



AACOG
Alamo Area Council
Of Governments



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Vice Chairman Hurley, Chairman Hasslocher, and Executive Director Diane Rath.

Dear AACOG members and residents of the Alamo Region:

It is with great pleasure that we present the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) 2019 Annual Report. Of course, we exist because of you, our members and residents of the Alamo Region, and our successes and recognitions are because of you. Therefore, we thank you, our members, Board of Directors, staff, and partners for another banner year at AACOG.

Speaking of banner years, once again AACOG earned several recognitions in 2019. The Government Finance Officers Association recognized AACOG with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. GuideStar, the world's largest information service specializing in reporting on U.S. nonprofit companies, awarded us the Platinum Seal of Transparency. TXServes—San Antonio was awarded the 2019 National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Major Metro Award which recognize excellence in programs and services that promote and exemplify regional cooperation and coordination and have a positive impact in their region. Two other AACOG programs, Intellectual and Development Disabilities (IDD) Services and the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), were each recipients of the National Association of Development Organizations' (NADO) 2019 Impact Awards which honor those for their creative approaches to advancing regional community and economic development and improved quality of life.

Regional community and economic development epitomizes AACOG's relationship with Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), particularly with the execution of the Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA). The agreement, the **first** in the United States Air Force history, affords JBSA the opportunity to bring requirements they would normally fill through traditional federal contracting actions to AACOG. AACOG and its member governments then fulfill these requirements through our own capabilities and local contractors, streamlining the procurement process which is expected to save time and millions of dollars for JBSA.

Thanks to two area legislators, Representative Andy Murr and Senator Pete Flores, air quality planning funding was restored in the 86th Texas Legislature of almost two million dollars over the biennium for our region. Seven near non-attainment counties in the Alamo Area are the beneficiaries of these funds and have designated TCEQ to contract with AACOG for studies to identify ways to improve air quality. While Bexar County continues to be in non-attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), we are thankful to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for exercising its option to apply for a 179(b) Demonstration Project that considers foreign contribution to ozone in Bexar County, which would allow Bexar County to remain at its marginal designation as opposed to moving up to moderate designation if the county stays over the 70 ppb after 2020.

As you will see in the following pages, our AACOG programs like IDD, Alamo Regional Transit (ART), Weatherization, TXServes—San Antonio, AAAs, and the Law Enforcement Academy continue to serve the region in a big way. However, we also have a new program, PACE which stands for Property Assessed Clean Energy, which is starting up at AACOG. Several of our member governments have adopted PACE and entered into an Interlocal Agreement with AACOG to administer the program. We are anticipating additional member governments to follow in their footsteps. Expect to hear more about this in 2020.

AACOG works in various ways to connect its residents with AACOG services. There are lots of moving parts, and we continue to work on reaching all areas of the thirteen county region, with roadshows in each county to showcase our many programs, to ensure the residents of the AACOG region are connected to our services. In addition, we also hold many workshops to inform and educate our member governments and residents of applicable programs and services, such as available TCEQ grant programs, Planning and Zoning workshops, Newly Elected Officials Workshops, Grant Writing Workshops, and yes, even Earthquake Planning Workshops.

So while we had a great 2019, we have great expectations for 2020. Expect to see more regional collaboration related to the 2020 Census, full implementation of the IGSA, and more member governments designating AACOG to administer its PACE program to name a few. Again, thank you for your support and commitment to AACOG in 2019!

James C. Hasslocher
Board Member, University Health
AACOG Board Chairman

County Judge Robert L. Hurley
Atascosa County
AACOG Board Vice Chairman

2019 Management Team



Diane Rath
Executive Director



John Clamp
Chief Financial Officer/
Senior Director



Stella Garcia
Senior Director
of Operations



Clifford Herberg
General Counsel/
Senior Director



Jacob Ulczynski
Senior Director,
IDD Services &
Agency Coordination



Julio Elizondo
Budget Officer



Deedra Johnson
Director of Human Resources
and Infrastructure Services



Claudia Mora
Regional Services
Director



Sean Scott
Regional Transportation
Director



Blanca Tapia
Controller



Gloria Vasquez
Area Agencies on Aging
Director

Board of Directors



- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| James C. Hasslocher, Chair | Board Member, University Health System, Representing Hospital/Health Districts |
| Robert L. Hurley, Vice Chair | County Judge, Atascosa County, Representing Atascosa County |
| Luana Buckner | Board Chair, Edwards Aquifer Authority, Representing Special Districts |
| Tommy Calvert | Commissioner, Bexar County, Precinct 4, Representing Bexar County |
| Suzanne De Leon | Mayor, Balcones Heights, Representing Suburban Cities (GBCCC) |
| Cris Eugster | Chief Operating Officer, CPS Energy, Representing Public Utilities |
| Richard A. Evans | County Judge, Bandera County, Representing Bandera County |
| Leah Garcia | Councilwoman, City of New Braunfels, Representing Urbanized-City of New Braunfels |
| Robert W. Gregory | Mayor, City of La Vernia, Representing Area Cities (Group B) |
| Wade Hedtke | County Judge, Karnes County, Representing Karnes County |
| Richard L. Jackson | County Judge, Wilson County, Representing Wilson County |
| Andy Keller | Mayor, City of La Coste, Representing Area Cities (Group A) |
| Rob Kelly | County Judge, Kerr County, Representing Kerr County |
| Sherman Krause | County Judge, Comal County, Representing Comal County |
| Arnulfo Luna | County Judge, Frio County, Representing Frio County |
| Darrel L. Lux | County Judge, Kendall County, Representing Kendall County |
| Jose Menendez | Senator, State of Texas, District 26, Representing Urban and Rural Areas |
| Andrew Murr | Representative, State of Texas, District 53, Representing Urban and Rural Areas |
| Manny Pelaez | Councilman, City of San Antonio, District 8, Representing City of San Antonio |
| Clayton Perry | Councilman, City of San Antonio, District 10, Representing City of San Antonio |
| Katie N. Reed | Board President, Northside ISD, Representing School Districts |
| Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez | Commissioner, Bexar County, Precinct 1, Representing Bexar County |
| Ana Sandoval | Councilwoman, City of San Antonio, District 7, Representing City of San Antonio |
| Tom Schoolcraft | Mayor, City of Helotes, Representing Suburban Cities (GBCCC) |
| Chris Schuchart | County Judge, Medina County, Representing Medina County |
| Mike Schultz | Mayor, City of Boerne, Representing Area Cities (Group C) |
| Mark Stroehrer | County Judge, Gillespie County, Representing Gillespie County |
| James E. Teal | County Judge, McMullen County, Representing McMullen County |
| John Williams | Mayor, City of Universal City, Representing Suburban Cities (GBCCC) |
| Kevin A. Wolff | Commissioner, Bexar County, Precinct 3, Representing Bexar County |
| Jim O. Wolverton | Commissioner, Guadalupe County, Precinct 3, Representing Guadalupe County |
| Kyle Biederman | Representative, State of Texas, District 73, Ex-Officio Member |
| Ryan Guillen | Representative, State of Texas, District 31, Ex-Officio Member |
| John Kuempel | Representative, State of Texas, District 44, Ex-Officio Member |
| COL. J. Peter Velesky | Joint Base San Antonio, Ex-Officio Member |
| Judith Zaffirini | Senator, State of Texas, District 21, Ex-Officio Member |

Area Agencies ON AGING

Area Agencies on Aging

The Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) were established under the Older Americans Act in 1973 to respond to the needs of Americans aged 60 years and older. AAAs make it possible for older adults to “age in place” by providing a wide array of options for community-based services and living arrangements in which to choose from. Since 1973, the Alamo and Bexar AAAs have been delivering programs and services that include:

- case management,
- family caregiver support and respite care,
- support for grandparents raising grandchildren,
- legal assistance,
- home-delivered and congregate meals,
- health & wellness coaching,
- chronic disease and diabetes self-management,
- stress busting for caregivers,
- ombudsman services, and
- home modifications for safe and independent living.

In 2019, the Alamo and Bexar AAAs were able to serve a total of 21,295 seniors in the 13 county service area.

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) / Alamo Service Connection (ASC)

The Alamo Service Connection (ASC), through its local call center, provides an abundance of impartial resources for individuals seeking long-term care and support. Moreover, the ASC helps seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and caregivers navigate the network of accessible options to ensure they receive the best service(s) for their specific situations. This year, the ASC provided 46,000 referrals to 34,000 callers. 7,000 of those callers were veterans and their families. Any individual over the age of 60, and individuals with disabilities, can access help by calling the ASC at (210) 477-3275.

Benefits Counseling

Every year, AACOG’s Benefits Counseling program, also known as the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), provides information, counseling, and enrollment assistance to thousands of Medicare beneficiaries. In 2019, nearly 2,300 beneficiaries met one-on-one with AACOG counselors to discuss matters of:

- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Public Benefits
- Entitlements
- Legal Rights
- Supplemental Security Income
- Senior Fraud
- Advance Directives
- Long-Term Care
- Non-Covered Health
- Other Insurance
- Veterans Issues
- Social Security
- Fraud/Scams
- Medicare and Medicaid Appeals/Hearings
- Legal Assistance



Area Agencies ON AGING

Benefits Enrollment Center

AACOG saw a tremendous opportunity for the benefits counseling program, and applied for funding through the National Council on Aging (NCOA) to establish a Benefits Enrollment Center. The BEC, aimed at assisting beneficiaries in the completion of their Medicare applications, opened its doors in 2019 as only one of four BECs in the state. The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce joined AACOG for a ribbon cutting and grand opening in March. Staff members can now visit and assist seniors and individuals with disabilities – those with limited income and resources – to apply for Medicare Part D, Extra Help (or LIS), Medicare Savings Program, Medicaid, SNAP, and LIHEAP.

Masonic Widows

In October 2018, the Bexar AAA collaborated with Masonic widows, children, and family to launch a pilot project called the Masonic Widows Assistance Program. The purpose of the program was to deliver the same mission of the AAAs to widows of master Masons in the San Antonio area – an opportunity to age in place with dignity, security and an enhanced quality of life. The program assisted 18 Masonic Widows with short-term assistance services, such as grab-bars, homemaker aids, personal assistance, incontinence supplies, and payments for utilities expenses. Due to its accomplishments, the Masonic Widow Assistance Program has been extended through October 2020, and will now include the remaining 12 counties inside the AACOG region.



Housing Bond

The Alamo and Bexar AAAs received housing bond funds from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to assist eligible individuals obtain housing and ensure health, safety, security, and independence. The AAAs helped seniors relocate to more affordable housing, relocate from long-term care facilities to their home-communities, and assisted with housing repairs and modifications. Through this supplementary funding, the AAAs managed to serve an additional 16 clients with ramps, utilities payment assistance, and mortgage/rent payments.



Area Agencies ON AGING

TXServes

AACOG functions as the organizing provider for the TXServes veterans program—a branch of AmericaServes. Services are coordinated through a network of public, private, and nonprofit organizations working together to serve veterans and their families.

This program, the first of its kind in the State of Texas, launched June 2017 with just over 40 partners. Today, over 100 providers have administered over 5,000 service requests to more than 3,600 veterans and their family members. In 2018, the Texas Governor’s Committee to Support the Military found that “no comprehensive method of tracking or enabling service referrals exists for veterans in need of specialized services. This produces inefficiencies and does not allow veterans to easily receive the full compendium of available services.” The Committee then stated “TXServes is an initiative currently operating in San Antonio, and should be expanded in communities across the state to achieve as much coverage as possible. Such a system would help make Texas a national model for service delivery to our military members, military families, and veterans.” The State responded with a Request for Applications for a Veterans Network. AACOG responded to the RFA in October to continue the operation of TXServes and expand to other regions of the state.



Veteran’s Directed Home and Community Based Services (VDHCBS)

As an alternative to living in a long-term care facility, VDHCBS empowers veterans to choose and manage services and supports in their own homes. VDHCBS serves veterans within 100 miles of the city of San Antonio. Since its inception, VDHCBS has served over 60 veterans, and is anticipating growth in 2020.

Alamo REGIONAL TRANSIT

Alamo Regional Transit (ART) provides public transportation to rural communities outside Bexar County. A critical component of AACOG's services, ART's mission is to provide safe, courteous, reliable, and cost-effective transportation to the residents of the Alamo Region.

In 2019, with more than 1.5 million miles traveled, ART was able to service over 131,000 residents throughout AACOG's 12 rural counties. These residents used the ART program to attend medical appointments, commute to work, school, and to complete other personal errands.

The City of Seguin in Guadalupe County is home to the only ART deviated fixed-route system in the Alamo region. The "Connect Seguin" route operates an hourly, circular pathway throughout the city with a number of designated stops. This resource is made possible through the City of Seguin and AACOG, to ensure an affordable and reliable method of transportation for the city's residents. In 2019, Connect Seguin was able to transport 17,800 riders throughout the city.

Although the majority of San Antonio and Bexar County are serviced by VIA Metropolitan, this year ART extended its amenities to service over 26,000 residents of municipalities in the Urbanized Areas (UZA). UZA communities include the cities of Cibolo, Schertz, Marion, New Braunfels, and parts of unincorporated Guadalupe County.

The ART program has continued to experience an upward trend, transporting more and more residents throughout the region. In particular, a significant reduction in Medicaid-funded ridership that plagued the program's numbers since 2016 is now beginning to trend upward. Through 2019, the Medicaid ridership

increased by 1,695 trips – an increase of 15%. These improvements afford the opportunity to create economies of scale and better serve AACOG's constituency. With an overall increase in ridership of 12% in 2019, the program managed to reduce its operating expenses by 8%. The implementation of additional technologies in dispatching, scheduling, and maintenance software have also contributed to a boost in efficiencies.

Through a \$1.9 Million grant by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), twenty model 2019 buses were purchased to repower and replace the ART program's current fleet of buses.



ART is also known to be one of the training hubs in the region. The ART program hosted 24 total workshops and trainings this year. Transportation professionals from across the state continue to request the in-house programs that also serve as continuing education units (CEUs).

This year, the Director of the ART program also worked to reinstate the Alamo Regional Transportation Steering Committee. This group of 8 stakeholders, community partners, and industry leaders are meeting regularly to discuss industry trends, needs, and the framework for ART's continued growth.

Intellectual & DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

Since 2006, AACOG has functioned as a part of a statewide network of 39 Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) Authorities who serve as the single point of access to publically-funded services and supports for individuals with IDD in Bexar County. AACOG is responsible for planning, policy & resource development, and oversight of IDD services whether the program is provided by a public or private entity.

Service Coordination

Our Service Coordinators and Case Managers help people access medical, social, educational, and other appropriate services that assist individuals achieve an acceptable quality of life and community participation. The team is actively involved in the lives of more than 4,400 residents and their families. Service Coordination is provided to individuals enrolling in, participating in, or transitioning from:

- Nursing Facilities (NF);
- Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF/IID);
- State Supported Living Centers (SSLC);
- Home and Community-based Services (HCS);
Texas Home Living (TxHmL);
- General Revenue (GR); and,
- Community First Choice (CFC)



Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council

AACOG has continued to participate in the Southwest Texas Crisis Collaborative (STCC), an effort of the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC). STRAC is one of the twenty-two RACs designated by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to develop, implement, and maintain the regional trauma and emergency healthcare system for Trauma Service Area -P (TSA-P). The STCC MEDCOM Law Enforcement Navigation of Emergency Detention Patients program offers AACOG visibility into the number of people with IDD who are placed under Emergency Detention each month. This system change decompresses local emergency departments and allows AACOG to provide follow-up care to prevent future crisis. AACOG is also working closely with the Program for Intensive Care Coordination (PICC) to target interventions for super-utilizers who have experienced 6 or more Emergency Detentions in the most recent 12-month period.

One of the greatest obstacles individuals with IDD and their families face is access to adequate behavioral crisis respite support. In a continued effort to address the need for behavioral crisis resolution services, AACOG continues to enhance its IDD crisis respite program. This program provides therapeutic respite, in-home (72 hours) or out-of-home (up to 14 calendar days), to stabilize the situation. In 2019, our program was able to work with 345 individuals with IDD and their families. Therapeutic respite is a flexible array of services that includes behavioral support to address the stressors that result in challenging behaviors.

Intellectual & DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

HASA Alerts

AACOG has entered into a new agreement with the local health information exchange, HASA, to receive alerts when Individuals have presented at a local hospital. This daily information source allows for more timely follow up and discharge planning for urgent and emergency healthcare needs.



Autism Lifeline Links

Autism Lifeline Links (ALL) is a coalition of agencies and organizations working together to provide quality services and care for individuals, families, caregivers, educators, and others in the autism community. The goal of ALL is to increase service capacity and eliminate wait times for individuals on the autism spectrum. ALL is committed to doing this by working collaboratively and transparently to create a comprehensive, person-centered system of awareness, early diagnosis, treatment, and services to improve the opportunities and outcomes for individuals with autism. AACOG, along with the more than 13 other Autism Lifeline Links partners, provided service for the estimated 21,600 residents in Bexar County and surrounding areas living with IDD, specifically in the areas of: care coordination, diagnostic services, behavioral support and therapy services, education and support groups, financial assistance for medical expenses and basic needs, respite care, registration with long-term support programs, financial assistance for medical expenses and basic needs, respite care, registration with long-term support programs, and much more.

Bexar County, Department of Behavioral Health

AACOG continues to partner and coordinate with Bexar County to develop systems around individuals with intellectual disabilities who have criminal justice involvement. There are a number of different intercept points (Figure 1.1) where individuals can be diverted from costly institutional services provided in jails. Identifying these opportunities and connecting individuals with community-based programs can save taxpayer dollars and ensure accountability for alleged nonviolent offenses.

AACOG currently supports and coordinates Safety Net Services (Intercept -1); an IDD Crisis Line and Crisis Respite program (Intercept 0); IDD Recognition & Response trainings for law enforcement (Intercept 1); coordinates with the Center for Health Care Services and Bexar County Department of Mental Health to support the effective screening and identification of IDD at time of arrest (Intercept 2); and has assigned a permanent liaison with the Bexar County Criminal Magistrate (Intercept 3).

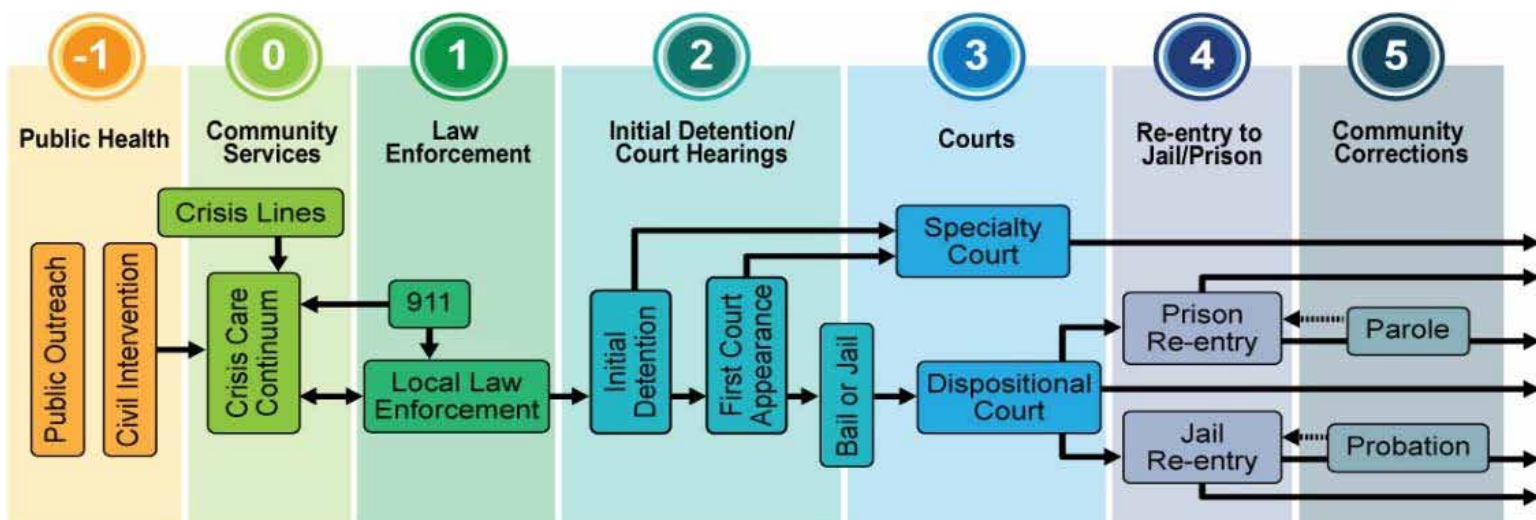


Figure 1.1

Intellectual & DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

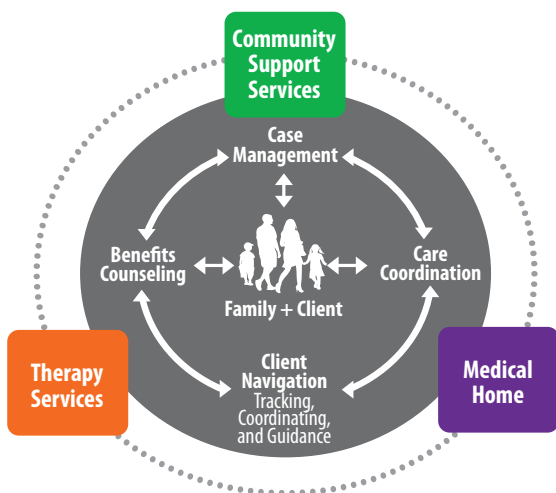


Figure 1.2

Multi Assistance Center at Morgan's Wonderland

AACOG has partnered with Morgan's Wonderland on the development of the Multi Assistance Center (MAC). The MAC is an innovative one-stop facility that provides all medical and non-medical services needed for Individuals with special needs. The MAC care model is designed to be coordinated, comprehensive, complementary, and synergistic – thus ensuring improved communications among the different providers.

AACOG plans to coordinate the services provided at the MAC through special trained navigators (Figure 1.3). The MAC rendering (Figure 1.2) illustrates the conceptual design where individuals and families, with assistance from AACOG's navigators, will have the ability to meet all their needs through the fully inclusive and accessible campus. The MAC development is on an anticipated 2-year timeline. After the scheduled 2020 groundbreaking, the facility is expected to open in 2021.



Community Support Services

(Social Determinants of Health)



Day Care Center, Sports, Transportation, Educational Sessions and Workshops, Peer Support Groups, Legal Clinics, Housing Programs, Job Training Programs, Food Assistance Programs, Legal Assistance, Dietary Counseling and Education, Financial Planning, Longer Term Care Planning, Education Programs

Therapy Services



Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Massage Therapy, Recreational Therapy, Behavioral Therapy, Music Therapy, Assistive Technology Lab, Home Lab, Counseling Therapy

Medical Home



Primary Care, Subspecialty Care, Mental Health, Dental Services, Eye Clinic, Audiology Clinic, Ambulatory Surgery Center, Podiatry, Telemedicine, Lab, Imaging, Pharmacy

Navigators assigned to all MAC clients

- MAC clients to undergo intake by a navigator to address needs
- Navigators will coordinate needs with all agencies and do periodic follow-up
- Navigators will concentrate on social work and case management
- Software to link all services and all organizations in the MAC.

Figure 1.3

Natural RESOURCES



The goal of AACOG's Natural Resources program is to improve the region's air quality by conducting technical studies related to ground-level ozone and promoting multi-agency collaboration.

Despite Bexar County's nonattainment designation, air quality in the San Antonio area has seen major improvement in the last decade. Ozone levels as high as 81 parts per billion (ppb) in 2013 have fallen to 73 ppb in 2019.

Photochemical Modeling

Photochemical modeling studies estimate the impact of regional emission sources on local ozone levels. Modeling demonstrates how ozone levels may respond to changes in emissions resulting from implementation of local pollution control measures, such as the anti-idling ordinances passed by the City of San Antonio and Bexar County in 2017. Another feature is source apportionment, which estimates the impact that each emissions source type or source region has on ozone levels.

In 2019, AACOG was commissioned to perform two different photochemical modeling studies. The first, a \$125,000 project funded by the City of San Anto-

nio and Bexar County, focused on the entire county of Bexar. The second, a \$50,000 project funded by the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO), focused primarily on mobile emission sources.

In the AAMPO report, ozone level projections were made through the year 2023. It

was predicted that by 2023, emissions from the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) would make up approximately 19% of the ozone captured by monitors at the Camp Bullis Military Training Reservation. An estimated 39% of ozone from that monitor would have international origins. By modeling effects of implemented local pollution control measures, AACOG can provide agency partners information to select the most effective methods of pollution reduction.

Air Quality Funding

Air quality planning dollars, previously vetoed by the Governor in 2017, have been restored in the 86th legislature. Seven near nonattainment counties inside the AACOG region will be recipients of just under \$2 million to further air quality studies. AACOG will conduct emissions inventories and monitoring.



Natural RESOURCES



U. S. Department of Energy

Alamo Area Clean Cities Coalition

AACOG hosts the Alamo Area Clean Cities Coalition (AACCC), a program funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office. The Clean Cities mission is to facilitate the integration of alternative fuel vehicles and technology into the market.

Coalitions assist fleet management teams in grant applications and other funding opportunities, which include the recent Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP). In May, four counties in the San Antonio area (Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, and Wilson) were designated over \$21.5 million to fund reimbursements of new school, transit, and shuttle bus purchases. This was nearly double the amount that the Dallas and Houston regions received. The AACCC engaged transportation directors and business managers in all eligible school districts to increase awareness and assist with the application process. Through these efforts, area school districts, transit agencies, and shuttle bus operators requested funding in excess of the allocation by over \$2 million. To date, over \$7 million has been awarded in the San Antonio area.

Coalitions also organize alternative fuel demonstrations and showcases. In September, the AACCC hosted Drive Electric Day SA at Wonderland of the Americas mall, an event of National Drive Electric Week. Over 50 electric vehicle (EV) owners expressed their enthusiasm by showing off their cars to the public. Many offered ride-alongs, which gave attendees the chance to have an up-close and personal EV experience in a no-pressure, educational environment.

Commute Solutions

Throughout 2019, AACOG successfully transitioned its Commute Solutions program to the AAMPO after running it for more than 20 years. This included the shutdown of the old carpool-matching and rewards software – and facilitating the launch of its replacement, AgileMile. Under AAMPO control, the program has been rebranded as Alamo Commutes.

TCEQ Partnership

As a result of the Volkswagen settlement funds made available by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Bexar County's designation of nonattainment with the EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has hosted a record number of workshops at AACOG's offices. Over 8 sessions have been held by TCEQ to inform stakeholders about funding and program updates, specific opportunities by industry, technical application assistance, and current air quality standards.



Public SAFETY

Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy

The Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy (AARLEA) has trained future Texas Peace Officers, Correction Officers, and Emergency Telecommunications personnel for the AACOG Region for over 40 years. AARLEA also provides dozens of specialized in-service (continuing education) courses for existing law enforcement personnel. This year, AARLEA provided training for more than 15,000 individuals with over 175,000 contact hours.

Through a grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), AARLEA is developing a curriculum on credit card skimmer identification and awareness for law enforcement personnel and members of the business community. The program is expecting to purchase several skimmer prototypes that can be used to provide hands-on experience. This training will increase the awareness and effective prosecution of credit card fraud committed through the use of skimmer devices on fuel pumps.



AARLEA successfully integrated a unique online training platform with 23 courses, half of which are available at no charge. The online training platform has 3,800 users representing 161 of the 254 counties in Texas. The online training platform reports training hours, produces training certificates, and maintains training records. To date, 11,703 training certificates have been completed.

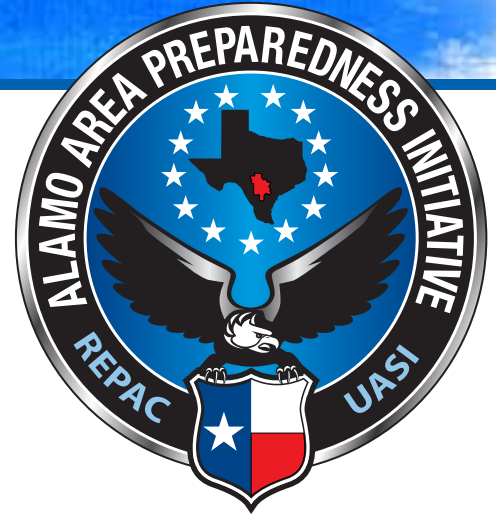
In 2019, AARLEA celebrated the graduation of the first participant in the Job Skills Program. Through a partnership between AACOG and Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), the Job Skills Program is available to military service personnel transitioning out of military service.

AARLEA has increased the use of its VirTra Simulator in Use-of-Force training, offering the tool to 500 in-service and BPOC students this year alone. In 2020, the use of the VirTra Simulator will be made available to the entire law enforcement community throughout the Alamo region.

In partnership with the US State Department, AARLEA was again able to host three week-long trainings for police administrators from Mexico through the US & Mexico Police Professionalization Exchange Program. 28 participants were trained on American police structure, use of force law, reality based training scenarios, and basic crime scene investigation techniques.

In partnership with AACOG's Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities program, the AARLEA created and delivered a number of 'Recognition & Response' trainings across the state. These unique sessions incorporate informal communication and interaction between law enforcement and individuals with IDD so attendees can better understand one another. Officers teach individuals with IDD how to respond to police when an officer confronts them; the IDD students also have the opportunity to share their perspective on what may trigger fear or anxiety for the IDD population. In 2019, AARLEA staff traveled to 32 trainings to work with over 200 law enforcement officials and individuals with IDD.

Public SAFETY



Criminal Justice Planning

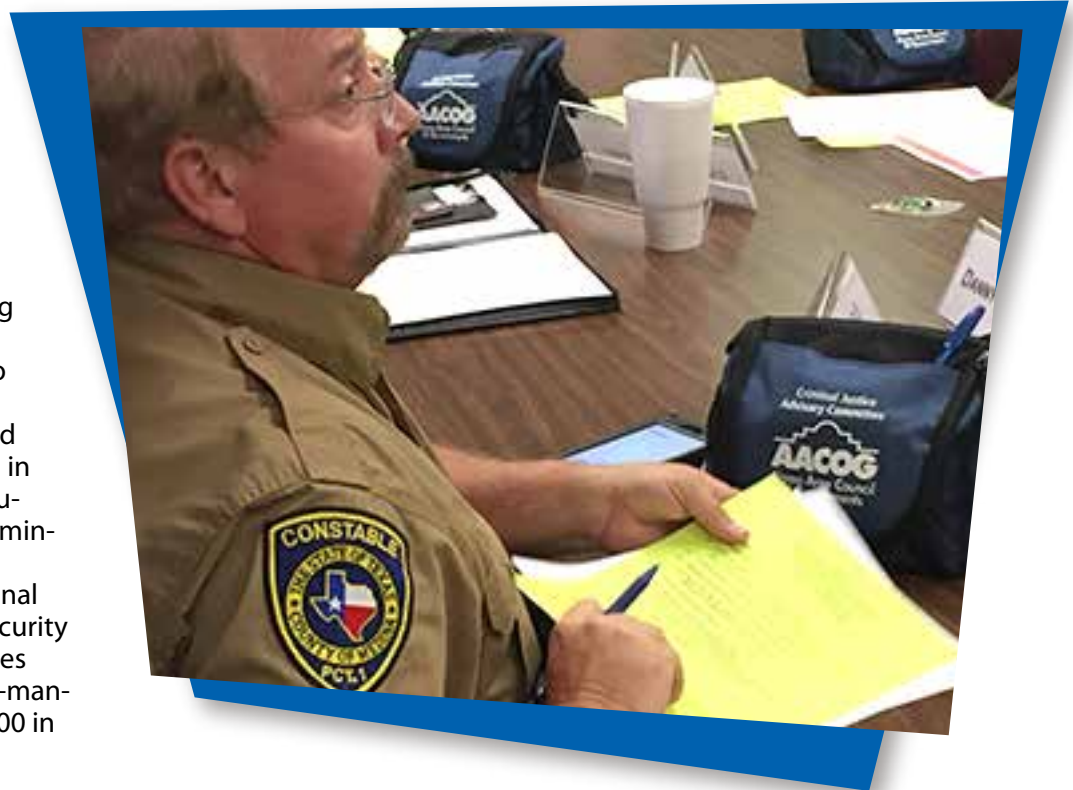
Criminal Justice Planning conducts grant workshops, provides information about funding opportunities, and offers technical assistance to area jurisdictions and agencies. These services include performing technical reviews for law enforcement and non-profit agencies seeking funding from the Office of the Governor – Criminal Justice Division. In 2019, the Criminal Justice Planning staff completed over 2,800 hours of technical assistance and provided grant management assistance to more than 90 funded projects. The projects funded this year will help support a number of different efforts, including:

- victim assistance,
- violence prevention,
- juvenile delinquency prevention, and
- purchasing of law enforcement equipment.

In 2019, the program sponsored a grant management workshop through Grant Writing USA® to train 70 individuals throughout the region. Criminal Justice Planning staff will provide three additional grant workshops next year, specific to funding through the Office of the Governor – Criminal Justice Division. The program will continue to work with the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) and other community stakeholders to develop a new strategic plan that defines regional priorities and the sustainability of services in the community.

Homeland Security

The Homeland Security Program provides jurisdictions and local agencies technical assistance during the planning phase of emergency preparedness, specifically related to terroristic activities. This identifies threats and security weaknesses and ensures vulnerabilities are included in annual multipurpose planning documents. In addition, this program administers federal and state Homeland Security grants and promotes regional cooperation. In 2019, Homeland Security assisted 17 jurisdictions and agencies with technical assistance and grant-management, and administered \$320,000 in regional grants.



Leading into 2020, the Homeland Security Program, the Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC), and regional partners are working on a framework for a Regional Rescue Task Force. This preparedness initiative will analyze recent terroristic events and provide strategic changes in the way first responders address future incidents.

Public SAFETY

Regional 911

The AACOG 9-1-1 Program oversees essential dispatch equipment and software at each of the 9-1-1 emergency call centers throughout Atascosa, Bandera, Frio, Gillespie, Karnes, Kendall, McMullen, and Wilson Counties. The AACOG emergency 9-1-1 call center serves 52,109 landlines that represent 222,712 residents. Funding for this program is afforded through state collected funds from cell phone usage taxes, fees, and surcharges. These funds are administered to AACOG through the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC).

Through 2019, this program has moved towards a "Next Generation 9-1-1" ready system by implementing the latest technologies in emergency call delivery and response, including:

- text to 9-1-1,
- short message service (SMS),
- photo messaging, and
- video streaming capabilities.

AACOG executed a successful advertising campaign to promote these new capabilities throughout the seven counties. Targeted push notifications and banner ads were delivered to residents via mobile devices and desktop computers.

This year, the 9-1-1 program was also able to shift its network system provider from Verizon to AT&T, resulting in almost \$30,000 in cost-savings and additional technological capabilities. The savings from this transition will result in additional services to the respective communities.

In 2020, this program will complete its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and migrate the database towards a cloud-based Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESInet). This will enable call routing to other public-safety answering points (PSAP) across the State of Texas.



Regional SERVICES

AACOG is the designated Economic Development District (EDD) for the Alamo region. In partnership with local counties and municipalities, the Regional Services program works to address issues related to economic, community, and workforce development; business recruitment and retention; entrepreneurship; small business support; strategic planning; and disaster recovery and resiliency. Regional Services also provides grant information, resource development, and technical assistance.

This program also hosts a series of workshops throughout the year. In 2019, over 260 members of our local governments participated in four unique workshops:

- Planning & Zoning, held in March;
- Economic Development – Federal and State Partners, held in May;
- Newly Elected Officials, held in June; and
- Legislative Update, held in September.

In October 2017, the AACOG Board of Directors adopted the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2018-2023 document. The CEDS document outlines the plan for AACOG to assist member communities in their economic development projects promoting community, business, and workforce development. Each year, the document is reviewed and updated by the CEDS Committee. This year's review involved specific attention to resiliency planning after devastating floods and hurricanes impacted the state.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides a federal Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). In partnership with TDA, AACOG provides administrative and technical support to communities in the region. AACOG's approximate regional allocation for FY2019-FY2020 is \$2.5 million. From the AACOG region, 3 counties and 16 cities applied for infrastructure projects. TDA estimates that 9 to 10 applications will be funded for the program year, specifically for projects related to infrastructure.



Regional Services continued providing Hurricane Harvey disaster recovery services to Comal, Guadalupe, and Karnes Counties. The program is working with a designated planning volunteer from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and coordinating efforts with the Economic Development Administration (EDA), TDA, and the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to inform communities of the various disaster recovery resources available.

Regional Services is also working with representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau in the rural communities to provide information on the upcoming census. The program has submitted an application to the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health to assist with outreach to undercounted or hard-to-count (HTC) populations in seven targeted counties in the region. Regional Services has provided support to the U.S. Census Bureau by assisting rural communities with the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP). The PSAP enables communities to review and update selected statistical area boundaries for the 2020 Census data tabulation. The U.S. Census Bureau will also use the statistical areas to tabulate data for the annual American Community Survey (ACS) estimates and the Economic Census. AACOG plans to continue providing support for the Census through August 2020.

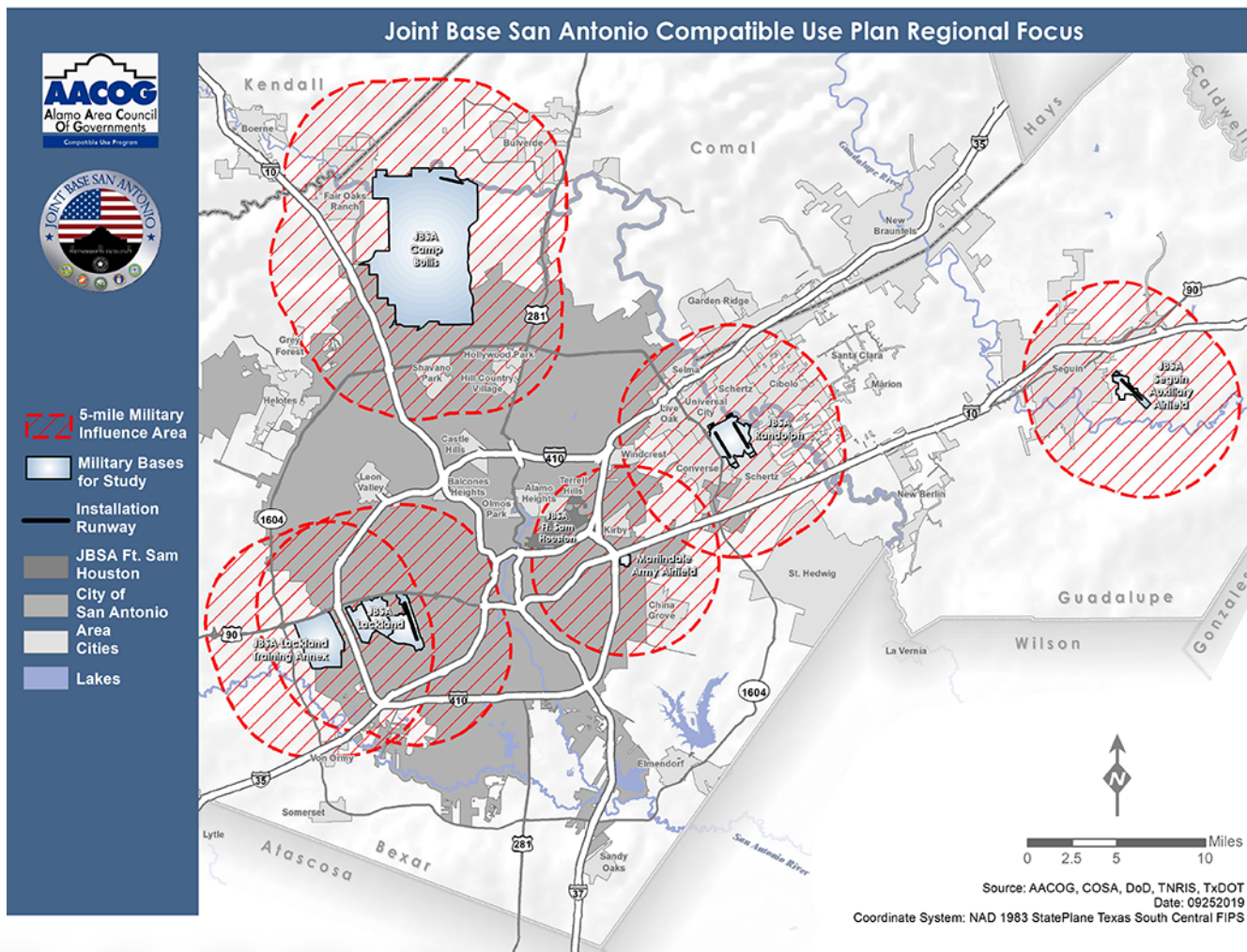
Regional SERVICES

JLUS / CUP

2019 was a transitional year for AACOG, as it closed out its Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) program with publication of the 2019 Joint Land Use Consolidated Actions report. This report culminated a two-year effort to implement over 150 strategies identified by the 2015 JBSA Regional Joint Land Use Study Implementation Strategy. The Consolidated Actions report also served as the capstone document to close the Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) funded grant. Its success is reflective of the introduced 134 local, and 20 regional, recommended implementation strategies.

In August, OEA ended the JLUS Program and created the Compatible Use Program (CUP) – a program designed to address evolving aspects beyond land use. These aspects may include urban density, building heights, light pollution, frequency spectrum interference, and the effects of climate change. OEA awarded AACOG \$1.6 million to complete a Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA) regional CUP. This grant will fund the first ever region-wide land use study of military installations across Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, and Kendall counties. The study will explore regional challenges to sustaining the military mission on its installations in the Alamo area, and will specifically update prior studies for Camp Bullis (2009), JBSA-Lackland (2011), and JBSA-Randolph (2015). The study will also address Martindale Army Airfield for the first time.

The development of a regional compatible use plan entails cooperative partnerships between these military installations, the surrounding communities, local governments, state and federal agencies, and other impacted stakeholders. This partnership enables the region to address compatibility around military installations while accommodating economic development, protecting public health and safety, and protecting the operational missions of JBSA.



Regional SERVICES

Resource Recovery

The Resource Recovery program develops and implements solid waste management plans to reduce the amount of waste entering landfills, and to increase recycling throughout the Alamo region.

One of the program's primary responsibilities is to maintain the closed landfill inventory within the region. This inventory is used by realtors, environmental scientists, developers, planners, and residents seeking information on past uses of land parcels. Resource Recovery staff reviews applications and registrations to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for solid waste facilities within the region. Most notably, the program receives funds from TCEQ to assist local governments expand their waste diversion programs.

Since 1996, AACOG has received funding from TCEQ to administer to local governments for:

- the purchasing of recycling equipment,
- hosting special collections of household hazardous waste, and
- promoting proper recycling and prevention of illegal dumping.

To date, over \$10.3 million has been granted to local governments to develop their solid waste management programs. In 2019, the Resource Recovery program funded the below cities over \$150,000 for recycling efforts:

- San Antonio: \$71,357.15
- City of Kerrville: \$25,000.00
- City of Leon Valley: \$19,948.50
- City of Seguin: \$19,654.72
- City of New Braunfels: \$15,000.00
- San Antonio ISD: \$15,000.00



Weatherization

The AACOG Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provides cost-effective energy efficiency measures and home accessibility modifications for existing residential and multifamily housing with income-eligible residents. Low-income households face a home energy burden of 28%, which is far above the national average.

WAP works with a network of contractors to provide weatherization services to low-income families across the Alamo region. These services are derived by using a diagnostic energy audit and building assessments that determine the necessary energy efficiency measures for each unique home.

This year, WAP expended \$431,000 of its Department of Energy (DOE) funding and \$1.5M of its Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding. This translates to 273 weatherized households who were at, or below, 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

The Amy Young Barrier Removal (AYBR) Program provides one-time grants of up to \$20,000 for individuals in need of modifications to increase accessibility and eliminate hazardous conditions in their home. Program beneficiaries must have a household income that does not exceed 80% of the area median family income. Although a smaller grant, the AYBR funds were able to support 8 households in 2019, for a total program expenditure of \$160,000.

The Alamo Housing 4 Texas Heroes (H4TXH) program provides essential home modification needs, associated with medical-specific conditions, for veterans and their families. The goal is to provide home modifications that veteran families would not normally have access to from other community programs. This year, a total of \$300,000 in bathroom accessibility modifications, new roofs, and updated electrical upgrades were delivered to 16 veteran families.



BEFORE



AFTER

AACOG Membership & Strategic Partnerships

COUNTIES

- Atascosa County
- Bandera County
- Bexar County
- Comal County
- Frio County
- Gillespie County
- Guadalupe County
- Karnes County
- Kendall County
- Kerr County
- McMullen County
- Medina County
- Wilson County

CITIES

- Alamo Heights
- Balcones Heights
- Bandera
- Boerne
- Bulverde
- Castle Hills
- Castroville
- Charlotte
- China Grove
- Cibolo
- Converse
- Devine
- Dilley
- Elmendorf
- Fair Oaks Ranch
- Falls City
- Floresville
- Fredericksburg
- Grey Forest
- Helotes
- Hill Country Village
- Hollywood Park
- Hondo
- Ingram
- Jourdanton
- Karnes City
- Kenedy
- Kerrville

- Kirby
- La Coste
- La Vernia
- Leon Valley
- Live Oak
- Lytle
- Marion
- Natalia
- New Berlin
- New Braunfels
- Olmos Park
- Pearsall
- Pleasanton
- Poteet
- Poth
- Runge
- San Antonio
- Schertz
- Seguin
- Selma
- Shavano Park
- Somerset
- Stockdale
- Terrell Hills
- Universal City
- Von Ormy

PUBLIC UTILITIES

- CPS Energy
- San Antonio Water System

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Fort Sam Houston ISD
- North East ISD
- Northside ISD
- Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD
- Southwest ISD

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- AEM-USA
- Alamo Resource Conservation & Development Area Inc.
- Build San Antonio Green
- E3

- Goodwill Industries
- Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce
- San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
- San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- San Antonio Mobility Coalition
- Solar San Antonio
- University Health System
- University of Phoenix
- West San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
- World Affairs Council

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

- Alamo Colleges
- Bexar County ESD #6
- Brooks
- Edwards Aquifer Authority
- Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
- Kerrville Economic Development Corporation
- San Antonio River Authority
- VIA Metropolitan Transit

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council
- CI: Now
- Eagle Ford Consortium
- Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University
- International City/County Management Association
- Joint Base San Antonio
- Military and Veteran Community Collaborative
- Morgan's Wonderland
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- National Association of Development Organizations
- National Association of Regional Councils
- San Antonio Coalition for Veterans and Families
- San Antonio Food Bank
- South Texas Energy & Economic Roundtable
- Texas Aggregates and Concrete Association
- Texas Association of Regional Councils
- Texas Council of Community Centers
- Texas Municipal League
- University of Texas San Antonio
- Workforce Solutions Alamo


Alamo Area Council of Governments 2019-2020 Annual Budget

Revenues	Program	Administrative Indirect	Local	2020 Budget*	2019 Budget**
Federal	\$21,353,342	-	-	21,353,342	\$19,876,165
State	13,233,255	-	-	13,233,255	11,013,778
Local/Other / Medicaid	9,646,145	-	65,000	9,711,145	8,181,666
Delegate Agency Match	7,154,562	-	-	7,154,562	7,313,264
Program Income / Interest	661,996	-	31,392	693,388	639,100
Member Dues / Match	-	-	355,762	355,762	345,400
	52,049,300	-	452,154	52,501,454	47,369,373
Expenditures					
Alamo Area Agency on Aging	4,734,952	-	-	4,734,952	4,618,805
Alamo Regional Transit	5,805,035	-	-	5,805,035	4,549,715
Bexar Area Agency on Aging	15,110,587	-	-	15,110,587	15,374,864
IDD Services	13,253,971	-	-	13,253,971	12,310,513
Weatherization	2,726,398	-	-	2,726,398	3,284,325
Public Safety	4,281,058	-	-	4,281,058	3,107,710
Natural Resources	1,005,159	-	-	1,005,159	380,008
Regional Services	91,484	-	-	91,484	167,343
Resource Recovery	454,996	-	-	454,996	379,822
Compatible Use Program	1,084,234	-	-	1,084,234	56,496
Local & Match	-	-	383,520	383,520	345,996
Admin Budgets	-	4,001,741	-	4,001,741	3,796,970
Indirect	3,351,241	-	-	3,351,241	2,947,064
Total Expenditures & Indirect	\$51,899,115	4,001,741	383,520	56,284,376	\$51,319,631

* 2020 Budget as presented during the October 2019 BOD meeting.

** This represents the 2019 Modified Budget.

*** The Administrative budget excludes program cost recoveries.



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