



PRESS RELEASE

Funding Allocation Announcement for Social Services Block Grant

\$2.5 M Released to 17 Agencies for Hurricane Ike Disaster Relief

Kilgore, TX, October 27, 2009: ETCOG announces funding allocation for seventeen agencies with projects in support of the goals and objectives of the Health and Human Services Commission under the Social Services Block Grant for Emergency Disaster Relief Funds for Hurricane Ike. The purpose of the SSBG Supplemental Funding is to provide a wide array of human services, including the provision of health care and of rebuilding needs to counties designated by the Governor's Office as Declared Disaster Areas. East Texas counties include: Anderson, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Rusk, Smith and Upshur Counties. All funding is provided by federal funds through the Health & Human Services Commission and must be expended by August 31, 2010. The following agencies and projects were approved by the ETCOG Executive Committee on October 8, 2009:

Local Agency / Governmental Entity	Description of Fund Usage	Total Allocated
City of Gladewater	Recreational Improvements to the new Weldon Bumblebee Park	\$294,750
Housing East Texas	Serving approximately 100 members of the Home Repair waiting list	\$500,000
Azleway, Inc.	Construct tennis courts at youth facility	\$45,000
Meals on Wheels of Palestine, Inc.	Purchase of four vehicles for home delivered meal program	\$88,000
East Texas Food Bank (Tyler)	Purchase of refrigerated truck to expand the Food Bank program	\$108,316.30
East Texas Council of Governments	Support for DETCOG Disaster Relief Case Management	\$125,000
Boys and Girls Club of Gregg County - Longview Unit	Rehabilitation of recreational facilities	\$60,000
Boys and Girls Club of Gregg County - Kilgore Unit	Construction of recreational facilities	\$60,000
City of Jefferson	Recreational and safety improvements to Lions Club park	\$101,200
North Tyler Day Nursery	Purchase of 15 passenger van to support educational program	\$34,788.48
City of Jacksonville	Repair and improvements to senior center	\$75,000
Area Agency on Aging of East Texas	Serve clients on waiting list for Senior Dental program	\$125,000
Regional Advisory Council Trauma Service Area G (RAC G)	Reimbursement of expenses incurred for special needs sheltering of Hurricane Ike victims	\$104,688
City of Rusk	Citywide debris and blight removal	\$161,809.18
Habitat for Humanity of Smith Co.	Implement ReHabitat of Smith County home repair program	\$200,000
Longview Independent School District	Support for LISD back pack meal program	\$161,809.18
Northeast Texas Public Health District	Improvements to facility	\$300,000
Total		\$2,545,361.14

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About ETCOG

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.

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