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AACOG Clarifies Home Delivered Meal Funding in Bexar County

San Antonio, TX— The Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) wishes to correct the erroneous assertion that "AACOG has cut funding to Meals on Wheels San Antonio (MOWSA)". AACOG, through its Bexar Area Agency on Aging, administers state and federal funds from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to support nutrition services for older adults across Bexar County.

Meals on Wheels San Antonio (MOWSA) is the <u>sole</u> provider of home delivered meals. AACOG receives annual funding from HHSC and passes 100% of those funds directly to MOWSA. AACOG does not retain or redirect any portion of this funding. AACOG does not divert any funding it receives for nutrition services to any other program or region. In short, AACOG passes all money it receives for home delivered meals in Bexar County to MOWSA.

During the pandemic, Meals on Wheels received additional, temporary federal funding through programs like the American Rescue Plan Act, the CARES Act, and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Those funds were used to expand meal delivery and meet the increased demand for services. Those funds have now been totally expended and the federal government has not provided additional funding.

AACOG continues to advocate for sustainable funding to meet the growing nutritional needs of older adults across the Alamo Region. We encourage any efforts to provide safe, consistent, and healthy meals to needy older adults in its 13 county region and across Texas.

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About Alamo Area Council of Governments: Defined as a political subdivision of the State of Texas, the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) was established in 1967 under Chapter 391 of the Local Government Code as a voluntary association of local governments and organizations that serves its members through planning, information, and coordination activities. Comprising the area planning region are Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, McMullen, Medina, and Wilson counties.