detail numerous best practices and innovative strategies.

The following pages provide highlights from ICG member agencies for 2016. Submissions were cleared through each agency’s internal review process and compiled by OneStar Foundation, chair of the ICG.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

September 1, 2016, was a significant milestone in the Health and Human Services transformation journey. It marked the first day in the streamlined structure for groups like programs and services from Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS), Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) and Department of State Health Services (DSHS) under the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).

At the center of the transformation is the newly-created Medical and Social Services division that combines client services and benefits like Medicaid, SNAP, and TANF, along with aging and waiver services from DADS; deaf, blind and independent services from DARS; and behavioral health programs from DSHS. The new division will better integrate care through the elimination of silos and more streamlined service delivery.

The administrative functions that support the transferring staff and programs also became part of HHSC on September 1, strengthening a system-wide Administrative Services division. This restructuring, along with the transfer of DARS' vocational rehabilitation programs to the Texas Workforce Commission means DARS no longer exists. Leadership and staff see September 1 as “Day 1” because this is truly when the substantive work to deliver on the [transformation goals](#) began. The restructuring focused on first getting the right resources and right programs in the right place. Then the next step is to look at ways

to improve service delivery to Texans and more effective ways to manage the money Texans put into the system.

HHSC's Transformation division will work within the new structure to look for new ways to improve the system's effectiveness while the Policy and Performance division will help programs measure their performance and make recommendations to improve existing benchmarks.

September 1, 2017, will bring more changes with the consolidation of regulatory programs, state supported living centers and state hospitals, prevention programs, and administrative support services into HHSC. This transition involves the transferring of over 24,100 staff positions to HHSC (six times the volume transferred in 2016). At this point DADS will no longer exist and DSHS' streamlined structure will focus on its core public health functions.

Overall, while Senate Bill 200 was the impetus for the restructuring, the ultimate outcome will allow the HHS system to focus on becoming more efficient and effective in its mission of improving the health, safety and well-being of Texans through good stewardship of public resources.

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

Texas Workforce Commission Partnerships with Nonprofits

The 84th Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2015) transferred a number of programs to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to be incorporated into TWC. The following programs have been incorporated into TWC programs and services:

- Several vocational rehabilitation (VR) programs
- The Texas State Use program
- The Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) program.

Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

Senate Bill (SB) 208 directed the transfer of the following programs from the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to TWC, effective September 1, 2016:

- General Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
- Blind VR, including the Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center
- Business Enterprises of Texas (BET)
- Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind (ILS-OIB).

The legislation established the Legislative Oversight Committee to facilitate the transfer of these programs. It directed TWC, DARS, and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to hold hearings around the state to inform stakeholders of the plan. The legislation also directed TWC to create:

- A strategy for integrating General VR services and Blind VR services by October 1, 2017; and
- A strategy for integrating VR staff into Workforce Solutions Offices by September 1, 2018.

Texas State Use Program

The legislature abolished the Texas Council on Purchasing from People with Disabilities (also referred to as the Texas State Use Program), effective September 1, 2015, and transferred the administration of the program to TWC. The program helps individuals with disabilities obtain employment in community nonprofit rehabilitation programs that sell products and services to state and local governments.

SB 208 also created an advisory committee to establish specific objectives for the program, develop performance measures, and recommend criteria for certifying community rehabilitation programs. The new advisory committee includes individuals from community rehabilitation programs, individuals from organizations that advocate for individuals with disabilities, individuals with disabilities, and the HHSC executive commissioner or designee.

Jobs and Education for Texans Program

The legislature also moved the JET program from the Comptroller's Office to TWC, effective September 1, 2015. The program provides grants that help Texans get technical training for careers in fast-growing, high-demand occupations such as high-tech manufacturing, computer support, and nursing and allied health professions.

Nonprofit/TWC Existing Contracts—Fiscal Year 2017

In addition to the changes made during the last legislative session, TWC has the following existing contracts with nonprofits for Fiscal Year 2017.

American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program, Inc.—Veterans Outreach Initiative (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act)

American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program (NVOP) has been operating its Texas Veterans Workforce Outreach Initiative since 2009. The Texas Veterans Outreach Program (TVOP) provides outreach to hard-to-serve veterans not currently being served

through Workforce Solutions Offices by addressing employment barriers and reintegrating veterans into meaningful employment. The Grantee's goals are to stabilize the financial/living situations of hard-to-serve veterans by breaking down job barriers, placing the veterans in jobs, and increasing job retention outcomes.

TVOP focuses on reaching out to veterans with special challenges to employment, including veterans recently discharged from military service (within 48 months of application) who find difficulty in reintegrating into society and the job market; disabled veterans with either physical or mental disorders that may need special advocacy in selling their ability to employers; homeless veterans who need support services to stabilize their lives before entering the job search; and veterans with barriers to employment, such as a history of substance abuse or ex-offender status. Operating in San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, and El Paso, TVOP provides assessment services to potential participants and basic skills upgrade training, support services, and job placement services to enrolled participants. The Grantee will enroll 426 veterans in the program, provide basic skills upgrade training to 256 veterans, and place 320 veterans in jobs.

American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program, Inc.—The Employer and Community-Based Organization Partnerships Initiative (General Revenue Fund)

American GI Forum NVOP will develop a holistic program to assist 1,405 homeless and unemployed individuals in achieving employment and greater stability. With over 41 years of experience as an employment assistance provider, NVOP proposes program outlets in five Texas cities that will offer life skills training; employment readiness training, including résumé workshops; and education upgrade training. NVOP will also coordinate wraparound support services.

Haven for Hope—The Employer and Community-Based Organization Partnerships Initiative (General Revenue Fund)

Haven for Hope of Bexar County (Grantee) will provide services to homeless and unemployed Texas individuals to move them off public benefits and assist them with obtaining regular employment. The Grantee provides comprehensive services to meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness in San Antonio/Bexar County. Haven for Hope works together with 93 partner agencies; 33 of those agencies provide services directly on the one-stop campus to address some of the common causes of homelessness. Support services include, but are not limited to, food, primary health care, dental care, vision care, mental health care, substance abuse rehabilitation, case management, housing assistance, child care, and many other critical services. In conjunction with the aforementioned services, the Educational/Vocational department at Haven for Hope equips residents with skills that will enable them to become gainfully employed full time and secure a sustainable wage.

Goodwill Industries of Fort Worth, Inc.—The Employer and Community-Based Organization Partnerships Initiative (General Revenue Fund)

Goodwill Industries of Fort Worth will assist 1,300 individuals experiencing homelessness and unemployment in Tarrant County in overcoming the need for public benefits by attaining and sustaining gainful employment through the Goodwill Works Program (Program). The Program will provide three permanent job resource centers and one mobile recruitment/job placement unit. Training will be provided to prepare participants for regular employment, and will include, but not be limited to, occupational training, computer skills, employment readiness, and life skills.

Experience Works—Senior Community Service Employment Program

Experience Works will provide the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) to foster individual economic self-sufficiency for unemployed and low-income Texans who are 55 years of age or older. Eligible participants are assigned to part-time temporary community service assignments at host agencies. Participant wages are subsidized with grant funds while assigned to host agencies, and opportunities are provided for training, work experience, and new or enhanced job skills for future unsubsidized employment.

Foundation for the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology in Texas DBA FIRST in Texas—Texas High School Competitive Robotics Education Team Development and Support Program (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

FIRST in Texas (Grantee) will serve 4,230 Texas high school students by developing 112 new high school competitive robotics education teams composed of students in grades 9–12 and supporting 194 existing robotics education teams. The Grantee will assist teams to secure local commitments of cash or in-kind contributions for the program to provide support not covered by the grant, such as planning for and securing local financial support to sustain the teams once the grant period has ended; identifying and outreaching knowledgeable mentors, volunteers, and sponsors; and providing a mentorship model to assist students on teams with activities and competitions. The Grantee will support the growth of at least two new regional robotics competitions in Texas. In addition to serving high school students in grades 9–12, the eligible population to be served under this grant award also includes students from economically disadvantaged families, students enrolled in schools on military bases, students with disabilities, and students who are homeschooled in equivalent grade levels.

BEST Robotics, Inc.—Texas High School Competitive Robotics Education Team Development and Support Program (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

BEST Robotics (Grantee) will engage, excite, and inspire middle and high school students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through participation in a science and engineering–based robotics competition. The BEST Robotics cross-curricular STEM program provides a platform for middle and high schools students to not only master basic technical skills requirements but also many complex skills such as problem-solving, systems analysis, resource management, programming, and technology design/application. The program’s goal is to increase high school team participation at existing BEST Robotics hubs across the state of Texas and through a new University Interscholastic League state championship event. The Grantee has 10 volunteer-based hubs in Texas that will offer robotics competitions to 3,350 Texas high school students. The top finishers at the BEST competitions compete in a statewide (regional) championship.

Texas Association for the Education of Young Children—Professional Development Scholarship Program for Early Childhood Professionals (Child Care and Development Block Grant)

The Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (TAEYC) will administer the Professional Development Scholarship Program for Early Childhood Professionals through partnerships with eligible providers and Texas community colleges by offering the Child Development Associate or Certified Child Care Professional Assessment Scholarship Program and the Associate Degree Scholarship Program.

Texas Association for the Education of Young Children—Early Childhood Assessment Pilot Project (Child Care and Development Block Grant)

TAEYC proposes a partnership with Teaching Strategies, LLC, to train early childhood caregivers to reliably use the online assessment system to document and measure children’s development and learning, report assessment findings, inform the planning and developing of individualized instructional strategies that best meet the developmental needs of each child, and communicate assessment. Texas AEYC will provide an evaluation of the pilot project outcomes.

Women’s Institute for Technology Employment Training—Manufacturing Job Readiness Skills Project (General Revenue)

Women’s Institute for Technology Employment Training (Grantee) will develop one training manual and one study guide for the Manufacturing Job Readiness Skills (MJRS) project. The training modules will be developed over a two-year period (2015–2017). The focus of the curriculum is to train and prepare economically disadvantaged individuals and single mothers for entry-level jobs and careers in manufacturing and technology-based industries. The MJRS training manual and study guide will explore the career potential in the manufacturing world and encourage learners to think of their first job as a doorway to a professional career.

Literacy Texas—Professional Development Support for Nonprofit Adult Literacy Organizations (Federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act)

The Literacy Texas Volunteer Training Initiative will provide professional development support to literacy tutors (the majority of which are volunteers) and staff, representing nonprofit adult literacy organizations across Texas. Professional development will be provided by regional partners, making training accessible. The initiative's reach will be multiplied through links on the Literacy Texas website. Through research, the Literacy Texas Volunteer Training Initiative will confirm the unique needs across the state and produce several regional training symposiums, each customized to fit local needs and using evidence-based practices. To reach the maximum number of Texans, throughout all regions of the state, Literacy Texas will concurrently build out an open-access, free online training resource highlighting best practices and archives of webinars and presentations captured at the regional training symposiums.

Houston Center for Literacy—Site-Based Workplace Literacy Project (Federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act)

The Houston Center for Literacy (Grantee) will expand employer-based Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) sites and services. The Grantee will provide instructional program implementation and administration, including employer engagement with Local Workforce Development Boards, employer engagement with AEL providers, curriculum development, and instructor salaries for preparation and development of performance-based assessment tools needed to demonstrate instructional effectiveness.

Literacy Council of Tyler—Accelerate Texas II: Integrated Education and Training (Federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act)

The Literacy Council of Tyler (Grantee) will build Texas' capacity to expand, develop, and implement the Accelerate Texas model. The Grantee may support targeted enhancement or expansion of existing models, or the development and implementation of new models. Project funding will support Workforce Training, AEL services, coordination, staffing, curriculum development, student support, and other service delivery.

Studentnest Foundation—Distance Learning Call Center Pilot Project (Federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act)

The Distance Learning Call Center Pilot Project (DL Call Center) will assist in mathematics components of the Texas certificate of high school equivalency exam. Assistance will be available to AEL distance learning students and to individuals who either lack sufficient mastery of basic educational skills to enable the individuals to function effectively in society or do not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and have not achieved an equivalent level of education.

OneStar Foundation, Inc.—OneStar AEL Expansion (Federal Adult Education and Family Literacy Act)

OneStar Foundation will launch a comprehensive initiative to support local AEL program recruitment, retention, and integration efforts through connections to both the Texas Connector data system and the VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) program.

ONESTAR FOUNDATION

In April 2016, OneStar Foundation was pleased to support the Office of First Lady Cecilia Abbott, when she announced the launch of her new initiative, Texanthropy, promoting volunteerism and service as her primary focus. OneStar continues to support the First Lady in building out her key agenda. To learn more about Texanthropy, visit: <http://gov.texas.gov/texanthropy>.

Building on Texas' forty year legacy of bringing nonprofit, business and community leaders together, OneStar Foundation co-hosted a series of service and leadership convenings in 2016 in El Paso, The Rio Grande Valley, and Lubbock. The Texas Nonprofit Summit sought to inspire leaders across all sectors by focusing on the nexus of service, leadership and collaboration. Each event was locally driven to meet the needs and aspirations of participants and encourage cross sector collaboration, highlight promising practices and catalyze strategies to address local issues. Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott was a special guest at all three forums, where she welcomed attendees and provided remarks on volunteerism and service. El Paso hosted approximately 200 attendees, the Rio Grande Valley 250, and Lubbock welcomed close to 650 sector leaders and youth. As a result of the summits, cross-sector leaders in each region have formed working groups to continue collaborative efforts.

In conjunction with the Office of the Governor, OneStar Foundation hosted the 33rd Annual Governor's Volunteer Awards honoring the extraordinary service of individuals and organizations in Texas that have made a difference in their communities through service and volunteering. Honorary Chair, First Lady Cecilia Abbott, and the Governor hosted 175 awardees and guests at the Texas Governor's Mansion in October.

OneStar Foundation's Texas Connector is in the second year of a contract providing the Texas Department of Criminal Justice with a customized Quick Report Generator in use by over 2,500 agency staff across the Parole and Reentry Divisions. To date, over 20,000 individualized, location-specific community resource reports for re-entering clients and parolees have been generated. One custom feature of interest is a 500-foot radius tool that enables TDCJ staff to navigate sex offender clients to mapped community resources while avoiding parks, schools and other child safety zones.

Under contract with the Texas Workforce Commission, OneStar Foundation's Texas Connector is building a customized Quick Report Generator to serve the staff and grantees of TWC's Adult Education and Literacy Division (AEL). AEL staff and partners will be able to search for community resources such as housing and homelessness assistance, disability support services, veterans' services, mental health services, substance abuse treatment and more.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES (DADS)

The DADS *Age Well Live Well* campaign provides information and tools to help Texans prepare for aging and stay healthy, connected, and informed as they do so. Through the campaign, local organizations form partnerships to connect their community members to available resources, health and wellness programs, and volunteer opportunities. Communities are provided with an array of resources to help them develop, sustain, and enhance these partnerships. These include operational planning tools, marketing and awareness materials, and methods for recognizing partners. Key organizations involved include DADS state and local offices; Aging and Disability Resource Centers; area agencies on aging; AgriLIFE extension agents; civic and social organizations; hospital groups; parks and recreation departments; faith-based entities; academic organizations; and aging and disability service providers. As part of state's consolidation of the health and human services system, the *Age Well Live Well* campaign has transitioned from DADS to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission's new Aging Services Coordination unit.

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Statewide Procurement Division partners with its customer entities (state agencies, universities and CO-OP members) to meet the procurement needs of the state by establishing best-value driven, statewide contracts. These entities are essential in serving residents of Texas who require assistance and it is the goal of CPA to help them meet their obligations in the most efficient manner possible.

CPA primarily supports nonprofit, assistance organizations by providing them access to statewide term contracts through the State of Texas Cooperative (CO-OP) Purchasing Program. The CO-OP Program Coordinator works closely with the nonprofit community to ensure they are aware of this opportunity and assists them with taking advantage of the program's benefits. A link to the CO-OP Program website is available on OneStar Foundation's website. CPA is continuously seeking new opportunities to build networks within the nonprofit community. The agency also works closely with the Texas Division of Emergency Management and maintains a presence at the State Operations Center during declared disasters to assist with purchasing products and services required for successful emergency response. These purchases are part of ongoing coordinated efforts among state agencies, commercial vendors and nonprofit assistance organizations.

CPA continues to serve in an advisory capacity to assist the Texas Workforce Commission and Purchasing from People with Disabilities (PPD) to promote the use of products made by people with disabilities in the State of Texas. The Statewide Procurement Division of CPA provides guidance and significant administrative support for achieving the program's goals. Our purchasing staff works with the private non-profit company (TIBH) and their group of Community Rehabilitation Programs to administer the contracts for products and services associated with the State Use Program.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

The Housing and Health Services Coordination Council (HHSCC or Council) is codified in Texas Government Code §2306.1091. The purpose of the Council is to increase state efforts to offer Service-Enriched Housing (“SEH”) through increased coordination of housing and health services. The Council seeks to improve interagency understanding and increase the number of staff in state housing and health services agencies that are conversant in both housing and services.

Service-Enriched Housing is defined in Title 10 Texas Administrative Code, Part 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, §1.11 as: integrated, affordable, and accessible housing that provides residents with the opportunity to receive on-site or off-site health-related and other services and supports that foster independence in living and decision-making for individuals with disabilities and older Texans.

The HHSCC is composed of [17 members](#). Eight members are appointed by the Governor, including an advocate for minority issues who is the pastor of the Macedonia Baptist Church in Livingston. In addition, eight state agencies appoint a representative to serve on the Council. The Executive Director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs serves as the Council Chair and one TDHCA staff supports the Council activities.

Council members meet quarterly and provide direction to the staff to prepare a Biennial Report of Findings and Recommendations that is submitted to the Legislative Budget Board and the Office of the Governor on August 1 each even numbered year. This Report along with a Biennial Plan is available to the public on the TDHCA website at <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/hhsc>. Meetings are open to the public. Notice is given to the public in the Texas Register, on TDHCA's Web Site, through an [email list](#), and social media.

On June 15, 2015, TDHCA, on behalf of the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council, contracted with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (“CSH”) who developed and implemented a robust package of training and technical assistance services following a blended learning model to nine local community teams from across Texas. One team included a member representative from Carpenter’s Church in Lubbock. In addition, there was discussion among the teams the need to include their local faith-based organizations in activities to increase Service-Enriched Housing when they returned to their communities.

This package weaved together web-based learning, intensive in-person training, and both remote as well as on-site technical assistance for the community teams. The intensive in-person Housing and Services Partnership Academy was held in February 2016 in Austin. The Academy included a tenant panel, round table discussions lead by housing and services state agency staff and sessions on affordable housing development, building community support, etc. The web-based learning modules primarily focused on providing teams with a wealth of information and materials to increase their knowledge and understanding of key concepts, strategies, best practices and resources for developing SEH in their communities. These training components allowed teams to develop a broad foundation of knowledge from which to build and act upon. Following the in-person Academy, CSH provided a comprehensive package of technical assistance, designed to position the teams to apply the lessons learned and knowledge gained from the online and in-person training and further flesh out their plans for developing new SEH in Texas communities.

Last, CSH conducted an evaluation of the project and will continue technical assistance with the existing community teams through August 2017 in accordance with a renewal of their contract with TDHCA.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

As of August 31, 2016 there were 24,514 approved volunteers within the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, who provide programs and services essential to the rehabilitation of the offender population. The majority of these volunteers are representatives of faith-based organizations who administer many of the prison-based programs aimed at reducing recidivism. Many of these volunteer organizations also manage treatment programs for substance abusers, youthful offenders, and ex-offenders. Much of the research on religiosity and recidivism indicates that the two are inversely related. Therefore, it seems plausible that faith-based programs, which are rooted in religious organizations and other volunteer organizations, may be effective tools for reducing deviant and criminal behavior. Programs with restorative justice ideals, such as Bridges to Life, aim to incorporate victims and community members into the administration of justice.

Programs such as InnerChange Freedom Initiative and the Field Ministry program also offer restorative justice values. The InnerChange Freedom Initiative is a 24-month faith-based pre-release program, operated by Prison Fellowship Ministries, that is designed to encourage the spiritual and moral regeneration of offenders. The Field Ministry program is designed to support offenders' religious faith and develop their potential for religious leadership. This program is operated by the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and offers a 4-year accredited degree to offenders that volunteer to participate. Programs such as these contribute to long-term rehabilitation and positively impact recidivism. Studies suggest that offenders who participate in volunteer programs are less likely to recidivate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

Center for Health Statistics

Center for Health Statistics (CHS) partners with the Health Ministries Association of Texas (HMA) to help ensure that the Department of State Health Services' (DSHS) Library & Information Services section has a current calendar of events, resources, and articles of interest to faith community nurses and health ministers. It is available at (<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/library/nursing.shtm>) CHS staff attend HMA meetings when they are held in Austin and DSHS volunteers operate the Texas Health Ministry Network from the Houston regional office.

Children with Special Health Care Needs System Development Group (CSHCN SDG)

Title V Maternal and Child Health's CSHCN SDG works with 24 community-based organizations to provide case management, family support, and community resources to children and youth with

special health care needs and their families throughout the State of Texas through bi-weekly newsletters that contain information about upcoming initiatives, training opportunities, and events of specific interest to professionals to share with the families of children with special health care needs that they serve. The CSHCN SDG also holds quarterly conference calls to provide education on innovative best practices such as Person-Centered Thinking and to provide updates on contracting requirements.

Immunization Unit

The Immunization Unit partners with Texas immunization coalitions to improve immunization rates throughout Texas by promoting the importance of childhood and adolescent immunizations at the community level. The Immunization Unit provides training, media, and resources to help establish new coalitions, or to help organizations promote vaccinations to stakeholders.

The Immunization Unit works with immunization coalitions to promote local immunization activities through the DSHS Immunization Unit's website throughout the year and especially during the national immunization observances such as the National Infant Immunization Week, National Immunization Awareness Month, and National Influenza Vaccination Week.

Immunization coalitions have also partnered with DSHS health service regions, local health departments, and healthcare providers enrolled in the Texas Vaccines for Children and Adult Safety Net Programs to conduct vaccination clinics and administered vaccinations to community health fair participants.

Office of Border Services

Border Services identifies potential FCBOs through networking opportunities and actively researching communities with poor health outcomes to partner with to help them improve the population's health and well-being. In working with FCBOs, Border Services holds regular planning meetings, shares logic models, and holds events and activities such as health fairs, community health worker trainings, health professional training, health promotion, and health education.

Community Health Worker Associations, Area Health Education Centers, Regional Hospitals, Community Health Clinics, Border Collaboratives, Sister City Texas Mexico Binational Health Councils are among those that have partnered with Border Services and jointly developed work plans and sustainability goals.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Adult Protective Services

Adult Protective Services (APS) - a division of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services has commemorated World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15th by collaborating with community-based stakeholders over the past several years. World Elder Abuse

Awareness Day serves as a call-to-action for communities to raise awareness about the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of our elders, often by family members in their own homes. During planning efforts for WEAAD 2016, in the greater San Antonio area, APS reached out to local faith and community-based organizations and asked them to join an ecumenical collaboration to help commemorate WEAAD. APS asked our faith-based community leaders for their guidance and expertise in exploring the feasibility of organizing a special service dedicated to honoring our local Elderly citizens.

As a result of the collaborative efforts, our faith - and community-based stakeholders commemorated WEAAD by delivering one consistent message throughout the City/County— "*One Person, One Action, One Nation United Against Elder Abuse*"—which is the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day theme sponsored by the Administration for Community Living. Our faith leaders felt that one person can make one difference by taking one action in a senior's life by spending time with him/her. As a result, the following WEAAD 2016 activities took place:

- Social Media Campaign was created by Community Bible Church and the Bexar Area Agency on Aging with the following post: 6/15/16 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Spend time with the senior adult in your life and share their story using #WEAAD2016 (and list the specific faith and community-based hashtag.)
- Archdiocese of San Antonio & Catholic Charities recognized Seniors at Silver Sabbath Service on June 12, 2016.
- City of San Antonio provided educational and outreach materials that were created by the WEAAD | Silver Sabbath Committee members.
- Pastor Metcalf, with Community Bible Church and Sister Jane Ann Slater, Archdiocese of San Antonio provided an interview on News 4 San Antonio about Silver Sabbath and encouraged our community to spend time with a Senior in our life.

To build and sustain collaborative efforts, APS is continuing to work with faith and community-based to discuss plans for WEAAD | Silver Sabbath 2017. The committee came to a consensus that they would like to shine a light on the issue of caring for our seniors for a longer period of time rather than only celebrating Seniors on WEAAD. The committee members are currently exploring how to expand the awareness campaign throughout the year, and highlight the work that assists our Seniors. Committee members are dedicated to exploring how to increase collaborative efforts within San Antonio's faith and community-based organizations to ensure our Seniors are taken care of and that being *Not Forgotten* is a top priority moving forward.

Child Protective Services

Child Protective Services' (CPS) faith-based efforts continue to grow and expand as we reach out to congregations to explore how they can partner with the department, families and children. These partnerships include such things as participation in the Care Portal, an on-line resource for congregations to help with basic needs and services, recruitment of foster and adoptive families, hosting the Heart Gallery, and special events. Currently, CPS has partnerships with almost 600 congregations across the state. Additionally, The

Department of Family and Protective Services hosted a Faith Leader Summit on November 2, 2016 for 300 attendees. The purpose of the summit was to bring faith leaders together to explore ways in which they can help support children and fragile families. The event was held at the Texas State Capitol and keynote speakers included Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman.

TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) has robust and vital relationships with faith and community-based organizations across Texas to assist in its mission to significantly improve the quality of life for all Texas veterans, their families and survivors.

The Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA) partners with the Texas Lottery Commission, Department of Public Safety, Department of Motor Vehicles, Parks and Wildlife and Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for funding of grants to non-profits and local government agencies that provide direct services to Texas veterans and their families. These service organizations use FVA grants to provide financial assistance, counseling, transportation, housing assistance and many other vital services. A list of current FVA grantees, the services they provide and their contact information can be found at <http://www.tvc.texas.gov/Grants-Awarded.aspx>.

The Veteran Entrepreneur Program (VEP) partners with the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) (<http://www.uta.edu/vets/index.php>) to deliver veteran entrepreneur services to veteran business owners in North Texas. UTA provides office and classroom space to VEP in exchange for VEP's assistance in identifying veteran entrepreneurs, with an interest in manufacturing, who can take advantage of UTA's free Veteran Entrepreneur Manufacturing Boot Camp. <http://tvc.texas.gov/Entrepreneur-Program.aspx>

The Women Veterans Program (WVP) relies heavily upon collaboration with faith and community-based organizations for outreach opportunities in order to introduce women veterans to TVC services. Furthermore, faith and community-based entities like Dress for Success, Worklife Institute, and Catholic Charities Lotus Project provide workforce development resources, professional development, and homelessness assistance to Women Veterans. <http://tvc.texas.gov/Women-Veterans.aspx>

TVC's Veterans Mental Health Program (VMHP) has a dedicated liaison that works with faith and community-based organizations to better understand military culture, military trauma and how to access available veteran services. Also, VMHP contracts with the interfaith counseling organization, Samaritan Center in Austin, for clinical mental health services designed for veterans. Additionally, VMHP trains, certifies and provides technical assistance to 37 Local Mental Health Authorities for administration of their local Military Veteran Peer Network programs and coordinates Justice Involved Veteran services across Texas. <http://tvc.texas.gov/Military-Veteran-Peer-Network.aspx>

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has continued the Texas Hunger Initiative (THI) partnership noted in the Interagency Coordinating Group Report to the 84th Texas Legislature. THI and TDA work together to increase awareness of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) using joint initiatives that ensure more families in need can access healthy summer meals. Since first reported in the ICG 2014 report, TDA has expanded other relationships to increase the availability of healthy summer meals and initiated an innovative new collaboration with the State Office of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) Program or VISTAs.

TDA's partnership with AmeriCorps and collaboration with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is bringing highly motivated VISTAs to five strategically identified areas in Texas. The goal is to improve Local School Wellness Policies, analyze the need for additional summer feeding sites, expand access to local foods, increase federal nutrition program meal participation, and engage elected officials on how to participate and lead local wellness-related efforts. The partnership will provide a trained VISTA volunteer living in, and working alongside, the community to establish an infrastructure that can maximize the opportunities nutrition and wellness programs provide citizens and communities.

In 2015, TDA expanded its partnership with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program when WIC offices in Houston and San Antonio began operating as meal sites by partnering with local SFSP sponsors as part of a U.S. Department of Agriculture pilot program. That initiative was expanded in 2016 to include WIC offices in Dallas, Austin, Laredo and Amarillo as well as Houston and San Antonio. Also, other WIC offices throughout Texas assist in connecting families with healthy summer meals by distributing important information from TDA about how to find a summer meal site.

TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department continues to engage a large number of faith and community-based organizations in the rehabilitation of youthful offenders. During our fiscal year 2016, we enrolled 1,685 community volunteers representing many different FCBO's, and they contributed 67,161 hours of service at our facilities across the state. Additionally, hundreds more visitors participated in volunteer-led projects and religious services.

Faith-based volunteers constitute the majority of the agency's volunteers (91%); 55% of the service hours recorded for fiscal year 2016 were for faith-based services. Many are involved in correctional ministry organizations, such as Epiphany Ministries and

Adoration, Community, Theology and Service (ACTS) Retreats. Religious volunteers spent 37,221 hours of time with TJJD youth, leading worship services, teaching small religious education groups, conducting faith-based skills and supporting groups, providing individualized pastoral counseling and providing faith-based mentoring services.

TJJD has also established formal partnerships, via memorandums of understanding and contracts for re-entry, counseling, and residential services, with the following FCBO's:

- Eckerd Kids, one of the nation's largest nonprofit child and family service organizations
- Lena Pope Counseling Services
- Liberty
- Youth Advocate Program
- Southwest Key
- K16 Ready Society, Inc. (DBA-Texas Initiative Program)
- Life Support Counseling & Research, Inc. (DBA-Therapeutic Family Life)

Our agency's website provides information regarding the Texas Faith-Based & Community Initiative. The webpage features live links to OneStar's website and the Comptroller's RFP webpage. We have also added an addendum to our agency's RFP template that will ask applicants to self-identify as community and/or faith-based organizations and enable our agency to track the interest of such organizations.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) continued to work with faith and community-based organizations to provide educational materials and training regarding electric choice, energy conservation and customer assistance programs. Educational materials were distributed through a network of community organizations and events such as 6 Stones' "Operation Back 2 School" Day, Dickenson Housing Family Fair, National Night Out events, senior activity centers, and numerous religious organizations.

The PUCT participated in 6 Stones' annual Operation Back 2 School Day, where economically disadvantaged students from Hurst-Eules-Bedford ISD are provided with backpacks, school supplies, and resource information for their parents. At this event, not only did the PUCT provide students with school supplies, but also provided resource information regarding customer assistance programs and energy conservation tips for their parents.

The PUCT also participated at the annual Dickinson Housing Family Fair hosted by the City of Dickinson and Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. At that event, the PUCT provided local residents resource information regarding electric choice, energy conservation, and customer assistance programs.

Numerous police departments, senior activity centers, and religious organizations contacted the PUCT to request our durable brochure-on-a-stick (hand fan), which provide customers energy conservation tips both in English and Spanish.

The PUCT looks forward to continuing our partnerships with faith and community-based organizations in the next biennium.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Faith-Based Outreach

In 2016, the Office of the Governor (OOG) continued its outreach to a variety of faith-based organizations (FBOs) that work closely with the State to serve Texans. In grappling with challenges in the foster care system, the OOG developed relationships with faith-based child-placing agencies and cottage homes to learn about the important role they play in helping Texas' foster children. The OOG also actively participated in the Nov. 2 [Faith Leader Summit](#), which was hosted by the Department of Family and Protective Services to explore ways the faith community could work with the State of Texas and Child Protective Services to benefit foster children.

The OOG also supported the effective functioning of programs such as Alternatives to Abortion and Abstinence Education, both of which are administered by the Health and Human Services Commission and provide grants to faith-based and community nonprofit organizations to deliver vital women's health and sex education services across Texas. The OOG continued to develop relationships with many of these organizations.

The OOG's faith-based outreach also continued its communication with state agencies and FBOs regarding religious liberty concerns. In 2015, Gov. Abbott issued a directive to all state agency heads, instructing them to "ensure that no one acting on behalf of their agency takes any adverse action against any person, as defined in Chapter 311 of the Texas Government Code, on account of the person's act or refusal to act that is substantially motivated by sincere religious belief." The order applies to any agency decision, including but not limited to granting or denying benefits, managing agency employees, entering or enforcing agency contracts, licensing and permitting decisions, or enforcing state laws and regulations. In 2016, the OOG continued to work with FBOs and agencies to ensure the religious freedom of these groups is protected as they collaborate with the state.

Criminal Justice Division

Resources within the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) are dedicated toward 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 FBOs are eligible grant recipients within several of the fund sources that the Criminal Justice Division administers, but to date FBOs have only applied for and received Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds. VOCA grants help crime victims through crisis intervention and assist with the provision of emergency shelter, counseling and criminal justice advocacy. The FBOs who received these grants provided these and other services, such as transportation to court proceedings, safety planning, medical accompaniment and peer support groups.

In Fiscal Year 2016, 264 nonprofit agencies received \$103 million in funding from CJD – \$1.3 million of which went to faith-based organizations. In Fiscal Year 2017, almost 180 nonprofit agencies from across the state will receive CJD funding totaling more than \$105 million. Of that, \$1.5 million will be granted to faith-based programs.

Child Sex Trafficking Team

Pursuant to HB 10 and HB 1446, the OOG developed the Child Sex Trafficking Team (CSTT) within the Criminal Justice Division. CSTT is leading a collaboration of public and private partners, including nonprofits, to develop and implement a comprehensive state plan to combat child sex trafficking and recover and restore its survivors. CSTT’s approach is based on best and promising practices from around the country, and is child-centered, trauma-informed, collaborative and continuously improving.



CSTT’s mission is to:

- protect children by building their awareness of and resilience to child exploitation and by curbing demand for child sex trafficking;
- recognize child sex trafficking by raising public awareness to help identify child sex trafficking in all its forms;
- recover survivors and provide them the immediate and long-term services and supports they need for full restoration; and

- bring justice to survivors by holding traffickers, buyers and those who profit from trafficking accountable.

CSTT's mission, and Texas' size and diversity, necessitate concurrent statewide and regional strategies and extensive partnership with the nonprofit community.

Statewide Strategy

CSTT's strategies to protect, recognize and bring justice to victims are far-reaching and largely statewide. Notably, the team's prevention strategies will include working with nonprofits to provide prevention education to youth and their caregivers, to build resilience to exploitation among vulnerable youth, and to curb demand for child sex trafficking.

Regional Strategy

Because each region is so diverse in stakeholders, resources and needs, CSTT will develop and support at least eight regional models in the next four years to recover and restore survivors.

- Regional models will be part of a statewide network of services available to survivors.
- Each regional model will provide a continuum of care for survivors, from immediate recovery to long-term restorative services.
- Regional models will include leveraging and providing resources to nonprofit partners to provide case management, services and placements.

In September 2016, CSTT started meeting with stakeholders to develop a Houston area regional model and plans to start work in North Texas in late spring 2017. These areas are the two largest urban areas with the most trafficking activity and the most coordinated community response to child sex trafficking in the state. CSTT will prioritize subsequent regions based on both need (numbers of victims and potential victims) and readiness (existing collaboration and efforts).

Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities

The Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities' (GCPD) mission is to actively pursue Gov. Abbott's vision of a state where people with disabilities can enjoy full and equal access to lives of independence, productivity and self-determination. GCPD is guided by a 12-member advisory committee appointed by the governor, seven of whom must be people with disabilities.

The GCPD is the only state agency that looks at issues related to people with disabilities from a cross-disability perspective, considering both federal and state laws and resources.

The committee makes recommendations to the governor and legislature on disability issues; promotes compliance with disability-related laws; promotes a network of local committees doing similar work; and hosts awards programs recognizing employers for employing people with disabilities, and media professionals and students for positively depicting Texans with disabilities. GCPD staff members also provide technical assistance and information and referral services to citizens of Texas on issues affecting Texans with disabilities. The committee's primary issue areas include access, communication, education, emergency management, health, housing, recreation, transportation, veterans and workforce.

The GCPD consistently works with a network of community-based disability organizations throughout the state to provide information and training on the resources, opportunities, rights and responsibilities of Texans with disabilities. Examples of local partners include Business Leadership Networks in Houston, Austin and Dallas, Goodwill Industries, Easter Seals, VSA Texas (the state organization on arts and disability), the American Council of the Blind of Texas, the Deaf Grass Roots Movement, and Texas Association for the Deaf and many more organizations representing Texans with disabilities. GCPD networks with several professional advocacy groups, including Disability Rights Texas and the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, to gain input on the need for potential legislation to advance the interests of Texans with disabilities.

Across the state, many nonprofit and faith-based community organizations serve on local mayor's committees on people with disabilities. This network of more than 40 local committees, partners with the GCPD to plan and host the committee's annual statewide Lex Frieden Employment Awards (LFEA) in October and the Barbara Jordan Media Awards in April. This year's LFEA partners included the Greater Houston Business Leadership Network and the Houston Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities.

The GCPD raises public awareness about the talents and abilities of Texans with disabilities through the annual printing and statewide distribution of a [National Disability Employment Awareness Month poster](#), which is designed by a different Texas artist with a disability. In 2016, more than 2,500 posters were distributed, and the campaign featured the Twitter hashtag #InclusionWorks.

This year the GCPD announced its support for a new "Driving with Autism" initiative and law enforcement training program at a news conference held at the Capitol with the Department of Public Safety and the nonprofit organization Asperger's 101. This program includes driver training at the DPS facility in Florence, Texas, for young drivers with autism and a voluntary code to indicate communication impediment with a peace officer on an individual's driver license.

The GCPD greatly values the role of community volunteers who contribute to improving the lives of Texans with disabilities. The best and highest use of community volunteers may be to provide professional volunteer opportunities and work-based learning for youth with disabilities that will help them to successfully transition from school to work and spark their interest in post-secondary education.

Among the GCPD's highest principles is to work in partnership with other organizations to advance opportunities for Texans with disabilities. The committee is grateful to its community nonprofit partners for their many years of service to Texans with disabilities, and looks forward to continuing this partnership to ensure Texans with disabilities lead meaningful and productive lives and can participate fully in the economic and social life of Texas.

Goals 3 and 4 — 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:

Several ICG agencies subscribe to OneStar Foundation's Texas Connector to identify duplication of services or gaps in services to help identify potential new service providers that could become strong partners at the local level. Built on ESRI and deployed on the Microsoft Azure cloud, OneStar Foundation's Texas Connector is an online mapping tool solving critical challenges facing state and local governments in their efforts to provide efficient, effective client services.

Created through a public-private partnership, Connector combines an interactive GIS map and searchable database, including: social service providers and nonprofits from the 2-1-1 information and referral system and GuideStar, USA; socioeconomic and demographic data and population summaries; visual layers such as schools, public transit and more. Connector offers state and local governments a replicable and customizable platform in a flexible, user-friendly format. Available customizations include: locked or limited access; tailoring to particular organizational or departmental needs, including quick report generators with custom filters, results tables and report templates; addition of proprietary or initiative-specific data such as grantee locations, health or criminal justice data to create information rich maps and queryable reports. Examples can be found above under OneStar Foundation's agency submission.

V. NEXT STEPS FOR 2017

ICG members will:

- 1) Keep agency information up-to-date on the OneStar website and continue to add new resources;
- 2) Further develop best practices for cooperation and collaboration between state agencies and FCBO networks;
- 3) Continue to work with agency leadership to reduce barriers for FCBOs and streamline procurement and contracting in alignment with all new directives.

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 512-287-2062 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

AN ACT

relating to the continuation and functions of the Health and Human Services Commission and the provision of health and human services in this state...

Pertinent excerpt from S.B. 200 (84R):

SECTION 3.19. Sections 535.055(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The Texas Nonprofit Council is established to help direct the interagency coordinating group in carrying out the group's duties under this section. The state agencies of the interagency coordinating group described by Section 535.051(b) ~~[commission]~~ shall provide administrative support to the council as coordinated by the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group.

(b) The governor ~~[executive commissioner]~~, in consultation with the presiding officer of the interagency coordinating group, shall appoint as members of the council two representatives from each of the following groups and entities to represent each group's and entity's appropriate sector:

- (1) statewide nonprofit organizations;
- (2) local governments;
- (3) faith-based groups, at least one of which must be a statewide interfaith group;
- (4) community-based groups;

- (5) consultants to nonprofit corporations; and
- (6) statewide associations of nonprofit organizations.

SECTION 3.20. Section 535.104(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(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 committee under Section 535.108,]~~ is not used to advance a sectarian purpose or to engage in any form of proselytization.

APPENDIX E

APPOINTED ICG LIAISONS

Department of Aging and Disability Services
Department of Agriculture
Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
Department of Family and Protective Services
Department of Information Resources
Department of State Health Services
Health and Human Services Commission
Office of Secretary of State
Office of State-Federal Relations
Office of the Attorney General
An Institution of Higher Education
Office of the Comptroller
Office of the Governor
Public Utility Commission of Texas
Texas State Commission on National and Community Service
(OneStar Foundation)
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
Texas Department of Insurance
Texas Department of Public Safety
Texas Juvenile Justice Department
Texas Veterans Commission
Texas Workforce Commission

APPENDIX F

2016 Members of the Texas Nonprofit Council

Bee Moorhead, Chair – Texas Impact

Vicki Niedermayer, Secretary – Helping Restore Ability

Celia Cole – Texas Food Bank Network

Froswa' Booker-Drew – US Programs, World Vision

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

Adrianna Cuellar-Rojas — United Ways of Texas

Marolyn Stubblefield – University of the Incarnate Word