

Communities Working Together to Accomplish What One Community Cannot Do Alone

The **E—Update**

Special Edition



We, at the Texas Midwest Community Network, wish you and yours health, safety and peace of mind in the midst of this unprecedented time in our state and country. Now, more than ever, we understand the value of our Network and the friendships we've formed. During this time, we will be exploring creative and collaborative ways to keep our communication lines open and use online alternatives to replace our upcoming in-person events scheduled over the next few months. We will also continue to deliver timely information about ongoing developments and potential local and state agency resources available to alleviate the burdens of our local small businesses through email and social media platforms. In the meantime, please take time to reach out to us and your peers in the Network. Let's share our ideas and strategies as we move through the next several weeks but more importantly, let's share the good news and the incredible acts of kindness which are happening within our communities.

Let's Change the Conversation
by Kathy Keane

in a world
where you can
be anything.
BE KIND.

I'm sure your head, like mine, is spinning with the ever-changing landscape connected with COVID-19. Between television and social media, the picture being painted seems to mostly gloom and doom.

That was, until yesterday when I and others in Abilene received an email from the ever-positive Nanci Lilies, Executive Director for the [Abilene CVB](#). She noted that, like many of you, several meetings and events had been cancelled in Abilene and that if you listen to the news, there isn't much being reported to lift spirits.

We're borrowing Nanci's idea and want to change the conversation. Let's show the State what a caring Community Network looks like by sharing stories of people and businesses in our communities. As Nanci stated "the acts of kindness could be anything from someone helping get food to underserved school kids or the elderly, children writing thank you notes to front line hospital and nursing home staff, or making sure groceries and medications are being delivered to those in need". Restaurants, hotels and small businesses are being hit hard - it could be a business owner who shines a bright light. Or, it could be you or your organization.

We can't wait to hear and share your stories. Thank you Nanci for sharing your bright light!

COVID-19 & Nonprofit Response: Health, Fundraising, and Risk Assessment Webinar

**Thu, Mar 19, 2020 1:00 PM - 2:00
PM CDT**

Nonprofit leaders are scrambling to keep services operational, not just open, during this worldwide pandemic. The NonProfit Times has assembled health professionals, fundraising experts and risk management authorities to provide guidance during a one-hour webinar.



This free webinar is a public service presentation by The NonProfit Times and Gallagher for nonprofit managers to tap expertise on the how and why of responses you might consider to meet these challenges in fundraising, health and risk areas.

Attendees will also be able to ask questions of the panelists.

Health: Nicole Lamoureux (President and Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Free and Charitable Clinic)

Health: Bobby Kapur, MD. (President of Allegheny Health Network)

Fundraising: Matthew Frattura (Vice President, Apogee Data Solutions, Infogroup Nonprofit Solutions)

Risk: Peter Persuitti (Managing Director, Religious Practice & Nonprofit Practice, Arthur J. Gallagher)

Risk: Phil Bushnell (Area Executive Vice President and Managing Director Religious & Nonprofit Practice at Gallagher Benefit Services)

Moderator: Paul Clolery (EMT-I, Editorial Director, NPT Publishing)

This is a FREE Nonprofit Webinar sponsored by The NonProfit Times.

Participants must register [here](#) to participate.

Dealing With the Coronavirus Webinar: What to do immediately to help save your tourism industry, and downtown businesses

Wed, Mar 18, 2020 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM CDT



In this workshop we are offering ideas that can still encourage travel while implementing "social distancing" and "self-quarantine" procedures, ways to shift your tourism marketing to help you weather the storm, what downtowns (and downtown businesses) can do to survive, and programs coming online to help small businesses that make up the bulk of our tourism-industry providers and downtown businesses.

Participants must register [here](#) to participate.



SBA To Provide Small Businesses Impacted by Coronavirus (COVID-19) Up to \$2 Million in Disaster Assistance Loans

WASHINGTON - SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza issued the following statement on Friday in response to the President's address to the nation last week:

"The President took bold, decisive action to make our 30 million small businesses more resilient to Coronavirus-related economic disruptions. Small businesses are vital economic engines in every community and state, and they have helped make our economy the strongest in the world. Our Agency will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest disaster recovery loans to small businesses that have been severely impacted by the situation. Additionally, the SBA continues to assist small businesses with counseling and navigating their own preparedness plans through our network of 68 District Offices and numerous Resource Partners located around the country. The SBA will continue to provide every small business with the most effective and customer-focused response possible during these times of uncertainty."

Process for Accessing SBA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Disaster Relief Lending

- The U.S. Small Business Administration is offering designated states and territories low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Upon a request received from a state's or territory's Governor, SBA will issue under its own authority, as provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act that was recently signed by the President, an Economic Injury Disaster Loan declaration.
- Any such Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance declaration issued by the SBA makes loans available to small businesses and private, non-profit organizations in designated areas of a state or territory to help alleviate economic injury caused by the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance will coordinate with the state's or territory's Governor to submit the request for Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance.

- Once a declaration is made for designated areas within a state, the information on the application process for Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance will be made available to all affected communities.
- SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance and can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.
- These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact. The interest rate is 3.75% for small businesses without credit available elsewhere; businesses with credit available elsewhere are not eligible. The interest rate for non-profits is 2.75%.
- SBA offers loans with long-term repayments in order to keep payments affordable, up to a maximum of 30 years. Terms are determined on a case-by-case basis, based upon each borrower's ability to repay.
- SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are just one piece of the expanded focus of the federal government's coordinated response, and the SBA is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible.

For additional information, please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center. Call 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or e-mail disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.



COVID-19 Resource List

CDC: [Share Facts About COVID-19](#)

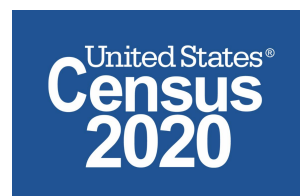
Texas Department of Insurance: [Coronavirus Resources](#)

[President Trump's Coronavirus Guidelines for America](#)

Census 2020 Update: How to Respond

The 2020 Census will ask a few simple questions about you and everyone who is or will be living with you on April 1, 2020. For the first time, you can choose to complete the census online, by phone, or by mail. Find out more about each of these methods below:

- [Online Response Guide](#)
- [Phone Response Guide](#)
- [Paper \(Mail\) Response Guide](#)



Please note that if you are responding online, you must complete the census in one sitting, as you don't have the ability to save your progress. [See the questions the census asks here.](#)

Should you have any questions or concerns, Misty Hauger, is our Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau for our region. You may contact Misty at 469-993-7181 or Misti.D.Hauger@2020Census.gov.

Thank You to Our Partners & Event Sponsors

The *Marketing & Promotions Opportunities Program* is one of the primary reasons for the continued success and sustainability of our organization. We proudly promote and recognize our partners' unwavering support given not only to our organization as a whole but the 50 communities who make up Texas Midwest Community Network. Please join us in offering our sincere gratitude for the longstanding and continued support of the following partners who have renewed for 2019 and, where possible, please demonstrate this appreciation by utilizing their services:



Champion: [Golden Spread Electric Cooperative](#) & [West Texas Rehabilitation Center](#)

Patron: [Hendrick Health Systems](#), [Jacob & Martin, LLC](#) & [Texas State Technical College](#)

Neighbors: [Atmos Energy](#), [AT&T](#), [Big Country Chevy Dealers](#), [Center for Community Health & Development](#), [Enprotec Hibbs & Todd](#), [Howard College - San Angelo](#) & [Tolar Systems, Inc.](#)

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Texas Midwest Community Network | 325-795-8626 | tmcn@tmcn.org | www.tmcn.org

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