

Region

alamo area council of governments

three americas building san antonio, texas 78205 phone (512) 225-5201

Vol. 7, No. 8

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Early Alert Offers Assistance To Elderly

A common fear among the elderly, especially those living alone, that they may become ill or incapacitated and unable to call for help will be lessened somewhat with the start of a new program for San Antonio called Early Alert.

Early Alert is help for elderly and homebound persons in an emergency as near as their mailbox. The ground work for the program has started with voluntary registration into the program available at two nutrition sites, Holy Family Catholic Church and Ella Austin Community Center.

After registration into the program, the person places a small, red sticker inside the mailbox. Even though many letter carriers have had the same route for many years and are familiar with long-time residents, the carrier has no idea who to call in case of an emergency. When mail accumulates for "two days or so" in a mailbox targeted with the Early Alert sticker, the carrier's supervisor calls the Alert Number (299-3871) located at the City's Supportive Services Office. If the person will be out-of-town or away from the house for an extended period of time, the central office is notified so that "false alarms" will not occur.

The Bexar Area Agency on Aging - AACOG is coordinating the program with a network of agencies and groups - the local chapter of the National Letter Carrier's Union, the U.S. Postal Service, the City of San Antonio Department of Human Resources and the State Department of Human Resources. Many community groups were instrumental in laying the groundwork for all the elements to come together.

Besides an accumulation of mail, the carrier may report instances of a broken window, an open door or other signs of trouble. When the central office receives a call, they refer to the registration card and telephone the person's house to find out if help is needed. If there is no answer, the contact person on the registration card is notified to investigate and summon help if necessary.

If the program is as successful in San Antonio as it is in other areas of the country -- New York, Ohio, Missouri, Maine -- all the nutrition sites and senior centers will be able to register those interested in joining the program.

The program goals are to assist older persons in an emergency, locate the isolated elderly and provide reassurance in an emergency situation. For more information, contact Ricardo Guzman, AACOG offices at 225-5201.

AACOG member governments are encouraged to attend the informal workshop sessions on the 1981 program design and budget to be held in late October. Tentatively, the sites will be in Bexar, Kendall and Wilson Counties. Notification will be sent to all member governments when times and places are finalized.

SUMMARY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

During the month of September, the Executive Committee reviewed 16 applications involving local, state and federal monies. The Committee also nominated Stevan Gallegos, city administrator of Castroville, as a board member for the Camino Real Health Systems Agency.

In a report from Burney Boeck, chairman of the Criminal Justice Planning Advisory Committee, the Executive Committee favorably reviewed four second-year continuation grants to the State Criminal Justice Division. Included in the applications were three from Comal County for a court administrator at \$5,643; a computerized jury selection process at \$4,796 and an assistant juvenile probation officer at \$10,800. A proposal for "purchase of youth services" for Medina County at \$6,452 was also favorably reviewed. The Executive Committee endorsed a resolution presented by the advisory committee in support of proposed legislation to institutionalize by statute continued aid for local criminal justice agencies utilizing the State Criminal Justice Planning Fund. The state fund was established to provide match for Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grants to Texas, and with the demise of LEAA scheduled for September, 1981, the State wants to continue utilizing the fund. In addition, the legislation sets out fees for court costs for each type of offense; thereby establishing a user's fees system. The criminal who necessitates the criminal justice system will be the one who pays for it, no additional taxes or taking away from the general revenue.

Liz Davies, vice-chairperson of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, presented recommendations for five applications. The Committee endorsed the favorable recommendations for the following proposals, the Bexar County Hospital District's family planning project for \$333,370 and \$259,650 from the state; the University of Texas Health Science Center of San Antonio's Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) project for \$25,066; the Texas Department of Health's health-related assistance to Indochinese refugees resettled in Texas project for \$1,181,784; and the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's childhood immunization maintenance project for \$290,682. All the applications were directed to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Regional Development and Review Committee Chairman Lewis Tarver presented six applications in his report. The environmental assessment for low altitude routes of Kelly AFB submitted by the San Antonio Real Property Maintenance Agency was declared adequate. Two applications were given favorable review with comment, the Metropolitan Planning Organization's downtown transportation center(s)/improvements proposal to the Urban Mass Transit Administration for \$80,000 was requested to work with the Crime Prevention through Design unit of the San Antonio Police Department. The other was from Eden Heights, Inc.'s request for a maxi-van from the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation totaling \$12,913, and the Executive Committee requested the sign indicating the vehicle was tax-supported be painted on the back. The Executive Committee endorsed all the RD&RC's recommendations.

The Alamo Area Council of Governments is a voluntary association of local governmental units joined together in a cooperative effort to meet the challenge of today's problems.

The AACOG Region is published monthly by the Alamo Area Council of Governments, Three Americas Building, San Antonio, Texas 78205. Copies are available without charge to members and other interested persons.

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LEON TSCHIRHART, Council Chairman
Medina County Commissioner

ALBERT BUSTAMANTE, Council Vice Chairman
Bexar County Judge

AL J. NOTZON III
Executive Director

JANIE SANTOS
Editor

Application Review Agenda

October 1980

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

Committee meets: Tuesday, October 21, 9 a.m., Three Americas Building
Comments to: Mel A. Goodwin by Monday, October 20

- 80-09-18-003 APPLICANT: Frio County
"Economic Development Planning Study." Application to the Farmers Home Administration for an Area Development Assistance Planning grant. Total Cost: \$27,550.
Funding Agency: FmHA - \$20,663. Local: \$6,887.
- 80-09-18-002 APPLICANT: Sunko Water Supply Corporation
Stockdale, Texas
"System Improvements." To improve an existing water system and to provide service for an additional 93 members, including a new deep well. (Community Facilities Loan) Total Cost: \$391,668. Funding Agency: FmHA - \$390,000. Applicant: \$1,668.
- 80-09-18-004 APPLICANT: Yancey Water Supply Corporation
Yancey, Texas
"1980 Improvements." To extend and improve an existing system near the communities of Quihi and Rio Medina. (Community Facilities Loan) Total Cost: \$1,676,687.
Funding Agency: FmHA - \$1,670,000. Applicant: \$6,687.

HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISORY

Committee meets: Thursday, October 16, 2:30 p.m., Three Americas Building
Comments to: James M. Brandes by Wednesday, October 15

- 80-10-18-701 APPLICANT: Medina County Health System
"Rural Health Initiative Project." To construct a health facility in Castroville to increase the availability of primary health care to all residents of Medina County. Total Cost: \$50,000 (approximately). Funding Agency: FmHA - \$50,000 (loan).
- 80-10-18-702 APPLICANT: United Cerebral Palsy Association
"Transitional Day Activities Program." To provide meaningful social, recreational and educational activities for severely physically handicapped adults with the condition of cerebral palsy and related disorders in San Antonio and Bexar County. Total Cost: \$86,556. Funding Agency: (foundation monies) - \$54,060. Local: \$32,496.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING ADVISORY

Committee meets: Wednesday, October 15, 1:30 p.m., Three Americas Building
Comments to: Carlie E. Evans by Tuesday, October 14

- 0-09-18-307 APPLICANT: Bexar County
"Purchase of Youth Services." Provide for purchase of needed long-term and emergency shelter for juveniles in an effort to reduce incarceration level and to provide contract funds for operation of the City of San Antonio's youth services program, toxicant inhalant project. Total Cost: \$190,379. Funding Agency: CJD.
- 0-09-18-308 APPLICANT: Bexar County
"Juvenile Resource Coordinator." To increase the coordination between schools in Bexar County; the community services available; and the Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department in an effort to reduce the number of formal referrals for status offenders; reduce the number of juvenile arrests; runaways; and other lesser offenses. Total Cost: \$84,924. Funding Agency: CJD - \$67,975. Local: \$16,949.
- 0-09-18-309 APPLICANT: Guadalupe County
"Purchase of Youth Services." To enable the Juvenile Probation Department to purchase needed services for youth such as medical examinations, counseling and shelter. Total Cost: \$3,650. Funding Agency: CJD.
- 0-09-18-310 APPLICANT: City of Hondo
"Juvenile Diversion Unit." This project will provide more effective investigation of juvenile crime, provide follow-up on simple delinquency and divert those juveniles in need of further services before becoming involved with the formal criminal justice system. It will also provide a cohesive working relationship with social agencies for maximum coordination. Total Cost: \$16,200. Funding Agency: CJD - \$9,667. Local: \$6,533.
- 0-09-18-311 APPLICANT: Kerr County
"Jail Improvement Project." To implement a sound medical program for inmates, providing humane treatment in accordance with correctional standards now in effect. The project involves the medical community of the locale in the provision of this service. Total Cost: \$5,250. Funding Agency: CJD - \$4,200. Local: \$1,050.
- 0-09-18-312 APPLICANT: Alamo Area Council of Governments
"Alamo Area Law Enforcement Training." This project will continue to provide area agencies with the required state minimum basic training which is now 320 hours, plus in-service specialized schools. Total Cost: \$28,616. Funding Agency: CJD.

NOTE: Operational dates for most of the above projects are January 1 - December 31, 1981. Funding has been budgeted ONLY through September 30, 1981, when Law Enforcement Assistance Administration funding is scheduled to terminate. The amounts shown are prorated amounts through September 30, 1981.

REGIONAL ALCOHOLISM ADVISORY

Committee meets: Tuesday, October 14, 1:30 p.m., Three Americas Building
 Comments to: Martha B. Reyes by Monday, October 13

- 80-10-18-401 APPLICANT: Mexican American Unity Council
 "Casa Del Sol Alcoholism Halfway House." To provide inpatient alcoholism treatment and rehabilitation services in a manner consistent with the Mexican American client and the family. Total Cost: \$144,766. Funding Agency: NIAAA.
- 80-10-18-402 APPLICANT: Bexar County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center
 "Alcohol Treatment Program." To provide diagnostic and treatment services aimed especially toward the functional alcoholic and his/her family. Total Cost: \$1,269,717.
Funding Agency: NIAAA - \$390,328. SGIA: \$477,560. Local: \$431,829.

HOUSING ADVISORY

Committee meets: Monday, October 13, 1:30 p.m., Three Americas Building
 Comments to: Claude Guerra by Friday, October 10

- 80-08-18-103 APPLICANT: DeZavala Development Co.
 "DeZavala Trails." Application to the Veterans Administration for subdivision feasibility analysis. 173 lots, 65' x 120'. Located northwest San Antonio, ½ mile west of IH-10 on the north of DeZavala Road. No federal funds involved at this time.
- 80-08-18-104 APPLICANT: Coy J. Simmons, Inc., Realtor
 "Oak Forest, Units 1, 2, 3 and 4, Schertz, Texas." Application to the Veterans Administration for subdivision feasibility analysis. 75 lots, 1/3 to ½ acre each. Homes in the \$90,000 to \$130,000 price range. No federal funds involved at this time.
- 80-09-18-101 APPLICANT: Data Point Properties
 "Pointe North Townhomes/Condominiums." Application to the Veterans Administration for subdivision feasibility analysis. 3.373 acres located at 8611 Datapoint Drive. 74 homes in the \$41,950 to \$64,680 price range. No federal funds involved at this time.
- 80-09-18-102 APPLICANT: Echo Creek Development Co.
 "Echo Creek Townhouse Planned Unit Development (PUD), Unit 1." Application to the Veterans Administration for subdivision feasibility analysis. 15.64 acres located 8300 block of Eckhert Road. Start 40 homes in the \$60,000 to \$72,000 price range. No federal funds involved at this time.
- 80-09-18-103 APPLICANT: San Antonio Housing Authority
 "Victoria Courts Density Reduction Project." Approximately 104 units will be affected. No funding information available at this time.

ALAMO SENIOR ADVISORY

Committee meets: Friday, October 10, 2 p.m., Three Americas Building
 Comments to: Frank Adamo by Thursday, October 9

ALAMO SENIOR ADVISORY - CONTINUED

The following applications are for continuation grants funded by the Governor's Committee on Aging for social services to individuals aged 60+. Services include transportation, shopping assistance, information and referral, escort, home care, legal and outreach. Costs are to be determined.

80-10-18-550 APPLICANT: Medina County
"Social Services to the Elderly Residents of Medina County."

80-10-18-551 APPLICANT: Community Council of South Central Texas
"Social Services to Elderly Residents of Atascosa, Comal, Frio, Guadalupe, Karnes and Wilson Counties."

80-10-18-552 APPLICANT: Volunteer Services Council of the Kerrville State Hospital
"Social Services to Elderly Residents of Bandera, Gillespie, Kendall and Kerr Counties."

The following applications are for continuation grants funded by the Governor's Committee on Aging for nutrition services to individuals aged 60+ on a five-day per week, 260 days per year basis. Costs are to be determined.

80-10-18-553 APPLICANT: Medina County
"Nutritional Services to Elderly Residents of Medina County."

80-10-18-554 APPLICANT: Community Council of South Central Texas
"Nutritional Services to Atascosa, Comal, Frio, Guadalupe, Karnes and Wilson Counties."

80-10-18-555 APPLICANT: Volunteer Services Council of the Kerrville State Hospital
"Nutritional Services to Elderly Residents of Bandera and Kerr Counties (continuation) and Gillespie County (new)."



The Texas Department of Community Affairs' Children and Youth Services division will receive and review proposals to provide community services to children and their families during three cycles of fiscal year 1981. Final dates for submitting proposals in these cycles will be October 24, 1980, and January 23 and March 20, 1981 or postmarked October 22, January 21 and March 18.

Projects in a wide range of program areas will be considered. Preference will be given to direct services for children and families in small communities, but all innovative programs that meet documented needs will be given full consideration. Proposals may range in length from four to nine months. Approximately \$130,000 is available for funding in all cycles.

For proposal preparation information, contact the AACOG Human Resources division at 225-5201 or direct questions to TDCA, Children and Youth Services division at (512) 475-5833 or toll-free (800) 252-9642.

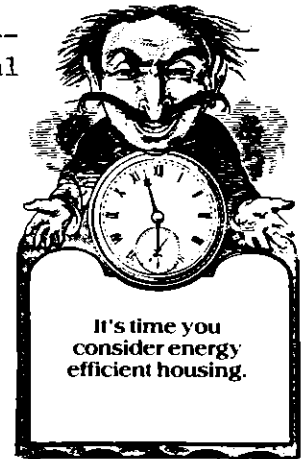
The address is: John A. Geistweidt, Director
Children and Youth Services Division
Texas Department of Community Affairs
P.O. Box 13166, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711

The Energy Corner

A little-noticed change in Texas law allows political subdivisions -- especially cities, counties and school districts -- to obtain capital goods and equipment on an "installment" basis.

Most "repossessable" and non-consumable items, except for land and permanent buildings, may be acquired by local governments by tax-exempt leasing. Essentially, the desired equipment is purchased by private investors who then lease it to a local government. The local government makes monthly "lease" payments on the purchase price, which includes a low interest cost. When the indebtedness is paid, the local government receives free and clear title to the equipment.

Public agencies benefit by having immediate use of the item(s) being leased, and by not being required to commit the full purchase price in one lump sum. The advantage to private investors is that interest income is tax-free. During the course of visits to AACOG member governments in August, the AACOG staff was often told the full cost of energy-efficient equipment (water pumps or economy cars, for example) was beyond the means of small local governments. Lease-purchase offers a method of obtaining energy-efficient devices and other equipment without seriously straining local budgets. For further information, contact David Frost at AACOG, 225-5201.



Substance Abuse Prevention Institute Set

The seventh annual Alamo Area Regional Institute for substance abuse prevention will be held on November 5 and 6 at the Continuing Education Center Building at St. Mary's University. The Institute, entitled, "BACK TO BASICS: Building Bonds Between Helpers and Families," will feature Vernon Johnson, D.D. as keynote speaker.

Dr. Johnson is the founder and president emeritus of the Johnson Institute, and is a member of the faculties of Rutgers University Summer School for Alcohol Studies, the International School of Alcohol Studies at the University of North Dakota and the Southeastern School of Alcohol Studies at the University of Georgia.

On November 5, Dr. Johnson will keynote the Institute with "Alcoholism Is A Family Disease" and in the afternoon, he will conduct a three-hour workshop on the dynamics of intervention. On November 6, other expert professionals will offer concurrent workshops on a wide range of topics.

For more information, contact Martha Reyes, substance abuse coordinator at AACOG, 225-5201. The pre-registration fee is \$20 by October 24 and \$5.00 for students. Registration at the door is \$22 and \$5.50 for students. Sponsors of the Alamo Area Regional Institute are Contemporary Health, Inc./La Hacienda, Park North Hospital/Villa de Tejas, St. Mary's University Division of Continuing Studies, Schick Shadel Information and Referral division, Shoal Creek Hospital/Renaissance Program, Starlite Village Hospital, the Texas Commission on Alcoholism and the Texas Department of Community Affairs/Drug Abuse Prevention Division.

Solid Waste Planning Course Scheduled

The Public Works Division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service will conduct a two-day course on regional solid waste planning in San Antonio on November 5 and 6. Procedures necessary to evaluate the feasibility of a Regional Solid Waste Management System and techniques that address the problems unique to regional solid waste planning will be discussed. The fee is \$50, and additional information may be obtained by contacting Dean Brokaw in the San Antonio office of the TEES at 227-8217.

Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be held in Room 532, Three Americas Building, 118 Broadway. AACOG meetings are accessible to the handicapped person. To arrange for special assistance, call 225-5201 at least 24 hours prior to meeting.

- Tuesday, October 7
 - RDAAC Planning Subcommittee, 2:30 p.m., Room 230
 - Regional Drug Abuse Advisory, 3:30 p.m., Room 230
 - Community Improvement Project Task Force for Poteet, 7:30 p.m., Civic Center, Poteet

- Friday, October 10
 - Bexar Senior Advisory, 10 a.m.
 - Alamo Senior Advisory, 2 p.m.

- Monday, October 13
 - Wilson County Development, 12 noon, Wright's Cafe, Floresville
 - Housing Advisory, 1:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, October 14
 - RAAC Plan Development Subcommittee, 12:30 p.m.
 - Regional Alcoholism Advisory, 1:30 p.m.
 - Task Force on Women and Alcohol/Drugs, 5:30 p.m., call for location

- Wednesday, October 15
 - Criminal Justice Planning Advisory, 1:30 p.m.

- Thursday, October 16
 - Human Resources Advisory, 2:30 p.m.

- Friday, October 17
 - Education Subcommittee, 9:30 a.m., Room 441

- Tuesday, October 21
 - Regional Development & Review, 9 a.m.
 - Community Improvement Project Task Force for Jourdanton, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, Jourdanton

- Wednesday, October 22
 - Area Judges of the Alamo Consortium, 12 noon
 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1:30 p.m.

- Thursday, October 23
 - Economic Development Resource Conference, 9 a.m.



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