



# TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# --- 1968-2018 --- Celebrating **50** --- Years of --- Regionalism

**This year we recognize the comprehensive history of Texoma Council of Governments and celebrate the regional impacts we continue to achieve as a result of coordinated regionalism.**

By providing new services to member governments, finding new funding sources to expand services to seniors, and reinventing the way we deliver services to the citizens and communities of this region, TCOG has a solid history of improving quality of life.

In this report you'll see evidence of TCOG continuing to make strides in pursuit of its vision. Many thanks go out to our member governments, agency and non-profit partners, and private sector supporters who help us maintain a healthy region.

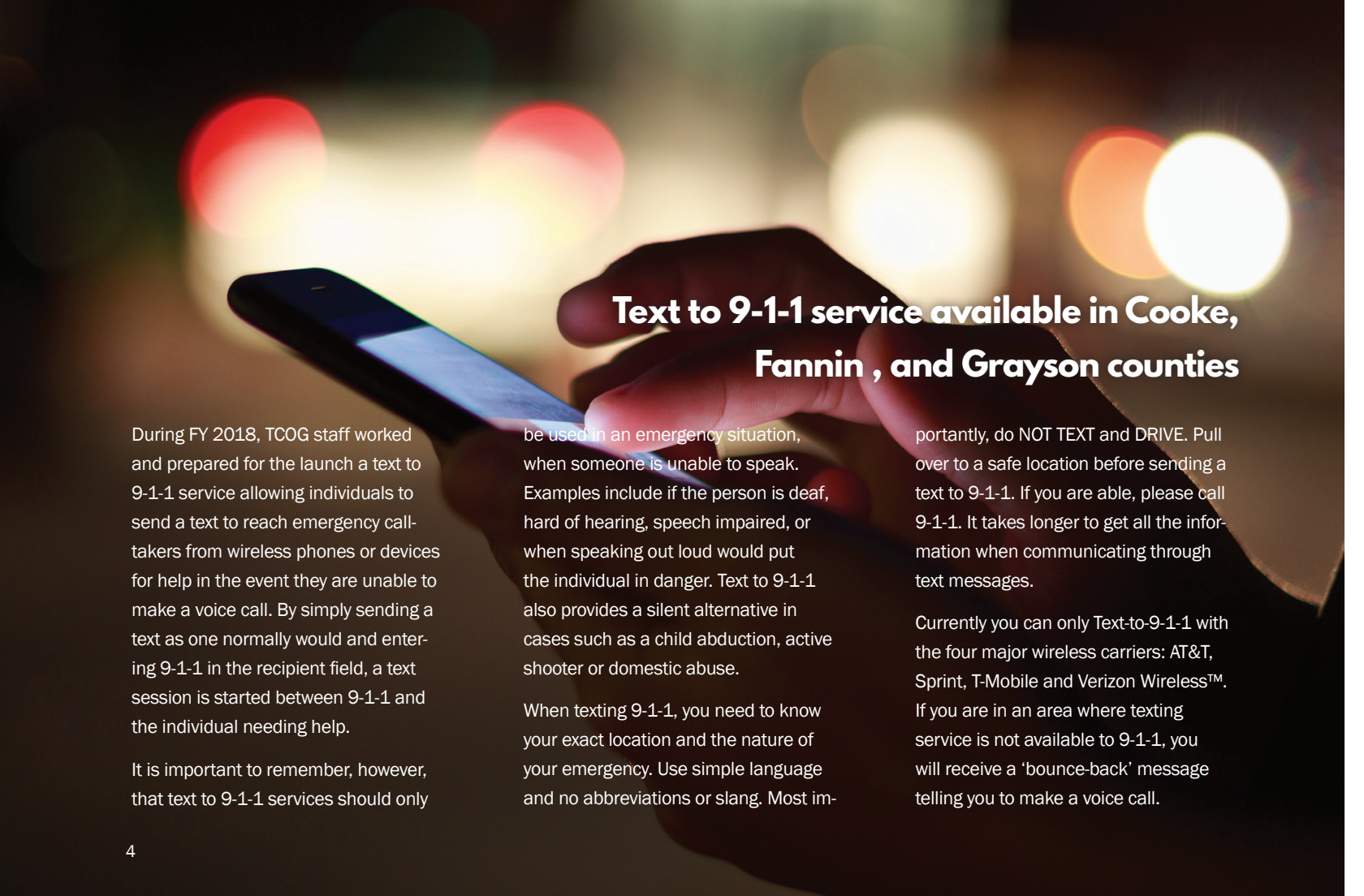
*Proudly serving the citizens of Cooke, Fannin & Grayson counties*

# **2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

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## **Text to 9-1-1 service available in Cooke, Fannin , and Grayson counties**

During FY 2018, TCOG staff worked and prepared for the launch a text to 9-1-1 service allowing individuals to send a text to reach emergency call-takers from wireless phones or devices for help in the event they are unable to make a voice call. By simply sending a text as one normally would and entering 9-1-1 in the recipient field, a text session is started between 9-1-1 and the individual needing help.

It is important to remember, however, that text to 9-1-1 services should only

be used in an emergency situation, when someone is unable to speak. Examples include if the person is deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired, or when speaking out loud would put the individual in danger. Text to 9-1-1 also provides a silent alternative in cases such as a child abduction, active shooter or domestic abuse.

When texting 9-1-1, you need to know your exact location and the nature of your emergency. Use simple language and no abbreviations or slang. Most im-

portantly, do NOT TEXT and DRIVE. Pull over to a safe location before sending a text to 9-1-1. If you are able, please call 9-1-1. It takes longer to get all the information when communicating through text messages.

Currently you can only Text-to-9-1-1 with the four major wireless carriers: AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless™. If you are in an area where texting service is not available to 9-1-1, you will receive a 'bounce-back' message telling you to make a voice call.



## TCOG Announces Durable Medical Equipment Project Launch

“As an organization committed to improving quality of life, TCOG encourages solution-based, collaborative projects such as the Durable Medical Equipment Initiative.”

In collaboration with the Salvation Army of Grayson County, Areli Medical Supply and Grayson County Health Clinic, TCOG launched the Durable Medical Equipment Project on January 2, 2018.

Work began on the project when TCOG’s Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) received funds from Texas Department of Health and Human Services Commission to initiate the project in August 2016.

The project fulfills two gaps for Grayson County: 1) a means for collecting, refurbishing and distributing reusable durable medical equipment; and 2) loaning the equipment to individuals in need.

The project’s inventory includes wheelchairs, walkers, rollators, canes, portable commodes and shower chairs. The Salvation Army of Grayson County houses the project in their Denison warehouse, and Texoma residents along with partner

agencies have donated the inventory on hand. The project’s collaborators coordinate referrals, inventory control and maintenance.

TCOG became involved in the project upon recognizing the need for such a program. To access the program, referral forms and medical necessity forms are completed by referring agency and the individual’s doctor.





## Stand up. Speak Out. Make it Okay to Say.

### TCOG unveils Okay to Say in the Workplace Initiative

“Reducing the stigma around issues related to mental health is not only the right thing to do from a human perspective, but it’s the smart thing to do from an employment perspective.”

TCOG joined the efforts of the Texoma Behavioral Health Leadership Team (TBHLT) in reducing the stigma of mental health by unveiling an Okay to Say initiative within the workplace.

TCOG’s Public Information & Media Manager Sean Norton stated, “We want our staff to know and understand that their wellness is one of our top priorities, and we want our community to know the same thing. We’re helping to reduce the stigma of mental health by fostering a culture of compassion and understanding within the workplace, providing our staff with access to appropriate programs through our benefits package, and access to resources

through our internal communication tools.”

TCOG joins Texoma Health Foundation (THF) and the Child & Family Guidance Center (CFGF) of Texoma in implementing the Okay to Say program within the workplace.

“Since the inaugural meeting of the Texoma Behavioral Health Leadership Team, reducing the stigma that surrounds mental illness has been a priority cause. The Okay to Say program hits that target head on, and as we extend it institutionally throughout the community, those same principles will be integrated in a systemic fashion. Congratulations to Texoma Coun-

cil of Governments on being one of the first organizations to not only implement the Okay to Say program in its workplace, but also to design an implementation methodology for other groups to follow. Kudos to TCOG!” Gail Utter, NEWCO co-founder stated.

Okay to Say™ is a community-based movement initiated by the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute to increase public awareness about mental health issues in Texas, dispel biases and stereotypes, and break down cultural barriers surrounding mental illness in Texas and beyond. For more information, please visit [www.texasstateofmind.org](http://www.texasstateofmind.org).



THE STAR OF NORTH TEXAS

## Visioning Bonham, 2017-2025

The Bonham Vision Plan was facilitated by Texoma Council of Governments and initiated by the City of Bonham, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and Bonham Economic Development Corporation.

TCOG was engaged by the City of Bonham to develop and engage a project team, steering committee, and stakeholders in numerous meetings and public forums to review data and maps, engage in SWOC (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Challenges) exercises, as well as focused Value and Visioning sessions. The process of visioning enables the community to define the future they want while identifying and incorporating community assets and understanding where improvements are needed.

Visioning is an important tool for community and economic development that assists cities in preserving what works while

preparing and addressing needs for the future. The plan analyzes several areas including annexation, parks and greenspace, housing, infrastructure (broadband, transportation networks, water, and sewer capacity), workforce, and zoning, all in light of projected & planned growth. This plan is not designed to serve as a comprehensive review or plan, but rather an overview that will allow prioritization by the implementation team. The plan produced several strategic initiatives that will be addressed by an "Implementation Committee" appointed by Bonham City Council.

# COMBINED STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

FISCAL YEAR ENDING (FYE)  
APRIL 30, 2018

During FYE 2018 Texoma Council  
of Governments administered  
over **\$13.77 million** in federal,  
state and local programs.

## REVENUES

2018

FEDERAL	\$8,972,600
STATE	\$2,186,492
LOCAL, IN-KIND, & OTHER	\$2,610,413
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$13,769,505</b>

## EXPENDITURES

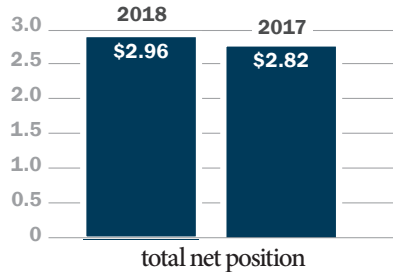
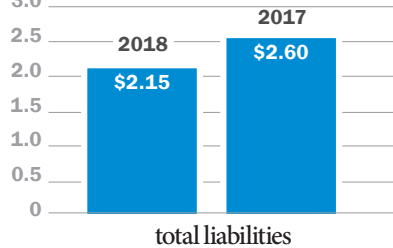
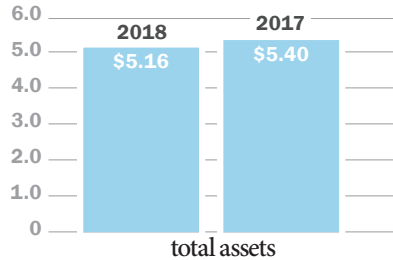
OPERATIONAL	
Direct Salaries	\$2,213,467
Benefit Program Costs	\$1,104,058
Indirect Costs	\$909,004
Travel & Training	\$164,992
Contracted Services	\$92,203
Equipment Maintenance	\$102,820
Direct Services	\$6,632,432
Subcontracts	\$1,190,294
Other ( <i>Professional Services, Staff &amp; Volunteer Recognition, Supplies, Stipends, Utilities</i> )	\$1,221,304
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$13,630,574</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	\$138,931
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	\$2,821,787

**FUND BALANCE END OF YEAR**

**\$2,960,718**

## STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

YEARS ENDED APRIL 30,  
2018 AND 2017



### ASSETS

#### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Pooled Investments	\$1,271,739	\$1,098,700
Accounts Receivable	\$983,077	\$1,297,935
Under Allocated Employee Benefits and Central Service IT	\$105,355	\$255,785
Prepaid Items	\$43,883	\$44,631

#### TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

\$2,404,054 \$2,697,051

#### NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Capital Assets, Net	\$2,751,031	\$2,704,160
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#### TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS

\$2,751,031 \$2,704,160

#### TOTAL ASSETS

\$5,155,085 \$5,401,211

### LIABILITIES

#### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$668,298	\$807,988
Unearned Revenue	\$686,575	\$883,423
Accrued Compensated Absences	\$29,693	\$26,774
Notes Payable	\$75,672	\$71,939

#### TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES

\$1,460,238 \$1,790,124

#### NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

Notes Payable	\$600,951	\$676,623
Accrued Compensated Absences	\$89,078	\$80,322

#### TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

\$690,029 \$586,645

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$2,150,267 \$2,579,429

### NET POSITION

Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$2,074,408	\$1,955,598
Restricted	\$215,370	\$279,539
Unrestricted	\$670,940	\$586,645

#### TOTAL NET POSITION

\$2,960,718 \$2,821,782

# AGING SERVICES



The federal Older Americans Act designated Area Agencies on Aging to develop and implement programs and services for older people at the local level.

*The Texoma Region has a larger per capita population of older persons than the State of Texas.*

Our AAA served over 8,330 clients and expended \$1,444,917 in Federal and State funding across the Texoma region last year.

TCOG's Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is dedicated to providing older Texomans an appropriate and coordinated system of services that fully supports their health and well-being, with the goal of creat-

ing an environment where they may age with grace and dignity. Texoma AAA continues to evaluate, modify and implement projects to address identified unmet needs of Texoma seniors.



## Benefits Counseling

TCOG's Benefits Counselors answer questions regarding public benefits, private insurance, and Medicare and Medicaid for those age 60 and over, disabled individuals and caregivers.

A Money Management Specialist also provides bill payer and representative payee service to persons who are at risk of losing their independence because of their inability to manage their finances.

We provided over **1,850 hours of counseling and assistance** last year to more than **1,430 clients** with more than **630 contacts** in **Community Outreach**.



## Managing Local Ombudsman

The Managing Local Ombudsman (MLO) is responsible for monitoring the quality of care for residents in long-term care facilities, advocating for Resident's Rights, and also recruiting and training volunteers to become State Certified Volunteer Ombudsmen (CVO).

The MLO and CVOs participate in nursing home open hearings, research complaints and ensure the best possible care for the residents of long-term care facilities throughout the Texoma region.

Over **1,400 hours of service** were provided to advocate for older people in **37 nursing and assisted-care facilities** last year.





## Care Coordination

Care Coordination is a community-based home care program administered by professional case managers which promotes independent living for persons age 60 and over. Services include assistance with activities of daily living, home-delivered meals, minor residential repair, health maintenance (dental, vision, hearing, and medication), emergency transportation and in-home service arrangements.

We are proud of our continued partnerships with **Cooke County United Way** and **Byrd Fielder Live-good Charitable Trust** in delivery of healthy initiatives to our senior community.

**TCOG provided over 1,250 hours of coordinated service to more than 700 clients last year, enabling older Texomans to live at home longer and preventing premature placement in long-term care facilities.**

## Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals

Over 92,500 meals were provided in the Texoma area to eligible clients valued at more than \$465,500, a slight increase over the previous year.

## Health Maintenance

Almost \$74,000 in local grant funding was spent in services for dental, vision, hearing and emergency medications.

## Residential Repair

Nearly \$42,000 in grant funding was spent for residential repair services to the older population in Texoma including safety issues, plumbing, and electrical wiring.

# Caregiver Program

The Caregiver Program assesses the needs of a caregiver and care recipient by identifying, planning, arranging, coordinating and providing support services.

Programs include: Falls Prevention, Caregiver Support Groups, Community Outreach, In-home and Facility Respite Care, Education & Training for Alzheimer's and/or Dementia, Parkinson's Disease and Chronic Illnesses, and the Grandparents as Parents program for Grandparents/Relatives raising grandchildren.

During FYE 2018, TCOG provided over 1,530 hours of caregiver services with almost 400 contacts for Education and Training of caregivers and more than 1,000 informational contacts for Community Outreach.

## Evidence-Based Intervention - A Matter of Balance Falls Prevention & Powerful Tools for Caregivers

TCOG provided free services to the community at a value of over \$6,200.



Join a local support group for volunteer support, peer and formal counseling, and educational programs to address your needs as a grandparent or other relative in this role. Call (903) 813-3575.





## Information and Referral (IR&A)

The IR&A Specialist is trained in local and State resources and is a point of contact for services at the Area Agency on Aging of Texoma.

The Specialist evaluates the needs of each caller, identifies what services are needed, makes referrals to appropriate sources, and follows up on

referrals to ensure service was provided.

[Over 5,200 referrals and connections to resources were made during FYE 2018.](#)



# Senior Corps

Texoma Senior Corps consists of two senior volunteer programs - Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) and Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) - for people age 55 and over. We serve Grayson, Cooke and Fannin counties.

FGP volunteers must meet certain income criteria as well as pass a physical and criminal background check and commit to a minimum of fifteen hours a week and focus on at-risk children who are in need of support.

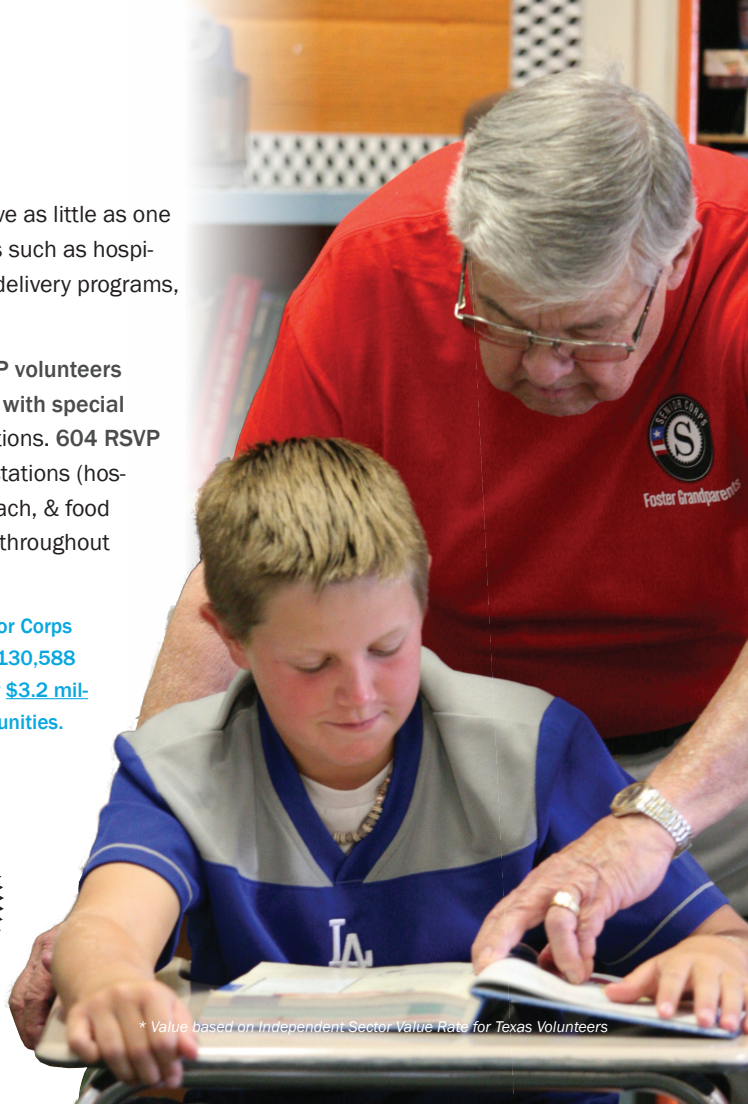
Volunteers can be found serving in area schools, day cares, and after-school programs and receive a small hourly stipend and travel expense assistance for their service.

The goal of Senior Corps is to provide positive impact service and to bridge the gap between seniors who *want* to serve with people/agencies who *need* their service.

RSVP volunteers may serve as little as one hour a month at locations such as hospitals, food pantries, meal delivery programs, and business offices.

This past year, our **43 FGP** volunteers served over **155** children with special needs at 32 different stations. **604 RSVP** volunteers served at 59 stations (hospitals, respite care, outreach, & food delivery and distribution) throughout Texoma.

During FYE 2018, local Senior Corps volunteers served a total of 130,588 hours - an equivalent to over [\\$3.2 million\\*](#) in service to our communities.



\* Value based on Independent Sector Value Rate for Texas Volunteers

# CLIENT SERVICES

Whether providing affordable housing, self-sufficiency programs, home weatherization, or referrals to crucial social services, the common goal of Client Services is to: *Give families hope.*

The Client Services programs are supported with state and federal funds and offer families a better tomorrow by providing life-changing resources today.

By thoughtfully and strategically planning for the future needs of our region, TCOG continues to improve the level of social and lifeline services which in turn improves quality of life for all Texoma residents.

The Client Services Department specializes in the delivery of direct services to qualified families living in Texoma and includes: Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, 2-1-1 Information and Referral, and the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Texoma.





## Aging & Disability Center (ADRC) of Texoma

TCOG's ADRC Program provides specialized person-centered referrals to clients seeking access to long-term health services and supports such as care counseling, benefits counseling, program eligibility determination and program enrollment assistance. Clients are provided with "warm referrals" meaning the ADRC Specialist not only makes referrals but actually contacts the referral on behalf of the client to ensure services are understood and received.

An important component to this program is building strong partnerships with programs and agencies throughout the service region. Programs and agencies are brought together for monthly stakeholder meetings where they collaborate on outreach and share program information. By working together, there is a strong alliance among the programs and agencies, which translates to better referrals and service to all clients.

## Community Outreach Efforts

ADRC staff facilitated quarterly stakeholder meetings for Texoma's aging and disability network and provided the following outreach:

- ✓ Chaired Healthy, Happy and Whole Expo (Cooke County)
- ✓ Chaired Fannin County Resource Expo
- ✓ Served on Texoma Workforce Solutions Disability Awareness Committee
- ✓ Served on 4th Annual Connecting the Dots Expo
- ✓ Served on Community Care Coordination Group
- ✓ Served on Mental Health Collaboration Group
- ✓ Served on Durable Medical Equipment Program Committee
- ✓ Developed Community Education Series

The ADRC Program service region covers 12 counties including: **Bowie, Cass, Cooke, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Grayson, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River and Titus.**

**During FYE 2018, TCOG's ADRC held or participated in 62 community education events about long-term health care services and supports. We served 4,599 clients, including 342 US military veterans.**



Each of Texas' twenty-five (25) call centers is a local operation with services that reflect local needs and concerns.

To learn more visit [www.211texas.org](http://www.211texas.org) ►

## 2-1-1 Information & Referral

Dialing 2-1-1 provides those in need with referrals to critical health and human services as well as community resources and government assistance.

The 2-1-1 database currently stores over 1,100 agencies and programs which provides almost 1,000 local references to clients living in Texoma.



Shawnee Bartlett received the TAIRS I&R Specialist of the Year award at the 40th Annual TAIRS Conference in Lubbock, TX.



This is the 2nd consecutive year one of our staff have received this award.



In 2017-18, 2-1-1 Texoma handled over 40,000 calls.



## Section 8 Housing

With an annual budget of over \$3 million, the Section 8 program provides affordable housing to 500+ families in Fannin and Grayson counties.

Section 8 families may choose to participate in the Family Self-Sufficiency/Homeownership Program to achieve the goal of financial independence through support services including employment and educational training, credit counseling, and homeownership classes.

Additionally, in coordination with the Department of Veterans Affairs, TCOG was selected to receive specialized vouchers which assist the most vulnerable, chronically-homeless veterans and their families transition from homelessness to permanent housing.

### Family Self-Sufficiency

**103 Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Graduates** since 1994

**90 Active** FSS/Homeownership Programs Participants

**3 New Homeowners** during FYE 2018 (total of 13 since 2004)

### HUD-VASH (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing)

In coordination with the Department of Veterans Affairs, TCOG continued to assist the most vulnerable, chronically-homeless veterans and their families transition from homelessness to permanent housing.



### Annual Share the Warmth Coat Drive

**1,477 coats were donated** through a collaborative effort between public and private entities to social service agencies, veterans, TCOG participants and the general public during the winter of 2017.

### Boots on the Ground 5K

**Designed to benefit homeless veterans in Grayson County**, this benefit event raised over \$3,000 in donations at 903 Brewers Schoolhouse in Sherman with a live concert by the Jared Mitchell Band and Rick Trevino.

### Popsicles in the Park

**A “Strong Family” initiative** brought together parents and provided resources in a fun environment last June at Pecan Grove Park West

### VA Stakeholder Meetings

**Quarterly networking opportunities** for HUD-VASH participants, the Department of Veterans Affairs and staff from TCOG.

# ENERGY SERVICES



This department is composed of three (3) separate programs designed to assist in meeting the energy needs of low-income households and encouraging consumers to control energy costs through energy education.

Energy Services served over 3,700 households and expended \$2,042,758 in Federal and State funding across the Texoma region last year.

These programs include: Weatherization, Utility Assistance, and Case Management.

Additionally, within this department is the administration of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program which provides assistance to local communities and organizations for the

reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals in rural and urban areas.

Assistance includes: education, employment and emergency food support.

**During FYE 2018**, we saw a 46% increase in staffing levels.



**84% of households served were elderly/disabled and living on a fixed income.**

# Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Provides the installation of energy-saving applications to homes, reducing energy consumption up to 40% and thereby lowering utility costs.

During FYE 2018, WAP clients saved an average of 19% on utility costs.

- ✓ 23 homes received wall/floor insulation
- ✓ 104 homes received attic insulation
- ✓ 106 homes treated for air infiltration
- ✓ 72 Heating System replacements
- ✓ 78 Cooling System replacements

The WAP Program service region covers 19 counties including: *Bowie, Camp, Cass, Collin, Cooke, Delta, Denton, Fannin, Franklin, Grayson, Hopkins, Hunt, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Rains, Red River, Rockwall, and Titus*

## Private Funding Partnerships Include:

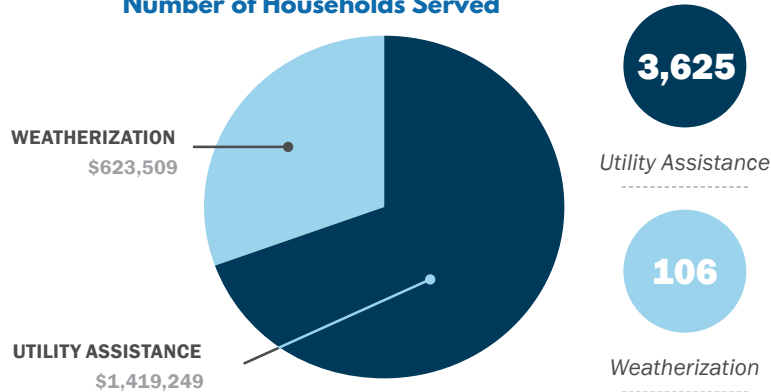


# Utility Assistance Program

Provides co-payment of gas, propane and electric utilities and the provision of supportive services for educating clients on how to conserve energy.

The Utility Assistance Program service region covers 7 counties including: *Collin, Cooke, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, and Rockwall*

## Number of Households Served



Priority households for these services include elderly, disabled & families with children under age six.  
Eligibility is up to 150% of the federal poverty level.

## Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

Provides one-on-one support to families striving for self-sufficiency by providing assistance with the cost of training or education which help move them out of poverty.

After visiting Fannin County food pantries in late 2017, TCOG staff learned of a critical food shortage due to the impact of donations diverted from the pantries to victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Through the action of compassionate TCOG staff and funding from CSBG, TCOG was able to purchase and donate **60,000 pounds of food** to the **Fannin County Food Pantry** and **Manna House**. The food was purchased from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) for pennies on the dollar.

**The donation fed approximately 2,500 people in Fannin County.**

**Getting  
AHEAD**  
in a Just-Gettin'-By World

## Getting Ahead Workshop

Funded through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), this course uses the technique of co-investigation, participants and facilitators work to better understand poverty, its causes, and the rich/poor gap in today's society. After getting a clear picture of their lives now, investigators explore a theory of change that moves them from the concrete thinking used to solve the constant barrage of everyday problems into more abstract thinking necessary for building future plans.

The course explores the hidden rules that help participants:

- ✓ Build Resources
- ✓ Learn from Others
- ✓ Make Connections
- ✓ Create a Better Tomorrow

For more information, please call (903) 813-3530.

# REGIONAL SERVICES



Focused on finding regional solutions to challenges in Texoma  
& improving quality of life at the community level.

Regional Services supports regional and local jurisdictions and municipalities in developing, maintaining and improving quality of life in Texoma.

From improvements in the way people get around the region to planning for the population increases that are projected in the next thirty years to making sure first responders have the training and equipment that they need to get to the scene of the emergency when you call 9-1-1, the Regional Services team is focused on finding regional solutions to challenges in Texoma & improving quality of life at the community level.





## GIS & Planning

Professionals in the GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Program create, analyze and manage geographic datasets and applications. These datasets include political jurisdictions, transportation networks, emergency management and environmental resources.

Local governments and citizens rely on maps and data created by the TCOG GIS Program to make well-informed and often life-saving decisions. The GIS Program helps promote geographic education in the region and provides a coordinating resource for GIS professionals in the region.

### Rural Addressing

The GIS program assigned over 500 new addresses within Texoma over the past year.

These addresses are not only vital for emergency services but are a crucial element in day-to-day activities for citizens and businesses.

As our region continues to develop Next Generation 9-1-1 services the accurate address data generated by GIS staff is critically-important.



### Land Use Option Maps

In an effort to assist communities with future land planning, TCOG staff continue to generate land use option maps. Leveraging GIS with these maps allow the visualization of ideas with accurate imaging and are very useful in decision-making processes. Ultimately, this results in more more profitable & productive conversations in final land use decisions.

# Municipal Solid Waste

The Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Grant Program provides both financial and technical assistance to city and county governments, school districts, and law enforcement districts in their efforts to combat illegal dumping, promote recycling, and ultimately reduce the amount of waste introduced to local landfills.

For More Information,  
please visit [www.tcog.com/msw](http://www.tcog.com/msw) ►



## Preparations for the 2019 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

After completing a successful event in 2017, staff have continued to assist local communities through the provision of technical assistance, education and outreach. The most frequently requested information was how to dispose of household paint; other questions concerned pesticides and tire disposal. Many communities struggle to find the resources to dispose of household waste properly and staff have worked closely with the **Texoma Area Solid Waste Authority** to help

individual residents be proactive in taking care of the ecosystem.

The **Natural Resources Advisory Committee** plays an important role in planning our next collection event.

Through presentations and participation in community events, staff have built awareness of TCOG's availability and expertise, including online resources such as an **interactive solid waste disposal map**.





## Community & Economic Development

TCOG is designated as the Economic Development District (EDD) for Texoma by the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

The Texoma EDD provides technical assistance to industry practitioners and policy-makers on specific projects & programs that promote development in the region.

### 2019-2021 Community Needs Assessment

TCOG staff published a comprehensive report identifying the 5 greatest community needs for each county in Texoma. The assessment contains a plethora of demographics obtained through community agency surveys, consumer and organization focus groups, and interviews with elected officials.

### Planning Services

#### Lake Kiowa, Pottsboro, Road Runner

Staff worked closely with the Lake Kiowa community to create a sustainable land use plan which takes into account expected residential growth, as well as recreational activities and community members' expectations.

Pottsboro officials engaged TCOG staff who worked with citizens and a local steering committee to develop a visioning plan reflecting the strengths of the community while recognizing and addressing its challenges.

In early 2018, program staff began working with Road Runner to assist in developing a community that meets their needs, including employment and business growth.

### Transportation

TCOG received grant funding from Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to continue work with the Regional Transportation Steering Committee and begin implementation of the regional transportation plan. This committee includes elected officials, service delivery personnel and representatives from workforce development, veterans groups and education.



## TCOG 9-1-1 Program

The TCOG 9-1-1 Program utilizes state-of-the-art call-taking equipment that incorporates digital mapping applications in Texoma's six 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs).

TCOG provides planning, implementation, management and ongoing administration of the regional network of systems and financing for more than **fifty** police, fire and emergency medical service agencies in the region.

**PSAPs participating in the Program are:** Bonham Police Department, Gainesville Police Department, Whitesboro Police Department, Cooke County Sheriff's Office, Fannin County Sheriff's Office, and the Grayson County Sheriff's Office.

TCOG successfully delivered 86,970 calls to the six 9-1-1 PSAPs during the FYE 2018.

### Outreach, Training and Support

Program staff provided over **1,600 hours of training** for regional Telecommunicators during FYE 2018.

In addition to direct support, we distributed over **15,000 education pieces** to the community and continue to host the **annual Telecommunicator Awards Banquet**.



# Criminal Justice

TCOG works with the law enforcement and victim advocacy communities throughout Texoma to make the best use of local, state and federal resources.



During this past year, program staff provided grant training, technical assistance, and through the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, facilitated the local scoring of grants for submission to the Office of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division.

**\$1,037,015** were awarded to agencies in the TCOG region to address Criminal Justice issues.

## Funded Agencies

- ✓ Fannin County Sheriff’s Office
- ✓ Whitesboro Police Department
- ✓ Fannin County Juvenile Services
- ✓ Abigail’s Arms
- ✓ Grayson County Women’s Crisis Center
- ✓ Fannin County
- ✓ Grayson County



# Emergency Planning

The Homeland Security Advisory Committee works with TCOG and the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grant Division, to facilitate Homeland Security Funding when awarded to our region. During 2017-18, we successfully:

- Managed over **\$269,000 in grant dollars** to enhance the security of the Texoma Region. These projects included interoperable communications equipment and terrorism prevention and response equipment.
- Hosted **882 hours** of training in support of the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)** so that response to emergency situations is efficient and effective.
- Partnered with **Cooke County** to update the **Cooke County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan**.

## **fye 2018 board officers & members**

### **PRESIDENT**

Jason Brinkley  
Cooke County Judge

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Jeff Whitmire, Grayson County Commissioner

### **SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Creta L. Carter, II, Fannin County Judge

Teresa Adams <i>City of Denison</i>	Phyllis James <i>Grayson County Community Rep</i>
Ronnie Bruce <i>City of Ravenna</i>	Cecil Jones <i>Fannin County Community Rep</i>
Dan Busch <i>Cooke County Community Rep</i>	Tony Rodriguez <i>City of Bonham</i>
Jason Fox <i>Bonham ISD Representative</i>	Cliff Sicking <i>City of Muenster</i>
Jim Goldsworthy <i>City of Gainesville</i>	David Turner <i>City of Southmayd</i>
Dick Haayen <i>North Central Texas College</i>	Jeff Whitmire <i>Grayson County</i>

# better leaders building better lives™

## **fye 2018 general membership**

### **CITIES & COUNTIES**

Cooke County  
Fannin County  
Grayson County  
City of Bonham  
City of Callisburg  
City of Denison  
City of Dodd City  
City of Ector  
City of Gainesville  
City of Gunter  
City of Honey Grove  
City of Howe  
City of Knollwood  
City of Ladonia  
City of Leonard  
Town of Lindsay  
City of Muenster  
Town of Oak Ridge  
City of Pottsboro

City of Sadler  
City of Sherman  
City of Southmayd  
City of Tioga  
City of Tom Bean  
City of Trenton  
City of Valley View  
City of Van Alstyne  
City of Whitesboro  
City of Whitewright  
Town of Windom

### **SCHOOL DISTRICTS & COLLEGES**

Bells ISD  
Bonham ISD  
Collinsville ISD  
Denison ISD  
Dodd City ISD  
Ector ISD  
Era ISD

Fannindel ISD  
Gainesville ISD  
Honey Grove ISD  
Grayson College  
Muenster ISD  
North Central Texas  
College  
Pottsboro ISD  
Sam Rayburn ISD  
Savoy ISD  
Sherman ISD

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Bonham Chamber of  
Commerce  
Denison Chamber of  
Commerce  
Sherman Chamber of  
Commerce





# Senior Leadership Team

## **executive director**

Eric M. Bridges

## **aging services director**

Judy Conner

## **client services director**

Delano Smith

## **energy services director**

Judy Fullylove

## **finance director**

Mindi Jones

## **public information & media manager**

Sean Norton

The Texoma Council of Governments is a voluntary association of the local governments in Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson counties. Established in 1968, Texoma Council of Governments promotes economy and efficiency in the coordinated planning and development of the tri-county region through its community and economic development activities.

Both directly and through contractors, the Council provides housing, utility assistance, and weatherization services for low-income citizens in the region and assists the elderly through a variety of Area Agency on Aging programs. The Council also facilitates the delivery of grant funding for homeland security and criminal justice.

1968-2018  
Celebrating

# 50

Years of  
Regionalism



Texoma Council of Governments  
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Sherman, TX 75090

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