



# NEWS

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## **State Housing Agency Awards \$2.9 Million to Valley Community Development Corporations to Build New Homes in Colonias**

(AUSTIN) —The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) today awarded \$2.9 million dollars to the Pharr Housing Community Development Corporation and the Community Development Corporation of Brownsville to build and sell safe, decent, affordable housing in colonias to qualified homebuyers. The funds, awarded by TDHCA through its Single Family Colonia Model Subdivision Program, ensure that very low income families looking to purchase a home in a colonia do not move into substandard housing or fall prey to predatory lenders.

Pharr Housing CDC and CDC of Brownsville, awarded \$1.4 million and \$1.5 million respectively, will use the funds for land acquisition, lot development, construction costs, and down payment assistance for qualified homeowners. Eligible homebuyers must be below 60 percent of the Area Medium Family Income (AMFI) and be able to make the required loan payment. Families at or below 30 percent AMFI will be considered by the Department on a case-by-case basis

“These funds will definitely improve the lives of many hard-working families and individuals who otherwise could never afford to achieve the American Dream,” said Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. “The work of TDHCA, the Pharr and Brownsville Housing CDCs, and our local communities is commendable. It is through these efforts that we improve the standard of living for our residents and offer a brighter outlook to our younger generations.”

TDHCA will provide a combination of repayable 0 percent interest and deferred forgivable loans based on the buyer’s income and ability to pay for the acquisition of single family lots, and construction costs of affordable single family residences to be sold to income-qualified homebuyers. The subject properties must be located in a colonia that has been served by the Texas Community Development Program (colonia set-aside) or an equivalent program that has been utilized to bring water service, sewer (septic may be utilized), paved streets, storm drainage and other improvements necessary and suitable for the development of quality single family housing.

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**About The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs**

*The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is Texas' lead agency responsible for affordable housing, community and energy assistance programs, and colonia activities. The Department annually administers funds in excess of \$400 million, the majority of which is derived from mortgage revenue bond financing and refinancing, federal grants, and federal tax credits.*