



NEWS

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State housing agency grants emergency disaster recovery funds to city of D'Hanis

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs awards \$15,000 to Community Council of South Central Texas to assist flood victims

(AUSTIN) — The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) today announced that it is awarding \$15,000 in special emergency disaster relief funds to the Community Council of South Central Texas (CCSCT), a nonprofit community action agency. The funds will go toward helping residents of D'Hanis recover from devastating flooding in July which displaced an estimated 300 residents.

CCSCT will use the grant, funded through TDHCA's Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Program, to provide D'Hanis residents with household appliances, mattresses, minor home repairs, and food.

"Many people in Medina County have suffered tremendously from these floods, and none more than those living in D'Hanis," said Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director. "As is so often the case with natural disasters, low income households were among those hit the hardest. The Community Council of South Central Texas will be able to use these funds to bring needed aid to some of the city's most vulnerable residents."

An estimated 17 inches of rain in a 12-hour period inundated D'Hanis on July 21, creating extreme flooding conditions and causing widespread damage. Three hundred residents required evacuation and a shelter set up at the local high school.

The disaster prompted CCSCT requested assistance from TDHCA for any available disaster relief funds. TDHCA's Community Services Section was able to meet this request from its reserve of CSBG Special Innovative and Demonstration Project funds.

CCSCT is a CSBG eligible entity organization under the Department's CSBG Community Action network serving Duval, Jim Hogg, McMullen, San Patricio, Starr, and Zapata counties.

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CCSCT also administers funding through one of two TDHCA energy assistance programs, providing utility payment assistance and consumer case management assistance to low income residents. In addition, the agency provides a wide range of services to area low income residents under other funding programs for health, housing, transportation, youth, and senior citizens.

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.