



**\$800,000 REBUILD TEXAS FUND GRANT TO SUPPORT CENTER'S WORK
TO ADDRESS TRAUMA, CAPACITY AND OTHER SERVICES FOR FOSTER CARE
CHILDREN IMPACTED BY HURRICANE HARVEY**

*Texas Center for Child and Family Studies to Work with Local Child & Family Agencies and
Organizations in Houston, Beaumont and Across Texas Gulf Coast*

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AUSTIN, TEXAS—The Texas Center for Child and Family Studies (“the Center”), the 501c3 non-profit arm of the Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services TACFS), today announced an \$800,000 grant from the Rebuild Texas Fund to support recovery and relief efforts for foster care children impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

“We’re honored to receive a grant from the Rebuild Texas Fund to support ongoing and substantial relief and recovery efforts for Texas’ most vulnerable children and families impacted by the devastation of Hurricane Harvey in Houston, Beaumont and across the Texas Gulf Coast,” said Katie Olse, Executive Director of TACFS and the Center.

“Hurricane Harvey re-traumatized an already traumatized population, and the storm interrupted local capacity building efforts, further straining a foster care system buckling under the weight of increased demand,” added Olse.

The Rebuild Texas Fund grant will allow the Center and its grantees to address the compounding trauma on children and organizations serving children in areas hit by the hurricane last year. The grant will also allow local organizations to address the slow growth or loss of foster care capacity as a direct result of Hurricane Harvey.

“The needs of children and families impacted by Hurricane Harvey are varied and complex, and this is especially true for those in foster care,” said Neeraj Aggarwal of Rebuild Texas Fund. “The Texas Center for Child and Family Services has the experience, network and expertise to support programs that will mitigate Hurricane-induced trauma and build greater capacity and services for foster care children. We are proud to be supporting such an impactful initiative.”

The Center will immediately begin to solicit and review grant applications from area providers, as well as monitoring and overseeing grantees’ work with children and families in the greater Houston, Beaumont and Texas Gulf Coast regions.

“From training clinicians on advanced level trauma support to additional counseling and tutoring for foster care children in the impacted area, the needs are substantial and wide-ranging. Texas’ foster care system was already stretched thin. This grant will ensure The

Center can do its part to help organizations adapt, train and recruit foster parents and caregivers to support the unique needs of these Harvey survivors,” said Olse.

To learn more about the **Rebuild Texas Fund**, visit www.rebuildtx.org.

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About Rebuild Texas Fund

The Rebuild Texas Fund is a joint initiative of the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and the OneStar Foundation. The Rebuild Texas Fund supports organizations making an impact in the following six focus areas: community and economic development; health; housing; education and childcare; transportation and workforce; and capital for rebuilding small businesses. Funding through the Rebuild Texas Fund will be provided to eligible nonprofit, government, corporate, and philanthropic organizations working on the ground in Texas communities, big and small, that have been affected by Hurricane Harvey. More information about the Rebuild Texas Fund is available at www.RebuildTX.org.

About The Texas Center for Child and Family Studies

To learn more about **The Texas Center for Child and Family Studies** and its Hurricane Harvey relief and recovery efforts, visit www.txcentercfs.org.

Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services (TACFS) was formed in 1976 by mission-driven direct care organizations to strengthen the care, services, and practices for at-risk children, youth, and families. It achieves this mission through education and training, collaboration, and advocacy. The Center is the 501c3 nonprofit arm of TACFS.