



PRODUCTIVITY & PERFORMANCE

**ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS
FISCAL YEAR 2016**

PLANNED PROGRAM ACTIVITIES PERFORMANCE/GOALS & OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES
AREA AGENCY ON AGING	
<p>A minimum of 5,000 unduplicated elderly persons and/or their family caregivers will be served directly by appropriate resources, including information and referral services, caregiver supports services, service coordination, benefits counseling, legal awareness, meals and transportation, evidence based programming.</p>	<p>NOT MET - 4,251 unduplicated seniors and/or their family caregivers were provided with direct services and appropriate services, including caregiver supports, service coordination, home services, Medicare benefits counseling, legal awareness, health and wellness evidence based programs, transportation services, congregate and home delivered meals.</p>
<p>A minimum of 576 persons will receive direct short term services such as emergency response equipment, homemaker or chore services, personal assistance, transportation, small residential repairs, temporary financial assistance, and respite.</p>	<p>MET - 607 seniors and or their family caregiver received direct short term services such as emergency response equipment, homemaker or chore services, personal assistance, transportation, small residential repairs, temporary financial assistance, and respite.</p>
<p>Availability of evidence based programs will be increased throughout the 19 county service region. Programs will include Matter of Balance, Dakim BrainFitness, Chronic Disease and Diabetes Management, Masters of Memory, and Laughter Yoga.</p>	<p>MET - Evidence based programs were held throughout the region and included Matter of Balance, Dakim Brain Fitness, Chronic Disease Self-Management, and Diabetes Self-Management. An informal pilot project utilizing ZAAZ Whole Body Vibration machines was established in late summer of 2016.</p>
<p>A minimum of 90,087 Congregate Meals for 1,383 seniors, 62,921 Home Delivered Meals for 750 seniors, and 12,000 one-way rides for 150 seniors will be provided throughout the 19 county region.</p>	<p>3 of the 4 measures were MET - 132,843 Congregate Meals for 1,780 seniors, 101,478 Home Delivered Meals for 910 seniors, and 12,333 one-way rides for 104 seniors were provided in the 19 county region.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 of the 4 measures were MET</p>
<p>A minimum of 10 family caregiver support group events and 4 Caregiver Symposiums will take place in FY16.</p>	<p>MET-12 family caregiver support groups were held monthly and 5 Caregiver training symposiums were held.</p>
<p>The ombudsman program staff will provide assistance to seniors in nursing homes or assisted living facilities and resolve any complaints at a rate of 90%.</p>	<p>MET -Ombudsman staff and volunteers made 518 visits to 45 nursing facilities and resolved 98% of complaints received from residents at both nursing and assisted living facilities.</p>
<p>Staff to outreach throughout the region at a minimum of 40 Medicare Part D benefits counseling enrollment events covering Medicare, Part D, Medigap/Supplement plans, QMB, SLMB, QI, and/or Extra Help programs for senior citizens and persons with disabilities; and assist a minimum of 2,000 consumers with information, plan enrollment and individual client contacts as appropriate and requested throughout the year.</p>	<p>MET - Staff held 56 outreach events and assisted 1,286 seniors throughout the 19 county region with Medicare and Medicaid applications, assistance with enrollment in various plans, questions, and advocacy.</p> <p>Outreach efforts included information provided through handouts, flyers, letters, and billboards and was received by 766,828 potential consumers.</p>

Assisted living and nursing home facilities will be visited quarterly by an active certified ombudsman volunteer and/or staff.	MET - Ombudsman staff and volunteers visited all facilities on a quarterly basis.
Staff will establish outreach events targeting potential volunteers for the ombudsman program to increase the number of active certified volunteers who can assist staff in sites visits or resolution of resident complaints.	MET - Staff held 2 outreach events specifically targeting potential Ombudsman volunteers, as well as, multiple certification trainings to new volunteers.
AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER	
Prepare health professionals for providing quality primary care in the region.	MET-During the 2015-2016 Program Year, AHEC worked with 72 health professional students. They completed 133 clinical rotations for a total of 30,296 clinical hours.
Support residency training in community settings.	MET-Worked with 14 medical students, which completed 17 clinical rotations for a total of 4,960 clinical hours.
Determine continuing education and information resources needs of practicing health professionals in the region.	MET-During 2015-2016, AHEC assisted with providing 1,863 health professionals with 687 hours of continuing education.
Facilitate health careers development activities for area students and college aged career decision-makers, including longitudinal programming.	MET-Provided 8,998 individuals information regarding health career opportunities. This information was provided through various presentations, career/health fairs and job shadowing. Many of these individuals were located in rural communities.
Conduct community health and health workforce needs assessments in the region.	MET-Completed a community health needs assessment for Haskell Memorial Hospital in Haskell County. This assessment met the requirements of the hospital's nonprofit status.
Identify and support clinical training sites suitable for undergraduate medical education, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, and other health professional education.	MET-During 2015-2016, AHEC worked with 28 clinical training sites throughout the region. AHEC placed 72 students that completed 30,296 clinical hours in these sites (hospitals, clinics).
CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY	
Package and receive authorization for 4 Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loans (SBA requires 2 per fiscal year)	MET-2 loans were packaged by the CDC and approved by SBA
Provide information and/or training to lenders throughout the region on 504 Loans	MET-Lenders were kept up to date with SBA rates and change notification through monthly email updates
Service the loans in the existing portfolio	MET-Loan files were updated and existing loans were serviced
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS	
Educate professionals, persons with disabilities, those over 60, families, and partners about options counseling services throughout WCT-ADRC service areas	MET - 54 outreach events were held in the region to educate professionals, persons with disabilities, those over 60, families, and partners about available ADRC options counseling services

Initiate highly visible and trusted information resources to consumers and service providers via increased web and media presence	MET - Provided program information via radio announcements, billboards, and handouts/brochures at events and placement in regional partner locations. Web hits
Continue to establish Memorandum of Understandings with Key Partnering Agencies	MET - All key partnerships signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding. Two new partnerships were established and participate on the ADRC Advisory Committee.
Maintain Steering Committee consisting of consumers and partnering agency staff ensuring diversity of backgrounds	MET - The ADRC Steering Committee met quarterly and includes a diverse committee made up of professionals from key partnerships, persons with a disability, Veteran or spouse of a Veteran, caregivers, and health care providers
Continue to strengthen partnerships with organizations serving Veterans and their family members, with the highest focus reaching homeless Veteran families	MET – ADRC staff continue to work hand-in-hand with the Support Services for Veteran Families Program, Area Agency on Aging, and Veteran Administration partners.
Initiate and/or coordinate community education opportunities in the region surrounding key areas such as long term services, caregiving, health and wellness opportunities, and housing options for seniors and person with disabilities	MET – 60 community education opportunities were held in the region focusing in long term services caregiving, health and wellness opportunities, and housing options for seniors and person with disabilities
Continue Options Counseling program to assist consumers with long term planning, housing options, and coordination of short term services with community partners	MET – ADRC options counselor assisted 234 unduplicated consumers with long term service information, case management and service coordination, and planning and application assistance.
Participate in statewide standards for Options Counseling as needed for benefits, services and supports	MET – ADRC staff attended all required training to ensure staff were adequately trained to provide assistance and information for a multitude of benefits, services, and supports.
Review and apply for additional funding sources to continue, expand, and sustain ADRC functions	MET – Application to the Veterans Administration to provide VDHCBs (Veteran Directed Home & Community Based Services) was initiated in FY16
Ensure all required state and federal reports are submitted within deadline	MET – All reports submitted before or within deadlines
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING	
Assist/facilitate 9 Community Planning meetings	MET-Staff was able to meet the planned program activities of assisting/and or facilitating 9 Community Planning meetings throughout WCTCOG's region.
Process 15 grant applications	MET-Actual performance on this planned program activity was 18 grant applications processed.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT	
Continue to update the revised Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) for the region, including the website, wctedd.org	MET-staff maintains EDD Committee; staff maintains CEDs for current demographic information for site selectors and grant writers; staff prepared website updates with input from EDD Advisory Committee; staff updated CEDs website
Provide support for economic development to communities in the region	MET- staff partnered with Texas Midwest Community Network to host a Newly Elected Officials training, July 2016; staff provided technical assistance with grant applications; staff attended National Association

	of Development Organizations (NADO) training conference, and disseminated relevant information to WCTCOG member communities; staff attended TEDC-Basic Economic Development Course training; staff attended TARC Community & Economic development trainings; Staff provided technical assistance and resources to local Economic Development Organizations and MDD's as well as to small businesses and entrepreneurs as requested and where available; staff provided technical assistance with loan applications and grant funding
Provide a First Time Homebuyers Program to enhance affordable housing in the region (subject to market conditions and fee structure)	MET- Staff provide support for the Board of WCT Regional Housing Finance Corporation. Staff conducted board meetings to discuss availability of programs to meet rural area housing needs; The board decided not to have a new bond issue because of the market and the fees involved
HAZARD MITIGATION	
Finalized regional Hazard Mitigation Plan	Staff is in the process of updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan for final approval. Will meet objective.
Provide 19 counties with technical assistance for updates of Mitigation Action Plans	Staff is in the process of providing technical assistance to 19 counties in WCTCOG's region with updates of the Mitigation Action Plans. Will meet objective.
Assist 80 jurisdictions in development of Mitigation Action Plans	Staff is in the process of assisting 80 jurisdictions in developing Mitigation Action Plans. Will meet objective.
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS 911	
Hold 20 9-1-1 call taker classes	MET-21 - goal has been exceeded
Train 260 call takers	MET-261 – goal has been exceeded
Distribute 25,000 public education items throughout the region	MET-45,426 – goal has been exceeded
Call takers will answer a total of 156,755 9-1-1 calls in the region	MET-179,003 – goal has been exceeded
Call takers will answer 131,674 wireless 9-1-1 calls (84%) in the region	MET-150,460 – goal has been exceeded
Call takers will answer 25,080 wireline 9-1-1 calls (16%) in the region	MET-28,543 – goal has been exceeded
Staff will update 18 county maps for accuracy	MET- Points 78.95%, Roads 99.83% – goal has been exceeded
HOMELAND SECURITY	
Outline strategies and plans for reducing regional vulnerabilities to natural and terrorist incidents and increase preparedness; complete THIRA and SPR	MET- Completed and Submitted THIRA and SPR to Office of the Governor and the Texas Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management on 10/31/2016.
Provide technical expertise in updating and maintaining currency of emergency response plans	MET- Jurisdictional Preparedness Profiles are received and reviewed monthly for expired or upcoming expiring documents. Appropriate officials are notified via email and phone if necessary. Assistance is provided to state and local jurisdictions in keeping plans approved

	and up to date in accordance with grant funding eligibility requirements.
Make recommendations to state agencies regarding funding needs and response strategies; complete investment justifications	MET- Funding needs and response strategies were addressed in the Focus Group Workbook (August) and in the THIRA/SPR (October.) Homeland Security Conference Calls, Statewide Interoperability Communication Plan Conference Calls; SCIP Conference, TARC and Homeland Security Statewide meetings were attended in September. Broadband LTE project coverage request information was submitted on behalf of the region in September. Investment justifications are addressed in the Implementation Plan submitted to Office of the Governor and the Texas Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management November 30 th .
Invest federal grant funds based on regional priorities and demonstrated need	MET- As of November 30 th ; 47 portable P-25 compliant radios and 7 mobile P-25 compliant radios had been delivered to sustain interoperability within the region. An additional 83 portable P-25 compliant radios, 21 mobile p-25 compliant radios and 10 mobile P-25 compliant repeaters have been ordered. Applications and requests are still being accepted and fulfilled to sustain and maintain regional interoperability as allowed by federal funding guidelines.
Promote adoption and implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) regionally	MET- All entities represented by the WCTCOG Homeland Security Department have adopted NIMS and all local emergency plans are NIMS Compliant as reported by the State of Texas in the monthly Jurisdictional Preparedness Profile (monitored by HS Staff.) Homeland Security staff advises regional partners accordingly on the importance of the implementation of NIMS, continuing education in NIMS, and assists in locating required trainings online or in classroom instruction as requested.
Achieve the state's Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) goals for sustaining communications interoperability	MET- The Homeland Security Department, on behalf of the WCTCOG region, works closely with the SWIC (Statewide Interoperability Coordinator) to achieve the ongoing task of the SCIP program goals by participating in meetings, providing information regarding our region as requested, and monitoring regional communication asset needs. Compliant equipment is purchased and distributed regionally to maintain and promote statewide interoperability as directed in the SCIP plan and according to federal funding guidelines.
Maintain regional eligibility for Homeland Security Grant Programs	MET- The Homeland Security Department monitors and verifies eligibility requirements as dictated by federal funding and the Homeland Security Grants Division of the State of Texas on a monthly basis. Assistance and guidance is provided in the event a requirement is not met or in need of revision to the entire WCTCOG region in cooperation with the State of Texas officials.
Recruit and train CERT teams towards performance of selected Core Capabilities	MET- CERT funding was not available this fiscal year. However, the WCTCOG Homeland Security department assisted with submission of regional CERT reporting requirements and contact information.
LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY	
Conduct 1 Basic Peace Officer course	MET- Conducted 2 Basic Peace Officer Courses
Conduct 4 Basic Corrections Officer Courses	MET- Conducted 5 Basic Correction Officer Courses
Conduct 38 in-service courses	MET- Conducted 54 in-service courses

REGIONAL SERVICES	
Aid in specific regional permitting and registration	MET- Staff reviewed 1 municipal solid waste permit modifications (City of Sweetwater); reviewed 14 Air Quality registrations; reviewed 10 water quality permit renewal/modification/amendment; reviewed 17 air quality permit applications; 1 wastewater minor amendment; 10 federal operating permits; 5 wastewater renewal permits; 1 General permit authorizing discharge of pesticides; reviewed 2 storm water permit renewals; reviewed 3 wastewater permits; 2 land application permit
Continue management of Regional Solid Waste Management Plan	MET- Managed 3 solid waste pass-through grants; Staff prepared and submitted a Regional Solid Waste funding plan for FY 2016-17; Staff Conducted the Implementation Project Selection Process; Staff conducted and administered the subgrant award and administration process; Staff developed interlocal agreements to include measurable deliverable and reporting requirements; Staff updated, maintained and promoted a regional Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) information resource center of education and outreach materials
Continue management of Closed Landfill Inventory	MET- Staff assisted to 2 entities (communities and consulting agencies with questions about closed landfill sites-documentation on the closed landfill inventory
Continue development and promotion of Environmental Education/Awareness in schools	MET- Staff Presented to 7 schools/communities on the basics of recycling/how-to begin or expand your recycling center
Assist in developing strategies for source reduction and recycling	MET- staff facilitated efforts to reduce solid waste volume to area landfills by 16,301.80 tons through recycling, composting programs and diversion
Assure adequate levels of transportation and disposal capacity	MET-staff designed and developed partnerships with 7 communities and/or school districts to share recycling resources and transportation costs in West Central Texas Environmental Partnership (WCTEP) located within 19 county region
Develop programs to assist entities in controlling or stemming illegal dumping	MET-Staff hosted illegal dumping enforcement training; Staff Continued to promote a toll-free "Stop Illegal Dumping" Hotline for 19 county region and promoted awareness of "Stop Illegal Dumping" campaign through technical assistance provided to local governments; staff made available surveillance cameras to interested communities for illegal dumping enforcement; provided technical assistance to communities on deterrence measures for illegal dumping and anti-litter enforcement
Develop cost-effective, efficient and environmentally suitable regional solid waste management systems	MET- Staff updated and maintained a solid waste management website with all recycling facilities information in the WCT region; created social media and media outreach materials; staff provided dilapidated structure clean-up information (City of Cisco; Tye City Council; Aspermont IDC Meeting; City of Munday; SPAG- Lubbock SWAC; City of Snyder; City of Hamlin; Jayton ISD), and asbestos and anti-illegal dumping projects (City of Coleman);
Conduct solid waste planning	MET-Staff continued to implement goals and action strategies through solid waste management planning incorporating multiple jurisdictions input in protecting natural resources through shared information, training, technical assistance, and hands on guidance and/or direction as stated in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan in

	the 19-county region. Staff provided technical assistance to area communities regarding solid waste management, recycling issues including but not limited to how to start a new recycling facility and grant writing; conducted site visits
OTHER REGIONAL SERVICES	
Continue to assist Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applicants with statistical data, application procedures and scoring information	MET- Staff provided census data, assisted CDBG eligible communities with statistical data(LMI), application procedures and scoring information.
Attend Training by the Texas Department of Agriculture on CDBG administration	MET- staff attended CDBG Administrator training in Lubbock, Texas; staff attended Environmental Compliance training; Staff participated in TDA CDBG training/meeting(s) at TARC Quarterly meeting(s)
Provide training and technical assistance to entities on Drought and Water Solutions	MET- staff provided technical assistance to entities on drought management, water quality standards and conservation methods
Provide Outreach and Education on EPA Brownfields Assessment, Clean-up and Revolving Loan fund Grant programs	MET- Staff attended multiple health and safety fairs, community outreach seminars and provided technical assistance to local governments interested in re-using commercial structures
Promote a reduction in the number of injuries/deaths caused by tornadoes and dangerous high winds by assisting residents with the cost of installing a storm shelter/safe room built to meet NSSA standards	MET- staff provided over 150 residents with technical assistance and installation of safe rooms/ storm shelters. Staff maintained a waiting list for interested participants in grant rebate program. Staff streamlined reimbursement application process.





WEST CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Overview and Objectives & Analysis of Progress

2016

9-1-1

OVERVIEW for 2016

The 9-1-1 program of the West Central Texas Council of Governments provides direct and administrative services under the State 9-1-1 program to 18 of the 19 counties in the WCTCOG region. In 1987, HB9-1-1 was passed by the Texas State Legislature enacting a 9-1-1 system in the state of Texas. The bill, codified as Chapter 771 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, charged the state's 24 Councils of Governments with development of regional plans to provide for the establishment and operation of 9-1-1 services.

WCTCOG's principal role in 9-1-1 has been to ensure that the quality of public safety for the region continuously improves through the 9-1-1 program. All citizens with phone access, whether utilizing wireless or wireline phones, can reach emergency services immediately by dialing 9-1-1. WCTCOG trains 9-1-1 call takers and county addressing coordinators, corrects addresses, assigns addresses, provides public education and materials, audits 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), maintains accurate county maps, evaluates and purchases new equipment, and provides quarterly and financial reports to the state 9-1-1 Commission.

STAFFING

The 9-1-1 Director, four Addressing/Mapping Coordinators and a Public Education/Financial Coordinator staff this program.

FUNDING

The 9-1-1 program is funded by the 9-1-1 service fee (\$.50 per line) charged every month on citizens' and businesses' wireline and wireless phone bills and from the state surcharge fund of \$.06 per month per wireline and wireless phone lines.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Wireless location technology (Phase 2) was implemented in fiscal year 2008 for many of the region's wireless service providers. This technology enables call takers to locate wireless 9-1-1 callers whose phones have an activated GPS chip, by utilizing an automated on-screen mapping system at the PSAP. So far, Alltel, AT&T, Sprint/Nextel, Verizon Wireless, U.S. Cellular, T-Mobile, Flat Wireless, Safelink (Tracphone) and West Central Wireless have successfully tested in counties where each company has a presence. All carriers are now Phase 2 compliant in the WCTCOG region.

Per the COG's 9-1-1 Equipment Replacement Schedule, the 9-1-1 equipment was replaced in all 18 PSAPs in 2016. Some PSAPs opted to replace their monitors with larger ones to enhance map viewing.

As a cost saving measure for the region's counties, the 9-1-1 program has assumed addressing duties for 14 of the 18 counties. The WCTCOG's Addressing Coordinators are responsible for assigning addresses, taking GPS coordinates of structures, and assisting in the map building/maintenance process. The 14 counties are Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Runnels, Scurry, Stephens, Stonewall, and Throckmorton. Nolan, Knox, and Shackelford Counties each have a part-time Addressing Coordinator, while Brown has a full time employee.

A quality public education program is important in maintaining an awareness of the correct usage of the 9-1-1 system, especially among elementary-aged children. Every year, upon request, the 9-1-1 Program visits elementary schools and delivers the "Cell Phone Sally" program. Cell Phone Sally has replaced Red E. Fox as the 9-1-1 program's mascot. Over 35,000 items of public education material were distributed the past year to citizens in the region.

Fisher County relocated their PSAP into their new jail facility in 2016. The new facility offers improved safety and comfort for the telecommunicators.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

OVERVIEW for 2015

The mission of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) of West Central Texas is to plan, coordinate and direct a comprehensive delivery system of services to persons over 60 and their caregivers including short term support services, nutrition and transportation services, to advocate for rights of older persons at home or in institutional facilities, to assist persons age 55+ who are relatives and family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's or dementia and/or youth age 18 and under or who have severe disabilities, as well as, providing services assisting older persons within the WCTCOG region to age well with dignity while maintaining independence.

First established as a Regional Office on Aging in 1974, the Area Agency became a distinct department of WCTCOG in 1977 with expanded Older Americans Act funding. The program has marked 39 years of successful service. Due to the region's high percentage of elderly citizens, two-way communications between the elected officials and AAA staff and efforts of the WCTAAA continue to be a vital pathway to providing the most updated information to the region's citizens, including Medicare information, emergency preparedness, frauds and scams, aging and wellness information, nutrition information, and assisting in streamlining access to long-term care services and support from regional partners.

The Area Agency on Aging continues to be committed in playing a key role with its local government linkages as a potential single point of access to best serve the region's elderly and persons of all ages with disabilities. Staff and Certified Volunteer Ombudsmen advocate to enhance elderly quality-of-life and protect the rights of residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. They may provide on-site in-services for facility staff members and administrators; representation in formal hearings for residents; information and support for family councils; educational material and information to empower individuals to be advocates; mediation services as requested to resolve conflicts; assistance to individuals in understanding nursing home, assisted living facility, and Department of Aging and Disability - Long Term Care regulatory and quality monitoring systems; information on rules and regulations governing residents' service systems; and visits to the facilities to intervene on behalf of residents as requested.

STAFFING

Staff consists of a Director, Services Coordinators, Certified Benefits Counselors, Information and Referral Specialist, Health and Wellness Activity Coordinator, Community Program Coordinator, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Data Specialist, Managing Local Ombudsman and Staff Ombudsman.

FUNDING

The AAA receives federal Older Americans Act (OAA) dollars and State General Revenue (SGR) as passed through the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) according to funding formulas, as well as DADS and/or other program grants when available. Federal funds include Title III B, III C1, III C2, III D, III E, Title VII EAP and OAG for Ombudsman programs, and funds from the American Community Living (ACL) for services such as Benefits Counseling. These funds are matched according to individual grant requirements through local funds and/or in-kind match by community partners.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Older persons and/or their family members received answers, referrals and/or general support service assistance, Medicare recipients received legal assistance, heard presentations, received mail-outs, and/or gathered information at health fairs about Medicare A, B, and D, Medigap/Medicare Supplements, Medicare Health Plans, QMB/SLMB/QI, Medicare Extra Help programs, and other State Health Insurance Programs (SHIP) assistance.

WCTAAA funded 76,914 meals to 1,272 seniors through regional senior activity centers; 589 homebound seniors received 53,952 home delivered meals; 553 older persons received services including homemaker, respite services, emergency response (the button) assistance, residential repair/modification, personal assistance and income support, and 9 home bound consumers received an assuring call from our RSVP volunteers each weekday. To promote AAA services, persons were contacted through family caregiver activities including training events, mail-outs, newspaper articles and media outputs. To best coordinate and implement services, community partnerships included Wisteria Place Retirement Living, RSVP, Alzheimer's Association, Windcrest Alzheimer's Care Center, 2-1-1/ United Way, ACU Pruettt Gerontology Center, Taylor

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS continued

County Extension Service (Agri-Life), Kinder Hearts, City of Abilene, Sears Community Services, numerous school districts, Integracare, DADS – Long Term Services and Supports, Betty Hardwick Center for MHMR, McMurry University, Texas Ramp Project, Scurry County Senior Center, and the West Central Texas Aging & Disability Resource Center (WCT-ADRC) and many more! Two new projects were added to the Health and Wellness Programs; Diabetes Self-Management and Matter of Balance- a falls prevention class. Sixty-nine (69) seniors received 138 hours of classroom instruction learning innovative ways to stay healthier.

2 Staff and a large number of active Certified Volunteer Ombudsmen visited 42 nursing homes and 39 assisted living facilities a minimum of one time per quarter, some many more times dependent on residents' needs. A total of 673 visits were made to facilities throughout the 19 county region. Certified Ombudsmen and women made consultations with residents, staff, family members, and friends of residents; resolved 97%; and held key trainings for volunteers and nursing home administrators. Ombudsman Staff attended State trainings in Austin to ensure the latest rules, regulations and best practices are in place with the overarching goal of the Ombudsman staff and certified volunteers to improve the quality-of-life and rights for residents in nursing and assisted living facilities.

A primary service provided by AAA staff is the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP). Trained and certified staff provided 1,217 hours of assistance to 788 Medicare enrollees / beneficiaries with information, applications, enrollment into various plans, and advocacy.

In the year to come, the AAA will continue to expand opportunities through available funding from federal, state and local funds. The AAA persists in being responsive to the varying needs of its clients and values working with area elected officials, community partners and with surveys through the region to citizens over 60 residing in West Central Texas to provide short and long-term care services and support enabling our senior citizens to remain independent.

AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

OVERVIEW for 2016

The Area Health Education Center seeks to address the health care provider shortage and improve health care access in twenty-eight (28) counties in the North and West Central Texas through education and development of the health care workforce. Area Health Education Center services include Health Careers Promotion, Community Based Education, Health Professional Support and Healthy Living Promotion. Program and funding support is provided by Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Office of Rural and Community Health.

STAFFING

The AHEC Director, Vista Supervisor/Outreach Coordinator, Health Careers/Education Coordinator, Asset Based Community Development Vista and an Administrative Assistant staff this program.

FUNDING

Primary program funding sources are Federal Title VII Health Professions funds with additional state match funds allocated by Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

VISTA Healthy Futures Program – The VISTA Healthy Futures Program is a product of the National AHEC Health Community Development initiative to be responsive to local health needs by providing an innovative, collaborative and multi-disciplinary response to community health issues. VISTA members are placed within organizations and agencies to focus on capacity building efforts to create or expand community based programs and mobilize additional regional support that meets the needs of the underserved, ethnic minority, and/or economically disadvantaged populations.

The BCAHEC VISTA Health Futures Program is now in its third year with 14 VISTA members placed in 9 different agencies. The VISTA members are working on specific projects related to their host organizations;

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS continued

such projects include developing a Healthy Community program for the City of Abilene, completing a comprehensive needs assessment of the homeless population for Abilene and surrounding areas, development of social work services for 2 rural area schools, continuation of nutrition educational programs for children and adults, expanding the services of REACH for a Difference-organization that serves families affected by Autism-, program evaluation of services provided to rural older adults through the Area Agency on Aging, and building the capacity of the Abilene Community Health Center by developing a behavioral health program.

HEALTH CAREERS PROMOTION – Introduces students, 9-12 to career opportunities in health care as well as provides information on a variety of health related topics. The program strives to motivate young people in rural and underserved areas to choose a career in health care. In addition to providing information about health careers, the Area Health Education Center is committed to generating excitement about science in children which is a necessary precursor to pursuing a career in health care. Health Careers Promotion activities for the year include 59 presentations and events on health careers. This offers individuals over 237 hours of education on employability skills assessment to determine their skills and aptitudes. A total of 8,341 individuals received health careers information and services. The Area Health Education Center also held the Health Careers Camp in Abilene and Stephenville for area high school students. The camps had a total of 22 participants from all across the region. AHEC also partnered with area high schools to provide 30 students to gain hands on experience through the Junior Volunteer Program. This program worked in conjunction with area hospitals and clinics. AHEC provided 2,083 HOT Job Catalogs to area students and schools.

COMMUNITY BASED EDUCATION – Provides health professions students a real-life experience in a community setting that contributes to the development of general knowledge, skills and attitude. Each placement provides many situations for the students to develop their skills and knowledge under the direction of practicing community health professionals. Additionally, the Area Health Education Center provides a vital link between higher education institutions focused on health professions and community preceptors. The Area Health Education Center recruits preceptors, assists students (Medical/Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant/Physical Therapy and Dental Students) with selecting the community based experience that meets their needs and assists with student housing when requested. Community Based Education activities for the year include the placement of 121 health professions students that resulted in 25,568 hours of clinical training through the preceptors we are currently working with in the region.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT – Provides support to health care practitioners in rural and underserved areas and assists communities to enhance their capacity to attract new health care professionals and retain them once they are in place. As part of these retention efforts, the Area Health Education Center assists health care professionals with continuing education and professional development opportunities. The Area Health Education Center surveys health care professionals and facilities to determine educational needs and organizes programs to meet these needs. The Area Health Education Center promotes and assists with continuing education events sponsored by a variety of community partners. The Area Health Education Center, in collaboration with a variety of community partners, provided 166 continuing education opportunities in both urban and rural settings. These continuing education events were attended by 1,863 health care professionals and provided over 7,245.84 hours of continuing education.

HEALTHY LIVING PROMOTION – Activities included assisting with health fairs and health screenings. The Area Health Education Center participated in health fairs in the region with emphasis placed on exercise and nutrition in relation to achieving a desired Body Mass Index (BMI). The Area Health Education Center will continue to address the health care provider shortage and improve health care access utilizing the programs described above. Focus activities will continue to be modified in an effort to meet specific needs identified by health services entities in the North and West Central Texas.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENTS – Activities included the development of community health needs assessments for Haskell Memorial Hospital completed May 2016.

BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT

OVERVIEW for 2016

Technical assistance to communities provides funding for developing inventories of brownfields, prioritizing sites, conducting community involvement activities, and conducting site assessments and clean-up planning related to brownfield sites. A brownfield site is defined as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products, or is mine-scarred land.

STAFFING

The Regional Services Director manages the Brownfields Hazardous Assessment program.

FUNDING

EDA

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

During the past year, Regional Services Director continued to implement the Brownfields Hazardous Assessment Program.

CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

OVERVIEW for 2015

COUNCIL FINANCE, a Small Business Administration (SBA) Certified Development Company (CDC) provides loan packaging for small businesses. As a CDC, Council Finance works directly with local lenders.

STAFFING

An Economic Development Coordinator and part time Servicing Specialist staff the program.

FUNDING

Sources of funding are loan packaging and servicing fees.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Council Finance provides capital financing and consulting services to all bankers within the 19 county region focusing on options for rural business development. To date, the total loan portfolio is comprised of rural projects and loan activity totaling over \$145 million in economic impact including over 1,800 jobs created or retained. Types of businesses financed by Council Finance cross all categories and include:

Entertainment Center	Fitness Center	Auto Transmission
Interior Design	Grocery	Car Wash
Golf Course	Restaurant	Family Rec Center
Self Storage	Day Care	Manufacturing
Auto Dealership	Industrial Equipment Sales	Sporting Goods Sales
Agriculture Supply	Floor Covering Wholesale	Kitchen Specialties
Prosthetic Supply	Medical Clinic	Laundromat
Hotel / Motel	Realty	Meat Packing / Dist
Milling / Machining	Gymnastics Center	Computer Sales
Convenience Store	Hardware Store	Chiropractic
Drag Strip	Martial Arts	Hydraulic Equipment
Metal Fabrication	Check Financing	Florist
Waste Management Company	Plumbing Supply	Furniture Company
Attorney	Movie Theatre	RV Park

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

OVERVIEW for 2016

Community Programs is comprised of four primary programs: The West Central Texas Aging and Disability Resource Center (WCT-ADRC), the Faith Based Initiatives Project, the Housing Navigator Project, and the Support Services for Veteran Families Program. The WCT-ADRC is a single access point for information and assistance on issues affecting older adults, those with a disability, their family members, and all caregivers. The program offers information and referral services regardless of income. The mission of the WCT-ADRC is to provide information, advocacy, and assistance to individuals needing access to long term services and opportunities that support independence and individual choice for seniors, anyone with a disability, caregivers and families in a 19 county region.

The Housing Navigator Project was initiated by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) and Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to assess current housing and housing needs for seniors and those with disabilities desiring to transition from a nursing home or institutional setting back into their home or community. The Housing Navigator Project assessed 19 counties to establish a resource directory of affordable and accessible housing for seniors and persons with disabilities. In addition, 3 housing summits in rural areas of the region were established to educate and provide awareness of housing needs specific to those with disabilities. The Support Services for Veteran Families serves homeless or potentially homeless Veterans and their family with short term housing assistance, including, working with landlords and property management organizations in finding appropriate and affordable housing for long term family stability.

STAFFING

Staffing for the 2016 program year consists of a Director, Veterans Program Manager, Program Manager, Long Term Services Options Counselor, and 6 case managers.

FUNDING

Funding for the WCT-ADRC, Faith Based Initiatives, Housing Navigator Project and Support Services for Veteran Families Program is received from the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS), the Texas Council on Developmental Disabilities (TCDD), and Veterans Affairs.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

The motto of the WCT-ADRC is to "Help People Stay Independent". To achieve this goal, the program provides consumers over 60 years of age, those with disabilities of any age, caregivers and professionals with information via phone, online, and at the office location. Our staff listen to a consumers unique situation, help identify and prioritize their needs, provide assistance in obtaining services and share information about community resources, activities, or support groups. In addition, staff will assist them in completing applications and discuss available service options so the consumer can make informed decisions. To better serve consumers in the targeted region, staff regularly participate in training opportunities to increase awareness, improve practices, and ensure that consumers have up-to-date information. In addition, staff meet with key service partners regularly for program and service eligibility updates assuring consumers have current and relevant information regarding requested services. For 2016 a total of 8,210 consumers received information on available services specific to their needs, and/or were referred to partnering agencies for eligible services; 354 homeless Veteran families were assisted with support services and 4 symposiums with a focus on housing needs were held.

In the year to come, focus areas include: expanding services to Veterans throughout all 19 counties of the region, particularly those at risk of becoming homeless or are currently homeless with supportive and case management services; continuing the Housing Navigator Project with a focus on awareness and education to private sector housing businesses, holding a minimum of 1 symposium to increase awareness surrounding intellectual and developmental disability inclusiveness in faith based communities; while implementing the statewide model of options counseling program for persons needing assistance in navigating through long term services coordination with health care and social service providers with a person centered mindset.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING

OVERVIEW for 2016

Criminal Justice Planning assists the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) of the Office of the Governor and local grantees with the application process for Criminal Justice Grants under five state and federal funding sources.

STAFFING

A Planner staffs this program.

FUNDING

The program funding source is the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Through its contract with the Office of the Governor, WCTCOG provides planning and intergovernmental services relative to grants awarded through CJD. WCTCOG staff works with a local Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) which reviews and prioritizes criminal justice grant applications for the region. Technical and grant-writing assistance is provided to grantees, as well. Last year, staff worked with 10 community planning groups, disseminated 423 notifications of availability of grant funds, provided over 500 technical assistance contacts / visits, and assisted with 18 grant applications. Criminal Justice planning and intergovernmental services are provided for the following funding sources: *Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)*, *Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)*, *Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP)*, *State Criminal Justice Planning (421) Fund*, and *Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG)*. The Criminal Justice Planning Program will continue to offer services in the coming year with emphasis on planning and collaboration between grant projects in order to attain maximum benefit from available funding.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

OVERVIEW for 2016

The West Central Texas Economic Development District provides Economic Development Administration (EDA) planning and grant facilitation. This program directly impacts the local economies of the region in that it works directly with community businesses, institutions and individual citizens to improve economic viability and quality of life.

STAFFING

The Regional Services Director staffs the program.

FUNDING

The source of funding for the District is an Economic Development Administration planning grant

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

The District provided technical assistance with loan application and grant funding for our jurisdictions. Presentations were conducted in Stamford and Abilene, as well as working at the Business Expo in Abilene. The District is currently working with EDA for regional grant opportunities and will continue to focus on developing projects to address community economic development. Staff maintains a website "wctceds.com" to support the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy which provides much needed statistics for planning by partners, counties, cities and other interested parties as well as showcasing economic projects within the region, promoting economic growth, increasing employment opportunities and assisting with local government planning.

HAZARD MITIGATION

OVERVIEW for 2016

The Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is an ongoing project that provides maintenance and update of the regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

STAFFING

The Regional Training and Projects Director is the contact for this plan.

FUNDING

The program funding source is the Texas Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Under a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), this project was originally implemented to develop a Regional Hazard Mitigation Action Plan. The project design has been to assist WCTCOG's jurisdictions in meeting the federal requirements for eligibility for FEMA funds in the event of a disaster under which jurisdictions must have an approved Plan. 80 entities participated collectively in the revision of the final Regional Mitigation Action Plan, which was approved November 2012.

FEMA requires that all Hazard Mitigation Plans be updated every 5 years. The West Central Texas Council of Governments local Mitigation Plan will expire on November 27, 2017 at which time an update will be due in order to remain eligible for unified Hazard Mitigation Grant funding. The update process is in progress.

HOMELAND SECURITY

OVERVIEW for 2016

Since 2002, West Central Texas Council of Governments has been involved in working with local public safety and emergency response entities building emergency response capability and capacity for the region. This has been accomplished through the award and oversight of over \$17.5 million in grants to cities and counties within the region. In harmony with Federal and State Homeland Security Strategic Plans, the WCTCOG staff has completed eight major response plans for the region and organized the National Incident Management System (NIMS) training within the region. Additionally, the WCTCOG has successfully met the FCC Narrow Band mandate for all radio systems, completed the federally mandated THIRA and SPR assessments, planned and conducted major state level communications exercises, promoted the adoption of the Texas Statewide Interoperability Channel Plan, and achieved Communications Interoperability Level 3.6 on a 5 scale statewide rating system.

STAFFING

The Homeland Security Manager, Planners and Program Specialist staff this program.

FUNDING

The source of funding is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) utilizing federal pass through grants to the State of Texas. The State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) grants comprise the collective sources of funding for the regional programs of service.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

During the past year, the WCTCOG managed three overlapping FY2014, FY2015 and FY2016 Federal Homeland Security grant cycles through the State Homeland Security Program. Grant funds are allocated to regional projects according to federal and state guidance for grant investment priorities. The 19 regional counties, specified regional projects and the WCTCOG are the primary recipients of grant funding. All grant expenditures are administered by COG staff to ensure compliance with the prioritized initiatives approved by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for use of grant funds.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS continued

Homeland Security grants funds continue to be invested in communications. The scope of compliance requires a funding plan and continued investment of Homeland Security grant funds well into the year 2017. The WCTCOG is managing the phased funding, development, buildup and training to meet the communications modernization effort.

The continued investment in the buildup of communications capability by increasing the region's radio inventory is making significant improvements to the region's emergency response capability. The Governor and Legislature continue to promote communications systems development as the highest priority for the state in terms of adding significant communications capability to our emergency responders and providing the ability to communicate across dissimilar equipment, bands, and responder disciplines. Regional progress in meeting State Strategies for Homeland Security has been steady and in harmony with funding constraints producing maximum value for grant dollars received by the WCTCOG.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

OVERVIEW for 2016

The Regional Law Enforcement Training Program provides basic and in-service law enforcement and public safety training for law enforcement and other public safety personnel within the region.

STAFFING

The Regional Training and Projects Director and Training Manager staff this program.

FUNDING

The program funding source is the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

The REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY is currently in its 43rd year. This program affords all criminal justice personnel the opportunity to attend basic, in-service, and mandatory training within the region, thus alleviating the time and expense associated with sending officers outside the region to meet state training requirements.

The project operates under the guidance of the West Central Texas Law Enforcement Training Advisory Committee, which is comprised of law enforcement officials, criminal justice professionals, victim services representatives, and other community and regional representatives. This committee determines the number and types of courses to be offered, as well as the locations, times, instructor qualifications, entry requirements, and cost of tuition. Classes are offered on a regular basis at the central Academy location; however, more than 30% of courses offered are conducted at auxiliary sites out in the region. This helps law enforcement agencies keep travel and personnel costs down, and affords officers the best opportunity possible to attend training. Whenever possible, and when appropriate, enrollment to classes is extended to other public safety personnel, emergency responders, and school and juvenile personnel who may benefit from the training courses.

The Academy contracts regularly with over 40 adjunct instructors with expertise in a wide variety of criminal justice areas. Last year, two 700-hour Basic Peace Officer courses, four 96-hour Basic Corrections Officer courses, and 83 in-service courses provided almost 28,000 contact hours of training to a total of 760 students. As funds allow, courses and instructors with specialized expertise are brought in to provide specialized training. Examples of other courses offered are Special Investigative Topics/ Cultural Diversity/ New Supervisor's Course/ Missing and Exploited Children/ Canine encounters/ Basic Telecommunicator / Interacting with deaf and hard of hearing Drivers/ Intermediate Child Abuse and Neglect/ Intermediate Spanish/ Arrest, Search and Seizure/ Use of Force, O.C. (Pepper Spray) Training, Defensive Tactics/ Juvenile Issues/ Active Shooter First Response and Basic Highway Interdiction.

NATURAL RESOURCES

OVERVIEW for 2016

The Natural Resource program has as its primary purposes the implementation of provisions of §361.014(b) of the Texas Health & Safety Code and provision of regional coordination, planning and technical assistance to local governmental entities and individuals for the Solid Waste Pass through Grant program. WCTCOG staff carries out several core functions as the State's designated regional solid waste planning entity. Additionally, the Natural Resource staff conducts informational programs in schools and communities throughout the region and participates in civic and community organizations and events related to municipal solid waste issues.

Natural Resource program staff is actively supported by the Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC) which advises the WCTCOG Executive Committee on regional solid waste issues and planning studies. Amendments to the Regional Solid Waste Plan and maintenance of the Closed Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfill Inventory for the 19-county WCTCOG region fall under NRAC oversight. The NRAC also reviews permit applications for MSW facilities and reviews and scores applications for MSW grant funding.

Since its inception in 1996, the Natural Resource program has administered multiple grants supporting the West Central Texas region. In addition to the direct local benefit of these funds, the region's governments and citizens also benefit greatly from ongoing implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Plan through the efforts of WCTCOG and the NRAC.

STAFFING

The Regional Services Director and Outreach and Education Coordinator staffs this program.

FUNDING

Natural Resource Program funding is provided through a biennial pass-through grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality funded through the distribution of Municipal Solid Waste tipping fee revenue (Fund 5000).

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Staff managed \$22,926 project funding to WCTCOG communities for 7 (seven) FY 2016 COG-Managed solid waste management projects (through the West Central TX Environmental Partnership) resulting in a reduction of over 300 tons of waste material to area landfills through recycling and source reduction.

During the past year, staff implemented and maintained goals and objectives in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. These goals include: 1) Regionally assure adequate levels of transportation and disposal capabilities; 2) Develop local source reduction, waste minimization, reuse, recycling, and composting programs to conserve disposal capacity and resources; 3) Develop programs to assist regional and local entities in controlling and stemming illegal and improper disposal practices, and; 4) Develop regional cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally suitable solid waste management systems. Staff maintained and expanded the West Central Texas Environmental Partnership (WCTEP): a recycling marketing and transportation co-op. Staff continued awareness of the "Put Waste In Its Place" campaign through community and school education, provided training to local enforcement officials on current environmental laws through West Central Texas Regional Law Enforcement Academy and provided technical assistance to cities regarding substandard structure laws, environmental laws (Texas Health & Safety Code and Texas Water Code), illegal dumping laws and new state regulations.

REGIONAL SERVICES

OVERVIEW for 2016

West Central Texas Residential Safe Room/Storm Shelter Rebate Program. This program is intended to serve the 19-county area of state planning region 7. These counties include: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Kent, Knox, Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor, and Throckmorton.

The FEMA/GDEM Program rules state that the applicants must be the owner occupant, builder or developer of the home in which the safe room/storm shelter is to be built. The rules also require that the home be a single-family dwelling that lies outside a FEMA or locally mapped floodplain. In limited situations, this program can assist with the installation of safe rooms/storm shelters in multi-family dwellings (town homes and/or condominiums) provided the units are exclusively for occupants on a ground floor.

For the purpose of this program, a safe room/storm shelter is an above or below ground unit built to the standards set by the National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA) and American Tornado Shelter Association (ATSA). Such a unit will be able to withstand the force of 250 mph ground level wind speeds and absorb the impact of a 15 lb. 2X4 traveling at the speed of 100 miles per hour. This represents worst-case tornadoes rated as EF-5 on the Enhanced Fujita Scale.

STAFFING

The Regional Services Director staffs this program.

FUNDING

This program is being funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Texas Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). WCTCOG received a grant in the amount of \$620,000 for approximately 230 shelters. Since 2009 WCTCOG has funded 400 storm shelters.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

87 storm shelters/ safe rooms have been installed.

Community & Economic Development Assistance Program

OVERVIEW for 2016

West Central Texas Community & Economic Development Assistance (CEDAF) Program. This program is intended to serve the 19-county area of state planning region 7. These counties include: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Kent, Knox, Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor, and Throckmorton.

STAFFING

The Regional Services Director staffs this program.

FUNDING

Funded by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

Staff provides technical assistance to communities by: 1) providing census and income data to TxCDBG eligible localities; 2) distributing Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Community Development program information; 3) providing general technical assistance as related to non-specific community and economic development program areas; 4) training local elected officials about community and economic development or related contract administration.

Staff hosted a Elected Officials Training – I'm Elected, Now What Seminar

OTHER PROGRAMS

OVERVIEW for 2016

Since its inception, West Central Texas Council of Governments has offered a variety of supportive and technical assistance services to its member governments. A number of these services are prescribed by WCTCOG's enabling legislation (Section 391, Local Government Code) and include training for local officials and direct technical assistance to individual officials or groups of governments dealing with specific issues. The Council also provides assistance with Census data as well as required review of state and federal grant applications. For many years, WCTCOG has served area lenders as a data depository under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act. Other services, from representation of regional interests on key boards and organizations to assistance with grant writing projects, also are available through the Council. WCTCOG is committed to providing its members with professional services on a daily basis and makes every effort to be responsive to its members' needs

STAFFING

The Regional Services Director, Employee Benefits Manager, Administrative Assistant and others provide these services on an as-needed basis

FUNDING

Provision of regional services may be funded by specific grant or contract sources or through the general administrative budget of WCTCOG.

ANALYSIS of PROGRESS

During the past year, WCTCOG conducted state and federally required review and comment on over 30 applications from state agencies, local governments, non-profits and businesses from the region, totaling in excess of \$20 million in federal, state and local dollars. The reviews encompassed such considerations as consistency with area and local planning, environmental impact and duplication of services.

Guidance was given on census data through the AMERICAN FACTFINDER section of the Census Bureau's website to data users in the region and outside the region.

General technical assistance in areas including personnel issues, annexation issues, open meetings or open records questions, obtaining grant resources and others was provided to officials or representatives of the region's cities and counties. In public policy matters, this was accomplished through telephone contacts and office research. Additionally, the Council hosted an Election Judges School in conjunction with the Office of the Secretary of State for the region's Election Judges.

WCTCOG views its operations as an extension of the arm of its member governments as well as that of the State agencies with which it contracts. WCTCOG will continue to make itself available as a valuable and readily-accessible resource of integrity for those to whom it serves.

WCTCOG preformed grant administration for Community Development Block Grant Program. Provided technical assistance to multiple communities on STEP Grants, Supplemental Environmental Projects, Texas Parks & Wildlife and Economic Development Administration.