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**WEBB COUNTY HAS BEEN AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS THROUGH THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY UNDER THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER  
NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM Phase ARPAN**

Webb County has been selected to receive \$110,463 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council on the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Salvation Army; and, the United Way Worldwide. The local board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

This board comprised of representatives from American Red Cross, Bethany House, Diocese of Laredo-Catholic Charities, Webb County Community Action Agency, The Salvation Army, Webb County Indigent Health Care Services, Primera Iglesia Bautista, the Jewish Communities, United Way and others. They determine how the funds awarded in Webb County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. This board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must (1) be private volunteer non-profits or units of government, (2) be eligible to receive federal funds, (3) have an accounting system, (4) practice non-discrimination, (5) demonstrate the capacity to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and (6) have a volunteer board (if they are a private voluntary organization). Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

In 2023, Webb County provided Emergency Food and Shelter funds to Bethany House, Catholic Charities, the South Texas Food Bank, Webb County Community Action Agency and The Salvation Army. Through this collaboration these agencies were able to assist individuals with meals or emergency food boxes and provide shelter lodging. In addition, said agencies assisted qualifying families with rent or utility payments.

Public or private volunteer organizations interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program Phase 40 funds can email the United Way of Laredo at [uwlaredo@unitedwaylaredo.org](mailto:uwlaredo@unitedwaylaredo.org) for an application. The deadline to submit email applications to the United Way of Laredo office is Wednesday, **May 17, 2024, by 12:00 noon.**

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