



**For Immediate Release**

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**McKenna Foundation Grants Aim to Improve Community Well-Being**

NEW BRAUNFELS, TX (June 4, 2012) – The McKenna Foundation recently committed nearly \$1 million to improve the health and well-being for residents of New Braunfels and Comal County. Grant allocations included \$135,000 as seed funding to create the New Braunfels Area Community Foundation, \$95,000 toward development of a transitional housing facility for homeless families and \$731,675 to 28 local nonprofit organizations whose missions target those with the highest needs in Comal County.

According to Wes Studdard, Chairman of the McKenna Board of Trustees, the needs of the most vulnerable in our community take precedent when allocating grant funds. “We are in our fourth year of grant making and feel we get to know the community better every year. There are many diverse needs out there and fortunately, there are also high functioning organizations operating solely to meet those needs. McKenna will continue to partner with organizations dedicated to providing the resources necessary to make well-being affordable and accessible to everyone.”

The idea for the New Braunfels Area Community Foundation has been spearheaded by a group of community volunteers and modeled after successful community foundations across the state. As a public charity, the New Braunfels Area Community Foundation will promote philanthropy by creating opportunities for individuals to endow educational scholarships, field of interest funds, designated funds and donor advised funds for the benefit of nonprofit organizations in our community.

The McKenna Board also awarded funds to develop the first transitional living facility for homeless families in Comal County. With the number of homeless single and two-parent families with children increasing each year, the Board recognized the need to provide a housing resource where eligible families can set attainable goals, gain financial stability and transition into permanent

housing. This project will be a collaboration between McKenna, local nonprofit organizations, churches and individuals.

The application window for the next cycle of grants will open in January 2013, with the awards to be announced the following June. More information about the McKenna Foundation can be found online at [www.mckennalegacyfoundation.org](http://www.mckennalegacyfoundation.org).

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
New Braunfels Area Community Foundation	135,000
Transitional Living Project	95,000
CentroMed (El Centro Del Barrio)	75,000
Communities in Schools	75,000
Volunteers In Medicine	75,000
Salvation Army	75,000
Comal County Senior Citizens' Foundation	30,000
Community Resource and Recreation Center (CRRC)	30,000
Kids' Club	30,000
Connections Individual and Family Services	25,000
Crisis Center of Comal County	25,000
Any Baby Can	20,000
Bulverde-Spring Branch EMS	20,000
CASA of Central Texas	20,000
Family Life Center of New Braunfels	20,000
Hope Hospice	20,000
New Braunfels Public Library Foundation	20,000
Options for Women	20,000
St. Jude's Ranch for Children-Bulverde	20,000
St. Jude's Ranch for Children-New Braunfels	20,000
River City Advocacy	16,500
Childrens Advocacy Center	15,000
RSVP (America Reads Program)	10,175
Big Brothers Big Sisters	10,000
Bulverde Senior Center	10,000
Community Action of Central Texas	10,000
Habitat for Safe Seniors	10,000
Spring Branch Tennis Center	10,000
Texas Ramp Project	10,000
The Gabriel Project	10,000
<b>Total Amount Awarded</b>	<b>\$ 961,675.00</b>

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