

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation Awards Grant to Easter Seals of Central Texas



Pictured l to r: State Representative Elliott Naishtat; Jeran Akers, TSAHC Board Member; and Kevin Coleman, President and CEO of Easter Seals

(Austin)—Easter Seals Central Texas accepted a \$50,000 grant from the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation today. Accepting the check on behalf of Easter Seals was Kevin Coleman, President and CEO. The grant award was presented by Mr. Jeran Akers, Board Member of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation and Texas State Representative Elliott Naishtat.

“Easter Seals Central Texas provides critical home rehabilitations to low income homeowners who have a family member with a disability,” said Jeran Akers, Board Member of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation. “The work they do is important to the community they serve and we are excited to partner with them once again.”

“There are many challenges that very low-income individuals with a disability face on a daily basis, but moving around in their own home shouldn’t be one of them,” said State Representative Elliott Naishtat. “This grant will allow Easter

Seals of Central Texas to make the homes of people with disabilities much more livable and accessible.”

“This funding will help us assist families that have a family member with a disability and need critical home rehabilitation,” said Kevin Coleman, Easter Seals Central Texas President and CEO. “We are thrilled to be awarded this grant and look forward to continuing our partnership with the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation.”

The grant is a part of the Texas Foundations Fund Program of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation. Easter Seals of Central Texas will utilize their grant for accessibility modifications through the *Critical Home Accessibility Modifications Program (CHAMP)*. CHAMP is designed so that low-income homeowners who have a family member with a disability can secure critical home rehabilitation assistance. Homes that lack ramps, accessible bathrooms and accessible kitchens pose a serious life-threatening situation in the everyday lives of individuals with disabilities. Eligible low-income homeowners must reside within the county limits of Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, Williamson, Tarrant, Johnson, Parker, Dallas, Ft. Bend, Harris or Montgomery Counties. Easter Seals Central Texas, Inc. estimates that it will be able to serve two households at \$15,000 and three households at \$5,000 - \$10,000 with this grant.

Easter Seals of Central Texas received one of five grants awarded this year across Texas by the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation as part of the Texas Foundations Fund Program. Eligible grant applicants were nonprofit organizations and rural government entities. Specifically, grants were awarded for the construction, rehabilitation and/or critical repair of owner-occupied single family homes and for the provision of supportive services in multifamily housing. Income levels of families served through this grant must be at 50% of the Area Medium Income or less.

Pictured from left to right: State Representative Elliot Naishtat, Jeran Akers, Board Member of Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation and Kevin Coleman, Easter Seals President and CEO.

About Easter Seals Central Texas

Since 1937, Easter Seals Central Texas (ESCT), a non-profit organization, has provided vital support services for children and adults with disabilities. ESCT works daily to ensure that all people enjoy equal access, opportunities and independence. Easter Seals Central Texas provides a multitude of services in the community that fall into four program areas: Early Childhood Intervention (ECI), Community and Housing Services, Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation and Workforce Development. ESCT serves over 5,000 individuals annually in 21 Central Texas counties. For more information about Easter Seals Central Texas and its services, please visit www.centraltx.easterseals.com.