



TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

"Helping Veterans Starts Here"

News Release

For Immediate Release: September 3, 2021

Over \$1 million in grants presented to 6 East Texas veteran service organizations on September 8

AUSTIN, TX – On September 8, 2021 at 1 p.m.; the Texas Veterans Commission's (TVC) Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA) will present over \$1 million in grants to 6 organizations in East Texas for providing services to approximately 5,400 veterans. The presentation will take place at Habitat for Humanity of Smith County ReStore, 822 W. Front St., Tyler, Texas.

Media Coverage: The event will be held in a conference room located in office space behind ReStore. Media outlets are invited to the presentation. Visuals include oversized checks presented to each grant recipient. Interview opportunities include grant recipients and TVC representatives.

The grant recipients and their services include:

General Assistance Grants

Ark-Tex Council of Governments - one grant for \$5,000 to fund transportation services for veterans in Lamar County.

Community Services of Northeast Texas, Inc. – one grant for \$300,000 to fund financial assistance for veterans, dependents, and surviving spouses in 15 counties across East Texas.

East Texas Council of Governments – one grant for \$150,000 to fund transportation services and programs for veterans in 14 counties.

Housing for Texas Heroes grants

Habitat for Humanity of Smith County— one grant for \$150,000 to fund home modifications for veterans and surviving spouses in seven counties.

Northeast Texas Habitat for Humanity – one grant for a total of \$200,000 to fund home modifications for veterans in three counties across East Texas.

Organizations awarded multiple grant types

Community Healthcore (Sabine Valley Regional MHMR Center) – two grants for a total of \$200,000:

- \$150,000 General Assistance grant funding support services for veterans, dependents, and surviving spouses in 12 counties across East Texas.
- \$50,000 Mental Health grant funding Peer support services for veterans, dependents, and surviving spouses in 12 counties across East Texas.

The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Commissioners approved these grant awards in May as part of an overall grant program providing 147 grants to organizations across Texas. Grants totaling \$33.4 million for 2021-2022 will serve an estimated 30,000 veterans.

Since 2009 through the 2020-2021 grant cycle, \$168 million in grant funding has been awarded through 820 FVA grants and served more than 350,000 Texas veterans and their families.

The grants support a wide range of services from emergency financial assistance to transportation, legal services to family support services and home modification to rental and mortgage assistance. The TVC awards grants in five categories: General Assistance, Housing for Texas Heroes, Veterans Mental Health Grants, Veterans Treatment Courts and Veteran County Service Officers.

Veterans in need of assistance can find the organizations providing help in their area and how to contact them at

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/36d3d718/gPJiQ6CHMEKtjStC5jEetw?u=https://www.tvc.texas.gov/grants/assistance/>

Funding for these grants is generated primarily by the Texas Lottery Commission's games designated for veteran support. Other sources of funding for the grants come from individual donation options on drivers' licenses, licenses to carry a handgun, outdoor recreation licenses for hunting and fishing, and vehicle registrations.

Helping veterans starts here. The Texas Veterans Commission advocates for and provides superior service to veterans that will significantly improve the quality of life for all Texas veterans, their families and survivors. The TVC assists veterans with receiving their benefits, provides funding to agencies which provide direct services to veterans and provides administration of the Hazlewood Act education benefits. Learn more at <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/87dd5b84/-oir3BvxhEaqTr5gprUCTg?u=http://www.tvc.texas.gov/>.

###

Media Contact:

Jim Halbrook
Public Affairs Officer
Texas Veterans Commission
Mobile: 512-568-0658
jim.halbrook@tvc.texas.gov