

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Grant to Help Nonprofit Provide Much Needed Repair of Homes



Pictured l to r: Jerry Romero, Board Member of El Paso Collaborative; Delia Chavez, Executive Director of El Paso Collaborative; State Senator Jose Rodriguez; David Long, TSAHC President; Russ Vandenberg, TSAHC Advisory Council Member

(El Paso County)—El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development (El Paso Collaborative) accepted a \$50,000 grant from the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC) today in San Elizario, Texas. Accepting the check on behalf of El Paso Collaborative was Delia Chavez, Executive Director and Jerry Romero, Board Member. The grant award was presented by Texas State Senator José Rodríguez, Mr. Russ Vandenberg, TSAHC Advisory Council Member and David Long, TSAHC President.

“Unfortunately, there are far too many families in El Paso County who are living in poverty and substandard conditions,” said State Senator José Rodríguez. “The services that El Paso Collaborative provides, such as home rehabilitation, are vital for these families. This grant from the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation will allow the El Paso Collaborative to increase the number of underserved families that have safe, decent and affordable housing.”

The grant is a part of the Texas Foundations Fund Program of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation. El Paso Collaborative will be using the grant funds to perform critical repairs on two owner-occupied homes in rural El Paso County with severely substandard conditions and numerous code violations. Both households also have a member that has a disability.

“El Paso Collaborative is an excellent nonprofit that is changing the lives of extremely low income homeowners by drastically improving their living conditions,” said Russ Vandenberg, Advisory Council Member of the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation. “The work El Paso Collaborative does is important to this community and we are excited to partner with them through this grant.”

“We assist very low income families who frankly can’t afford to fix their homes and have no choice but to live in substandard and dangerous conditions,” said Delia Chavez, Executive Director of El Paso Collaborative. “Our home rehabilitation program is a huge benefit for these families and this grant from the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation will allow us to serve even more needy families.”

El Paso Collaborative received one of six 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.

About El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development

The mission of the El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development is to facilitate affordable housing, small business and economic development in El Paso and contiguous counties. The Collaborative implements its mission by providing loan products and development services. Please visit www.ep-collab.org/.