



REGION



June 2004

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Serving the Counties of:

Atascosa • Bandera •
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AACOG announces allocation of Homeland Security Grants

Al J. Notzon III, AACOG Executive Director, recently announced the receipt of \$3,930,096.98 from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security.

"Following the tragedy of September 11, mayors and judges in our region made Homeland Security preparation a top priority. They approved the creation of a Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee that has developed a regional strategy for homeland defense and a method for distributing these funds for equipment and training for First Responders".

The \$3.9 million dollars is being allocated to cities and counties that have completed a Domestic Preparedness Assessment, have executed regional mutual aid agreements and that have Basic Emergency Management Plans on file with the Governor's Office of Emergency Management.

Some of the funds will be used by specific cities and counties to house 5 decontamination trailers and 5 communications trailers that can be moved to any part of the 12-county region, if needed to respond to a disaster event. Funding has also been identified for personal protective gear and communications equipment for First Responders.

"Terrorism can happen anywhere. We have taken giant steps in making sure that Firefighters, EMS, and Law Enforcement personnel throughout our region are equipped and trained to protect the citizens of our region in the event of a man-made or weather related disaster event. \$3.9 million is a great deal of money, but it is not enough to meet all the needs in our region. The development of the Regional Mutual Aid Agreements will help us to stretch our resources and to develop the cooperation that is needed among cities and counties to respond to a disaster event." [List of Cities and Counties Receiving Grants](#)



*AACOG Weapons of
Mass Destruction
Training participant*

ALSO FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

- *Latest Housing News*
- *Recipients of Fiscal Year 2004 Solid Waste Pass Through Grants*
- *Area Agencies on Aging Celebrate Older Americans Month*

JUNE EVENT CALENDAR

To view entire calendar of events or for info on events listed, visit: aacog.com/calendar

Medicare Drug Discount Cards Presentation

Thurs., June 3, 2004

Elders Advocacy Network Education Workshop

Mon., June 7

2004 Housing Summit

Mon., June 7-
Thurs., June 10

Medicare A to B Presentations

Tues., June 8 & Tues.,
June 22

Third Annual Hispanic Education Seminar and Conference

Wed., June 9

Victim Impact Statement Training

Wed., June 9

School Safety Training: "When Behavior is a Crime"

Thurs., June 10

Alamo Area Car Clubs Meeting

Thurs., June 10

(more on next page)

Latest Housing News

written by Rose Jackson, Housing Manager

AACOG will be hosting the **2004 Regional Advisory Committee Focus Group** meeting on Tuesday, June 15 starting at 1:30 p.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the AACOG Board Room, 8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100, and will be moderated by Al J. Notzon III, AACOG's Executive Director. The purpose for this meeting, which is open to the public, is to advise the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) on issues affecting affordable housing and community development needs of the AACOG region, and to assist TDHCA in assigning priorities to the affordable housing and community development needs of the region by identifying resources to address those needs, and implementing the low-income housing plan as it applies to the region. If you would like more information, please call Rose Jackson, AACOG's Housing Manager, or Ruben Villa, AACOG's Housing Specialist at 1-800-749-2010 or 210-362-5312 or email rvilla@aacog.com.

The **Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** recently completed the 2003-2004 program year. During April 1, 2003 thru March 31, 2004, the WAP successfully weatherized 315 households in the AACOG region. Eleven counties in the region received weatherization assistance, including free attic and wall insulation, weather-stripping, caulking, and replacement of certain heating and air conditioning systems. Health and safety issues were also addressed in the provision of free smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. For information on the WAP, please call Bertha Garza, AACOG's Intake Specialist at 1-800-749-2010 or email her at bgarza@aacog.com.

The waiting list for eligible tenants for the **Section 8 Voucher Program** is currently closed. However, if you have any questions about the program, contact Anna Kehde, AACOG's Section 8 & Housing Specialist at 1-800-749-2010 or akehde@aacog.com.



The 2004 Housing Summit - The City of San Antonio will be hosting the 2004 Housing Summit **June 7-10** at the San Antonio Convention Center. The theme is "Creating and Maintaining Resources for Healthy Communities." The regional summit will be an educational and networking opportunity featuring a variety of training opportunities, roundtable forums, panel discussions, presentations, and workshops that address affordable housing, economic development, neighborhood revitalization, community building and urban planning in San Antonio, Bexar County and South Texas. For more information about the summit, contact Ivy Taylor at (210) 207-6600 with the City of San Antonio's Department of Housing and Community Development.

San Antonio Housing Authority Foundation Scholarship Program - The San Antonio Housing Authority Foundation (SAHAF) will hold a fundraiser **August 5** at the Omni Hotel. Randy Beamer of KMOL-TV will serve as the Master of Ceremonies. The fundraiser is for the SAHAF's scholarship program, which awards deserving young residents of Public Housing and Section 8 Housing Assistance Program and helps with furthering the educational efforts of graduating high school seniors and current college students. For information, contact Lori Mendez at (210) 220-3344 or 220-3320.

The National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP) of Austin is holding its **Third Annual Hispanic Education Seminar and Conference** on June 9, 2004 at the Omni Austin Hotel in Austin, Texas. Some of the top Dignitaries from National and Local will come together for a special town hall meeting on the topic of "Increasing Latino Homeownership". If you have any further questions, please contact Victor Montalvo at 512-565-5780.

[New! CPS Rebates for central and window air conditioners](#)

JUNE EVENT CALENDAR

(continued)

To view entire calendar of events or for info on events listed, visit: aacog.com/calendar

2004 Regional Advisory Committee Focus Group (TDHCA)

Tues., June 15

Abuse/Neglect Presentations by Alamo Area Agency on Aging

Wed., June 16 & Thurs.,
June 24

Newly Elected Officials Workshop

Fri., June 18

Air Executive/Advisory Committee Meeting

Wed., June 23

Rural Area Judges Meeting

Wed., June 23

June Semiannual Meeting & Awards Reception

Wed., June 23

Investigative Approach to Crimes of Violence Against Women

Wed., June 23-
Fri., June 25

National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) 38th Annual Conference & Exhibition

Fri., June 25-
Tues., June 29

Recipients of Fiscal Year 2004 Solid Waste Pass Through Grants

written by Georgia Zannaras, Resource Recovery Manager



*City of San Antonio's Education
Campaign for encouraging recycling*

In Fiscal Year, the AACOG awarded 16 Solid Waste Pass Through Grants to local governments. The grants are funded by tipping fees, which are collected by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) from landfill facilities in Texas.

The fees collected are used to support TCEQ waste programs and solid waste planning and implementation programs at the council of governments.

Distribution of funds to the Councils of Government is based on a formula involving several factors including population, geographic size, number of local governments, poverty, and waste disposal in the region.

The FY 04 awards totaled \$567,000 and were awarded to the following entities:

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>	<u>Program</u>
City of Selma	\$16,950.00	Source Reduction and Recycling
City of Bandera	\$21,275.00	Citizens' Collection Station
Bandera County	\$22,080.00	Source Reduction and Recycling
City of Kerrville	\$28,000.00	Source Reduction and Recycling
Bexar County	\$45,000.00	Household Hazardous Waste
City of New Braunfels	\$8,000.00	Citizens' Collection Station
City of New Braunfels	\$8,500.00	Source Reduction and Recycling
Comal County	\$36,970.00	Source Reduction and Recycling
SA Botanical Gardens	\$24,000.00	Source Reduction and Recycling
City of Boerne	\$13,000.00	Household Hazardous Waste
COSA	\$117,300.00	Citizens' Collection Station
City of Castroville	\$7,700.00	Household Hazardous Waste
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority	\$15,000.00	Household Hazardous Waste
Comal County	\$6,621.30	Household Hazardous Waste
City of San Antonio	\$128,907.50	Educational and Training
Comal County	\$19,269.33	Local Enforcement
City of Converse	\$48,426.87	Source Reduction and Recycling

ADDITIONAL FEATURES & LINKS:

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site!](#)

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Area Agencies on Aging Celebrate Older Americans Month

written by Tina Richards, Access & Assistance Coordinator, Bexar Area Agency on Aging

In May 2004, the Bexar and Alamo Area Agencies on Aging once again celebrated Older Americans Month with many events honoring seniors in the AACOG Region. The festivities started on Thursday, May 6, 2004, with an Older American's Month Recognition at the Spanish Governor's Palace. Lila Cockrell was honored as 2004 Outstanding Older American of the Year for her many exceptional contributions to the community and to seniors. [More Pictures from Breakfast](#)



*Lila Cockrell honored as Outstanding
Older American of the Year*

After the recognition, everyone went over to City Council Chambers to hear two proclamations be read by Mayor Ed Garza. The first Proclamation was to name the week of May 10-14 Ombudsman Week. This was to honor all Ombudsmen for the work that they do in Bexar County's long-term care facilities. The second Proclamation was naming May as Older American's Month in the City of San Antonio. There were many seniors from area nutrition sites in attendance at City Council Chambers to help celebrate Older American's Month. The third event was held in the County Commissioner's Court to have a Proclamation naming May as Older American's Month in Bexar County.

The last event was a luncheon to recognize the important work that the Volunteer Benefits Counselors and Volunteer Ombudsmen do for the seniors of the AACOG region. The Volunteer Benefit Counselors have provided numerous clients the assistance needed on various benefit, consumer and legal issues. The Volunteer Ombudsmen have dedicated many hours advocating on behalf of the residents in the long term care facilities here in Bexar County. The Volunteer Recognition luncheon was held at Old San Francisco Steak House. Suzie Humphreys was the guest speaker and motivated everyone to continue to rise up and do his or her best in life. The Volunteers were given a Certificate of Appreciation and a small gift to show thanks in all of the work that they do.



*Ombudsman and Executive Director Al
Notzon at Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon*

The Area Agencies on Aging wants to recognize the important role that senior citizens have in contributing to the community. There are many seniors who are an inspiration, showing everyone that just because a person reaches a certain age doesn't mean that he or she will fade into the background quietly. Everyone's voice and actions are important and can make an impact. The Area Agencies on Aging salute all Older Americans in the AACOG Region! [More Pictures from Luncheon](#)

AACOG publishes the AACOG Region newsletter every month. This newsletter was published under the direction and advice of Al J. Notzon, III, Executive Director, Gloria C. Arriaga, Deputy Executive Director, Cindy E. Krueger, Administrative Services Director, and Tiffany L. Pickens, Community Relations Coordinator. Reader submissions are encouraged. Please send any story ideas or finished articles to mail@aacog.com.