



EDINBURG CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EDINBURG, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS

Location: City of Edinburg
City Hall-Council Chambers
415 West University Dr.
Edinburg, Texas 78539

BUDGET WORK SESSION AGENDA
JULY 1, 2025
5:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISH QUORUM

A. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE

3. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Mayor and City Council allow for a specific portion of the City Council Meeting to be dedicated to public comments. Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. Please note that this public comment period is not interactive. The City Council may not respond to public comments.

If a resident desires to make a public comment in person, please complete the Public Comments Form which will be located outside of the City Council Chambers and submit the completed form to the City Secretary prior to the commencement of the City Council Meeting. We ask for everyone's cooperation in following this procedure.

5. PRESENTATION AND REPORT

A. Presentation and Discussion of Funding Requests by Non-Profit Organizations for Budgetary Consideration for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget.

6. ADJOURNMENT

I hereby certify this Notice of a City Council Budget Work Session was posted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, at the City Offices of the City of Edinburg, located at the 415 West University entrance outside bulletin board, visible and accessible to the general public during and after regular working hours. This notice was posted on June 27, 2025 at 5:45 p.m.

By: /s/ Clarice Y. Balderas
Clarice Y. Balderas, City Secretary
City of Edinburg, Texas

Disability Access Statement

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services are

requested to contact the City Secretary Department at (956) 388-8204 at least two business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The accessible entrance and accessible parking spaces are located at Edinburg City Hall, 415 West University.



**REQUEST FOR FUNDING
APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE • P.O. BOX 1079 • 415 W. UNIVERSITY DRIVE • EDINBURG, TX
78540
TEL: 956.388.8207

Agency: Edinburg Chamber of Commerce
Name of Event/Program: Edinburg Chamber and CVB
Executive Director: Ronnie Larralde
Contact Person: Ronnie Larralde
Address: 602 W. University Dr. Edinburg TX 78541
Phone Number: 956-383-4974
E-Mail of Contact Person: chamber@edinburg.com
Organizations Federal Identification No. (Tax ID): 74-0605448
Amount Requested: \$ 500,000 (Chamber and CVB)
Proposal Due Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:30p.m. Applications submitted after the deadline specified will not be considered.

Statement of Non-Discrimination: The City of Edinburg does not discriminate on the basis of Age, Race, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Genetic Information, Color, National Origin, Religion, Disability or Any Other Legally Protected Status in Admission to, Access to, or Operations of its Programs, Services, or Activities.

SPECIFIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ☐ **WHO CAN SUBMIT REQUEST:** All public or private non-profit agencies, organizations, or authorities are eligible to apply for City of Edinburg funds. This application must be completed and submitted to: City of Edinburg City Manager's Office located at 415 West University Drive, Edinburg, TX 78539.
- ☐ **DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received by the City Manager's Office by: **4:30 pm, Friday, June 13, 2025.**
- ☐ **SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:** Submit one original application and all supporting material. Please provide all pages in letter size (8 ½ x 11). All originals and copies must be legible and unbound.
- ☐ **FORMAT:** Application must be submitted in typed format.
- ☐ **METHOD OF DELIVERY:** Applications **cannot** be submitted on-line, via e-mail or by fax. All Applications **must be** mailed or delivered to: City of Edinburg, City Manager's Office, 415 West University Drive, 2nd floor, Edinburg, Texas 78539.
- ☐ **MISSING INFORMATION:** Applications missing any information will be deemed "incomplete" and may not be considered. The City reserves the right to request clarification or any additional information deemed necessary in order to make its determination. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding and the City reserves the right to determine the completeness of all proposals. Further, the City Council reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Funding granted in one fiscal year does not guarantee that an applicant will receive future funding.
- ☐ **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Public or Private Non-Profit Agencies/Organizations submitting a funding application may be required to make a presentation to the Mayor and City Council on a date and time to be determined later. The City of Edinburg will hold a budget work session to review funding requests for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. **Presentations will be timed, so please ensure your presentation is no longer than 5 minutes.**

If you have any questions regarding the application and required documentation, please contact Assistant City Manager, Nelda Ramirez, or Management Analyst, Brandon Alaniz, at 956.388.8207.

I. AGENCY INFORMATION

1. Longevity: Number of Years agency has been in business: 99 Years
2. Does your agency develop or explore new sources to generate funds such as soliciting donations, fundraisers, applying for grants, etc.)? Yes ☒ No ☐
3. Has the agency been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Are there any outstanding judgements against the agency? Yes ☐ No ☒
5. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest:

Are any of the board members or employees of the agency which will be carrying out this program, or members of their immediate families, or their business associates:

- a. Employee of the City of Edinburg or related to a City employee? Yes ☐ No ☒
- b. Members of or closely related to members of Edinburg City Council or Advisory Committee Board? Yes ☐ No ☒

If you answered "Yes" to any questions a and/or b, you must provide an explanation. The existence of a potential conflict of interest may make the request ineligible for funding. The existence of an undisclosed conflict may result in the termination of any funding.

List all individuals associated with the applicant or ownership entity that have a reportable financial interest in the program. Include type of participation in the program, percentage, and dollar amount of financial interest in the program.

6. Does the agency formally evaluate and measure the effectiveness of this program?
Yes ☒ No ☐
7. What steps have been taken in the past year to make the agency more cost effective?
A strategic planning and board orientation is held in September. We are able to set goals for the upcoming year and beyond. The chamber also reevaluates their programs of work and discusses opportunities that will benefit the city of Edinburg and its business community.

II. AGENCY OVERVIEW

1. Provide a brief summary of the agency.

The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce is a network of leaders serving Edinburg and the region as an advocate and resource, advancing commerce and the quality of life.

2. Indicate if this is a new or existing agency/program below:

☒ Existing (previously funded by the city)

☐ New (never been funded by the City)

3. What is the full-service area of this agency? ☒ Edinburg ☐ Other

Please describe the service area(s):

Our Charge is to lead the effort in advancing commerce and the quality of life in Edinburg and the region. We will foster service, development, and growth by forging positive relationships, advocating volunteerism, and leadership development.

4. Demand for Services

- a. Explain the need for this program and the gap in services in the City of Edinburg.

Provide quantitative data to your explanation.

A chamber of commerce is an organization of businesses operating as a 501(c)6 organization. Chambers of commerce seek to further their collective business interests while advancing the economic well-being of their community, region, state, or nation.

- b. Was this program funded by the City in FY 2024-2025? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, what was the previous funding amount: \$ 375,000.00

What **NEW** or **EXPANDED** services/programs will your agency provide for the Community (be quantitative)?

We are requesting an increase in funding to expand our community festivals in response to rising costs and the strong recommendations to attract higher-quality entertainment. ☒

If requesting an increase, is a quantifiable increase? Yes ☒ No ☐

5. Clientele

- a. What is the target population? (Example: children, elderly, etc.) Edinburg Business community ☒

- b. How many individuals will be served by this program in Edinburg? 100,000 +

- c. What is the estimated cost to provide services to one person? \$5.00

6. Performance Management (measuring your goals and objectives)
 Show how you identify and measure the results and impacts brought about by your event/program. When completing this section keep in mind the question:
"How do we know this event/program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve"?

A strategic planning and board orientation is held in September. We are able to set goals for the upcoming year and beyond. The chamber also reevaluates their programs of work and discusses opportunities that will benefit the city of Edinburg and its business community. A presentation and variables are presented on the community impact of the chamber of

III. EVENT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a brief description of the specific event/program for which you are requesting funding and how the problem or need involves residents in Edinburg.

A Chamber of Commerce / Convention and Visitors Bureau is important because it plays a key role in supporting local economic growth, promoting businesses, and attracting visitors to the community.

2. Please provide the number of individuals assisted in Edinburg for the following fiscal years:

	FY 2024-2025	Proposed FY 2025-2026
Total # Assisted	\$390,000.00	\$500,000.00
# of Edinburg Residents Served	100,000+	100,000+

3. List similar projects in Edinburg. Is there a coordinating agency? If so, whom? (Name, Address & Phone Number of Contact Person)

N/A

4. Provide backup information regarding event/program service necessity, such as surveys, waiting list, etc.
5. Attach letter(s) of support for this event/program.
6. If this event/program is unfunded or partially funded, will the event/program be carried out? The requested funding inc
7. Is there a fee for your services? If so, please attach a fee schedule.

IV. **BUDGET**

1. Please list City of Edinburg funding amount requested and other sources of funds and amounts for this event/program/organization.

a. Funding amount requested from City of Edinburg \$ _____

b.

Other Sources	Funding Amount
Membership and Fundraising	
Total Event/Program Expenses	VIEW CHARTS

2. Provide a line-item budget that will identify the allocation of the requested City of Edinburg funding amount.

CATEGORY	FUNDS REQUESTED
Salaries	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	
Capital	
Utilities	
Advertising	
Program Supplies	
Other (Specify)	
Other (Specify)	
Total Event/Program Expenses	VIEW CHARTS

3. Is event/program dependent on "Other Funds"?

Note: If other funds are pending approval and the event/program is dependent on them, please be advised that we reserve the right to rescind City of Edinburg funding if other funding becomes unavailable.

4. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for staffing and operations?

YES- Membership

5. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for direct benefit.

Please see budget attachments

6. Describe the need and the degree of urgency for the proposed funding. What would be the consequences if not funded in the next year?

We would not be able to help our business community and create quality of life events for the City of Edinburg.

V. EVENT/PROGRAM TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS

1. When will the event/program fiscal year begin and end?

October 2025- September 2026

2. If funded, indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg funds to be spent each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

\$125,000.00

3. Indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg beneficiaries to be assisted during each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

\$125,000.00

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

VI. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

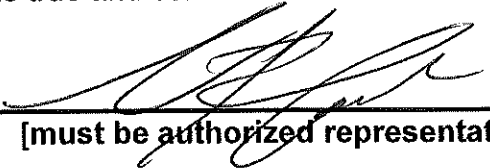
If application is **NOT** signed by an authorized representative, the application will be disqualified.

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. Proof of tax exemption (Tax ID#)
3. Must provide a copy of the most current single or program audit report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. Include Independent Auditor's Report, Management Letter, if noted in the Audit, and the response to the Management Letter addressing all issues, concerns, and/or findings.
4. Copy of most recent 990 Tax Return. (provide copy of IRS Form 8868)
5. Current budget for agency - Show all sources of expected revenues and expenditures
6. Applicant's By-Laws
7. Resume of Chief Administrator
8. Resume of Chief Financial Officer
9. Board of Directors: Provide name, address, occupation, and phone number of current Board of Directors, include position/title on Board.
10. Current Organizational Chart
11. Documentation of non-profit status, include state and federal tax-exempt determination letters.
12. **Authorized Officials:** Designated officials authorized to enter into contracts. Identify all personnel with signatory powers. Provide a letter signed by Board Member or approved "Minutes".

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

If this request is accepted for funding, the applicant must be willing to comply with all applicable federal, state and city requirements and enter into a funding agreement with the City of Edinburg.

I certify under penalty of perjury the foregoing application for City of Edinburg funds for FY 2025-2026 is true and correct. I understand additional documentation may be required if funding is granted.

Signature: 
[must be authorized representative]

Date: 06/13/2025

Please print or type name and title of signer:

Name: Ronnie Larralde

Title: Executive Director



June 13, 2024

Mrs. Myra Ayala, City Manager
City of Edinburg
415 W. University Dr.
Edinburg, TX 78539

Dear Mrs. Ayala,

On behalf of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to you and the City of Edinburg for your continued support of our organization. Enclosed, please find the proposed budgets for the 2025–2026 General Fund and the Hotel/Motel Occupancy Tax Funds, which we respectfully submit for your review and consideration.

As you will see, our proposed budget is comprehensive—reflecting the growing needs of our vibrant community. The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce remains committed to enhancing the quality of life and creating a lasting economic impact for Edinburg and its surrounding areas.

Through a wide range of services—Networking, Marketing, and Education—we support both members and non-members. Our work plays a vital role in fostering a thriving business climate that benefits small and large enterprises alike. Additionally, we offer programs that empower individuals to become more engaged and effective leaders in both their personal and professional lives.

Over the past year, the Chamber successfully hosted 142 events in Edinburg, resulting in a 34.1% increase in overall engagement and growth. We also offered continuing education opportunities through our business development trainings, accessible to all local businesses.

Signature community events like the Night of Lights Parade, Fiesta Edinburg, Texas Cook'Em, Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, State of the City Address, Challenge RGV and our Annual Awards Banquet were all made possible through our collaborative efforts. We also continued our Public Affairs Luncheons and hosted networking events that brought members and non-members together to make valuable connections and stay informed about key issues in the Edinburg community.

Edinburg Chamber of Commerce
602 W. University Dr. Edinburg, Texas 78539
956-383-4974
www.edinburg.com

We're proud to share that this year, our 36th Leadership Edinburg Class raised \$36,000 and is preparing to break ground on a Gold Star Monument at the Museum of South Texas History—set to become the only dedicated tribute site of its kind in South Texas. In addition, the Chamber will award scholarships to five local veterans at the upcoming Texas Cook'Em event in July 2025 and has provided financial support to several community programs in need.

Our efforts have also brought significant economic benefits to the city, from increased hotel occupancy to heightened use of community facilities such as the Edinburg Golf Course. New events like SB 250 and the South Texas Boxing Junior Olympic Championships are just a few examples of the positive impact we've made.

These accomplishments reflect the dedication of our Board of Directors, Chamber members, and community partners. We look forward to growing these programs and launching new initiatives in the coming year.

Thank you again for your support and consideration. It has been a pleasure working with you and the City during my tenure at the Chamber. I am confident that our continued partnership will lead to even greater achievements for Edinburg. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ronnie Larralde', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ronnie Larralde

Executive Director

Edinburg Chamber of Commerce

EDINBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

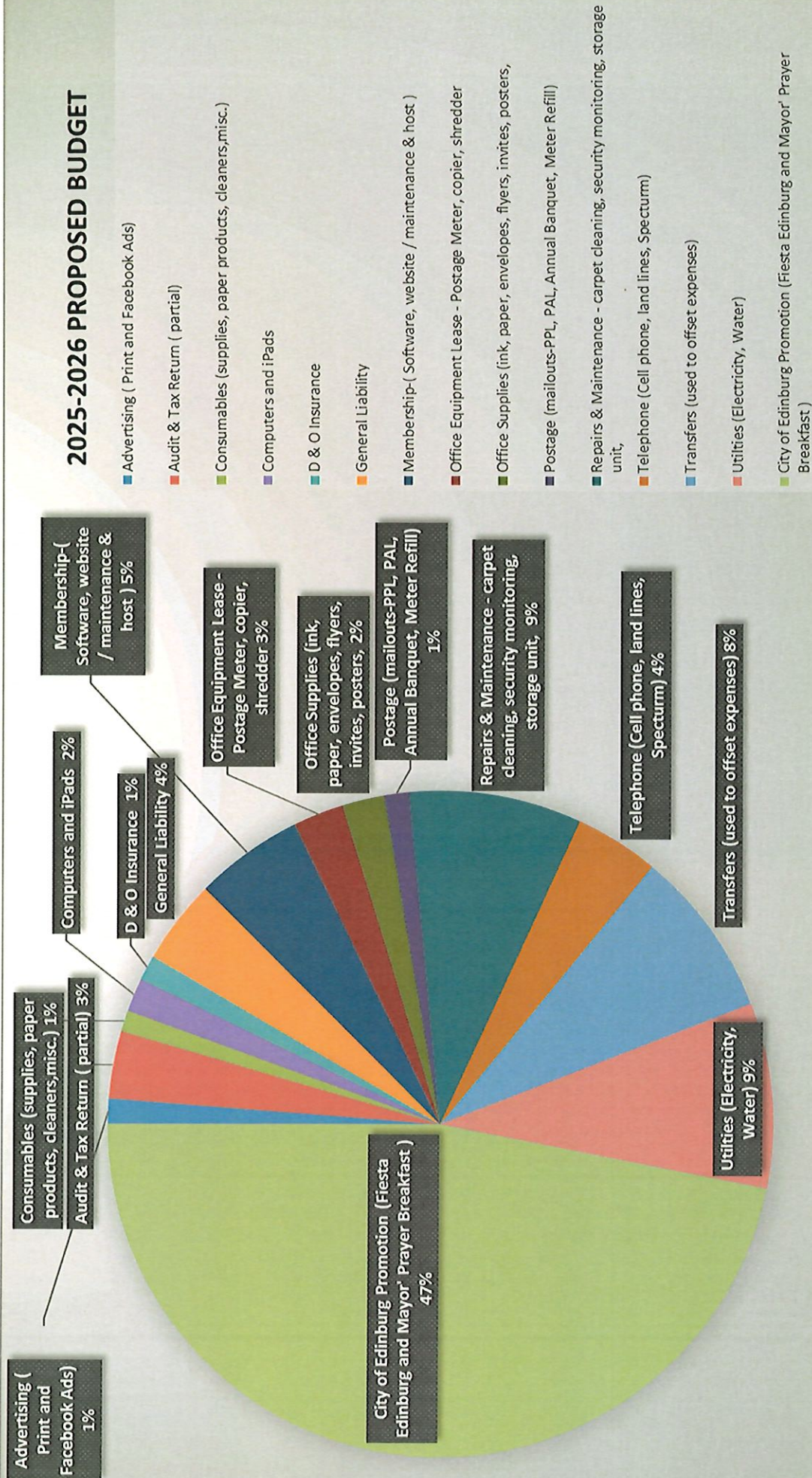
602 W.University EDINBURG, TEXAS 78539

2025-2026**PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

EDINBURG CHAMBER

				Approved Budget	Proposed Budget
REVENUES:					
PROPOSED CITY FUNDING				\$ 175,000.00	\$ 245,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSE				\$ 175,000.00	\$ 245,000.00
				Approved Budget	Proposed Budget
EXPENSES				2024-2025	2025-2026
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Advertising (Print and Facebook Ads)				\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Audit & Tax Return (partial)				\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Consumables (<i>supplies, paper products, cleaners,misc.</i>)				\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Computers and iPads				\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
D & O Insurance				\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
General Liability				\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Membership (Software, website / maintenance & host constant contact)				\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
Office Equipment Lease - <i>Postage Meter, copier, shredder</i>				\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Office Supplies (ink, paper, envelopes, flyers, invites, posters, office chairs, desks, etc.)				\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Postage (mailouts-PPL, PAL, Annual Banquet, Meter Refill)				\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance - <i>carpet cleaning, security monitoring, storage unit, AC/Heater Maintenance, Pest control, Building AC Unit,</i>				\$ 20,500.00	\$ 20,500.00
Telephone (Cell phone, land lines,Spectrum)				\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Transfers (used to offset expenses)				\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Utilities (Electricity, Water)				\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES					
City of Edinburg Promotion (<i>Fiesta Edinburg</i>)				\$ 30,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Edinburg Mayor's Prayer Breakfast				\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES				\$ 175,000.00	\$ 245,000.00

2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET



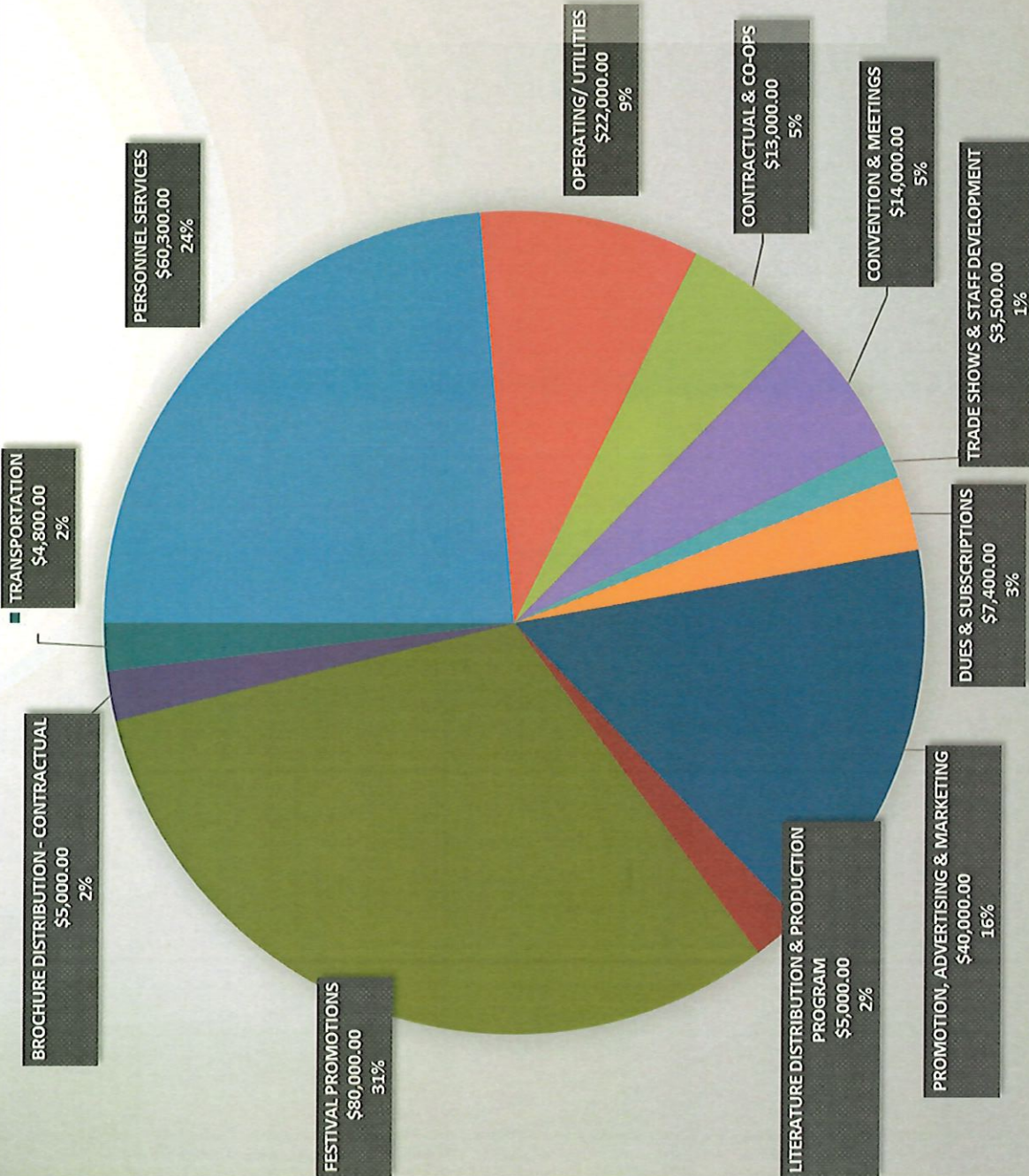
EDINBURG CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
a division of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce

2025-2026
E.C.V.B. PROPOSED BUDGET

ECVB FUNDING	Approved Budget 2024-2025	Proposed Budget 2025-2026
Hotel/Motel Occupancy Fund Budget	\$215,000.00	\$ 255,000.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$215,000.00	\$ 255,000.00
Line Item Breakdown		
10-2010 PERSONNEL SERVICES		
SALARIES (One full time)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 5,400.00
PAYROLL TAXES	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
Simple IRA	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 60,300.00	\$ 60,300.00
10-4030 OPERATING / UTILITIES		
Utilities, rent, office supplies, postage, internet, website	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
Toll Free 800 Tourist Information Line, telephone, copier, fax machine, computer maintenance, janitorial, security, janitorial service, use of meeting rooms, etc.		
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
10-6050 CONTRACTUAL & CO-OPS		
AUDIT	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
SOUTH TEXAS NATURE COOP	N/A	N/A
SOUTH TEXAS TOURISM COOP	N/A	N/A
Marketing Promotion-Google Ad / Facebook Ads, AIM Media	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
10-7060 CONVENTION & MEETINGS		
SALES & BID PRESENTATIONS		
Convention/Meeting/Reception Name Badges	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
PROMOTIONAL ITEMS		
Promo Items- Calenders Koozies etc.	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PROFESSIONAL MEALS & MEETINGS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
10-8070 TRADE SHOWS & STAFF DEVELOPMENT		
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
TRAVEL TRADE SHOWS(and other cities)		
TFEA TACVB, TCCE		
Tour De Edinburg	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
10-9080 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS		
Texas Travel Industry Association (Alliance)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Texas Association of Convention & Visitors Bureaus	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Texas Hotel/Motel Association	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
International Fairs & Events Association	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
Texas Festivals & Events Association	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Texas Tropical Trail (Historical)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 7,400.00
10-5040 PROMOTION, ADVERTISING & MARKETING		
REGIONAL & STATE MARKETING		
RGV Parkbook (The Monitor)	N/A	N/A
RGV Guidebook	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Welcome Home RGV	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
RGV Partnership (Visitor's Guide)	N/A	N/A
RGV Bird/Butterfly Map	N/A	N/A
RGV Attractions Map	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Winter Texan Expo	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Explore Edinburg Campaign	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 32,500.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION & PRODUCTION PROGRAM		
Edinburg Visitors Guide	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
FESTIVAL PROMOTIONS		
Night of Lights	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Winter Texan Promotion	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Winter Texan Event in January / Bingos in the Parks		N/A
Texas Cook'em (entertainment, generators, light towers) portables, sound/ stage/ lighting)	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION - CONTRACTUAL		
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
TRANSPORTATION		
Van Insurance (220 mo.)	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 2,650.00
Fuel (\$50 mo.)	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00
Repairs & Maintenance (Oil Change, Registration, etc.)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 215,000.00	\$ 255,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$ 215,000.00	\$ 255,000.00

2025-2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

- PERSONNEL SERVICES
- OPERATING/ UTILITIES
- CONTRACTUAL & CO-OPS
- CONVENTION & MEETINGS
- TRADE SHOWS & STAFF DEVELOPMENT
- DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS
- PROMOTION, ADVERTISING & MARKETING
- LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION & PRODUCTION PROGRAM
- FESTIVAL PROMOTIONS
- BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION - CONTRACTUAL
- TRANSPORTATION



EDINBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
602 W.University EDINBURG, TEXAS 78539
2025-2026
EDINBURG CHAMBER APPROVED BUDGET

Revenues:

	Current Budget
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 841,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 821,500.00
NET DIFFERENCE	\$ 20,000.00

INCOME **2024-2024**

Annual Banquet	\$ 60,000.00
BeerFest	\$ 30,000.00
Fiesta Edinburg	\$ 285,000.00
Leadership Edinburg	\$ 10,000.00
Member Services (PAL, PPL, Seminars, etc.)	\$ 40,000.00
Membership Dues (New and Renewal)	\$ 140,000.00
Membership Partnership Levels (2-TM, 1 Con., 4- RE)	\$ 35,000.00
Night of Lights	\$ 3,000.00
Publications / Advertising	\$ 10,000.00
South Texas Builders Expo	N/A
Texas Cookem (4th of July Event)	\$ 180,000.00
Winter Texan Events	\$ 3,500.00
Transfers from General Fund	\$ 20,000.00
Operating Transfers from CVB/Tourism	\$ 25,000.00

TOTAL INCOME \$ **841,500.00**

EXPENSE **2024-2025**

PERSONNEL SERVICES:	
Salaries	\$ 220,000.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 16,500.00
Health Insurance	\$ 25,000.00
Simple IRA	\$ 4,500.00

OPERATING EXPENSES

Annual Banquet	\$ 30,000.00
BeerFest	\$ 20,000.00
Membership	\$ 13,500.00
Hospitality	\$ 5,000.00
Committee Meals	\$ 10,000.00
Contract Labor	\$ 10,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 3,000.00
Fiesta Edinburg	\$ 250,000.00
Insurance (Non Owned / Workman's Comp.)	\$ 3,000.00
Leadership Edinburg	\$ 10,000.00
Professional Conferences & Meetings	\$ 10,000.00
Taxes	\$ 1,000.00
South Texas Builders Expo	\$ -
Texas Cookem (4th of July Event)	\$ 160,000.00
Professional Services	\$ 5,000.00
Member Services (PAL, PPL, Seminars, etc.)	\$ 25,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSE \$ **821,500.00**

Net Profit \$ **20,000.00**

Edinburg

REQUEST FOR FUNDING APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE • P.O. BOX 1079 • 415 W. UNIVERSITY DRIVE •
EDINBURG, TX 78539 TEL: 956.388.8207

Agency: Museum of South Texas History
Name of Event/Program:
Executive Director: Dr. Francisco Guajardo
Contact Person: Dr. Francisco Guajardo
Address: 200 N. Closner Blvd., Edinburg, TX 78541
Phone Number: 956-383-6911
E-Mail of Contact Person: fguajardo@mosthistory.org
Organizations Federal Identification No. (Tax ID): 23-7080936
Amount Requested: \$ 355,000
Proposal Due Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:30p.m. Applications submitted after the deadline specified will not be considered.

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SPECIFIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

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- ☐ **FORMAT:** Application must be submitted in typed format.

- ☐ **METHOD OF DELIVERY:** Applications **cannot** be submitted on-line, via e-mail or by fax. All Applications **must be** mailed or delivered to: City of Edinburg, City Manager's Office, 415 West University Drive, 2nd floor, Edinburg, Texas 78539.

- ☐ **MISSING INFORMATION:** Applications missing any information will be deemed "incomplete" and may not be considered. The City reserves the right to request clarification or any additional information deemed necessary in order to make its determination. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding and the City reserves the right to determine the completeness of all proposals. Further, the City Council reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Funding granted in one fiscal year does not guarantee that an applicant will receive future funding.

- ☐ **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Public or Private Non-Profit Agencies/Organizations submitting a funding application may be required to make a presentation to the Mayor and City Council on a date and time to be determined later. The City of Edinburg will hold a budget work session to review funding requests for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget. **Presentations will be timed, so please ensure your presentation is no longer than 5 minutes.**

If you have any questions regarding the application and required documentation, please contact Assistant City Manager, Nelda Ramirez or Management Analyst, Brandon Alaniz at 956.388.8207.

I. AGENCY INFORMATION

1. Longevity: Number of years agency has been in business: 58
2. Does your agency develop or explore new sources to generate funds such as soliciting donations, fundraisers, applying for grants, etc.? Yes ☒ No ☐
3. Has the agency been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Are there any outstanding judgements against the agency? Yes ☐ No ☒
5. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest:

Are any of the board members or employees of the agency which will be carrying out this program, or members of their immediate families, or their business associates:

- a. Employee of the City of Edinburg or related to a City employee? Yes ☐ No ☒
- b. Members of or closely related to members of Edinburg City Council or Advisory Committee Board? Yes ☒ No ☐

If you answered "Yes" to any questions a and/or b, you must provide an explanation. The existence of a potential conflict of interest may make the request ineligible for funding. The existence of an undisclosed conflict may result in the termination of any funding. List all individuals associated with the applicant or ownership entity that have a reportable financial interest in the program. Include type of participation in the program, percentage, and dollar amount of financial interest in the program.

One disclosure note:

- (1) **Museum CEO Francisco Guajardo is a volunteer member of the City of Edinburg's Cultural Arts Board (CAB). Dr. Guajardo works closely with Director of the Library Leticia Leiya and Arts Director Magdiel Castle, but he has no remunerative relationship with the CAB, or with any other entity associated with the City of Edinburg.**

6. Does the agency formally evaluate and measure the effectiveness of this program?
Yes ☒ No ☐
7. What steps have been taken in the past year to make the agency more cost effective?

STEP (1): The most important step the museum has taken is to hire a facilities supervisor to improve cost effectiveness relative to the facility and utilities. The museum has improved lighting fixtures—from incandescent to LED lighting for energy savings, both exterior and interior. Other improvements: installed automatic urinal flushers to conserve water;

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upgraded sprinkler systems to save water; initiated HVAC preventive measures; engaged in a decluttering process to maximize space.

STEP (2): the museum has pursued grant funding.

Grants submitted (status during the past year)

- (1) HEB Public Relations—funded**
- (2) McAllen Junior League—funded**
- (3) Tijerina Foundation--funded**
- (4) Kelso Foundation—submitted**

STEP (3--management efficacy measures): The 1910 Jail is the oldest and one of the most vulnerable buildings in Edinburg. It also sits 4 feet above the water table and is thus chronically susceptible to rising damp that crawls up the walls of the building. The museum has installed a pump that drains water from under the jail on an around-the-clock schedule. Though the museum invests significant resources to execute this preventative process, in the end, the practice is cost-effective, and it helps us preserve the oldest building in the community.

II. AGENCY OVERVIEW

1. Provide a brief summary of the agency.

The museum takes seriously its role as an attraction to visitors—locals and tourists alike. As an important historical and cultural organization, the museum tells the story of Chapin, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, and the broader South Texas region. The story is reflected across its four permanent exhibits and the multiple changing exhibits it presents to visitors.

Founded in 1967 as the Hidalgo County Historical Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the museum opened its doors to the public in April 1970. The museum's original physical space was the historic 1910 Hidalgo County Jail, which is owned by the City of Edinburg, a historic building that covers about 2,500 square feet. The Jail has the distinction of being a Texas historical landmark and is also on the National Register of Historic Buildings. Today, as the Museum of South Texas History, the institution is housed in an expanse of some 75,000 square feet and features acclaimed galleries and a rich archives and collections unit. More than 15,000 school children visit the museum annually, and the archive has become an important place for research and other historical inquiry. In short, the museum has emerged as a significant cultural institution for the region and the Americas.

The museum's mission is to preserve and present the history and heritage of South Texas and northeastern Mexico through high-quality exhibits, archives, and collections, and programming that functions through face-to-face and online platforms. Through its 50-year history, the Museum has thrived through in-person programming such as: tours of the

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River Legacy Galleries and cultural educational programs such as History and Culture Days, Summer Nights at the Museum, Día de los Muertos, and Fiesta de Noche Buena. The museum hosts a popular Sunday Speaker Series that has functioned effectively for over three decades.

The museum has developed a digital production infrastructure to create and deliver online content through its website and Facebook Live platforms. Four of the museum's digital products have earned awards from the Texas Association of Museums (TAM). Museum Pláticas won an award, as did a Children's book used by students who visit; an exhibit on the 1846 letters of Mexican American War soldier William Henry Chapman won an award, and a 10-part virtual tour titled Traveling Through Time won the TAM Gold Award.

The museum's library and collection include unique books on Native American history of the region, manuscripts from the Escandón expedition that began the colonization of the region in the mid 1700s, and 20th Century books that profile the emergence of modern Edinburg. The museum is intimately connected to the story of the City of Edinburg. It houses archival material from the founding of Chapin and the early years of Edinburg. It holds a rich photograph archive that includes over 100,000 images, and a collection of over 1,000 maps of the region. The museum holds archival collections that feature pioneering characters and families that built this community, as well as collections of people who have continued to shape it.

2. Indicate if this is a new or existing agency/program below:

☒ Existing (previously funded by the city)

☐ New (never been funded by the City)

3. What is the full-service area of this agency? ☒ Edinburg ☐ Other

Please describe the service area(s):

Serves Edinburg and the region to students, community members, tourists, and researchers.

4. Demand for Services

- a. Explain the need for this program and the gap in services in the City of Edinburg. Provide quantitative data to your explanation.

Since January 2024 the museum has hosted tours with members of the Edinburg Police Department and other city employees. More than 60 officers and dozens of other city employees have participated in these 2–3-hour educational experiences. Feedback from the tours reveals a deep and widespread need for the Police Department to know the history of Edinburg. The museum is finding similar data from tours given to employees from City

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Hall (City of Edinburg). In short, residents of Edinburg, including employees of the city, describe a discernible gap in understanding the history of the place where they live and work. A main function of the museum is to fill this gap. It is a function to take very seriously.

Additionally, the museum fills two principal gaps in services to the citizens of Edinburg: (1) it provides a key role as a destination location for visitors looking for a museum, or a similar type of cultural institution that reveals and reflects the history and heritage of the region; these visitors inject significant dollars into the local economy, and (2) it serves as a mirror through which the community understands itself historically and culturally.

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) publishes an annual report on the economic impact of travel and tourism—economic variables that interact intimately with the Museum of South Texas History. THC’s data show an annual \$4.7 billion impact on the South Texas region from travel and tourism, and the museum is a premium destination that fuels that economic process.

The museum is a transmitter of history and culture. Citizens and communities that engage in self-reflective exercises have a greater sense of historical identity, and historical purpose. The Museum of South Texas History is a key conduit through which the community understands itself. Schools and families as key community institutions are often relied upon to transmit culture and history, but because numerous factors, they often are not equipped to achieve that purpose. The museum exists for such a purpose. The presence of a robust Archives and Collections division, the Sunday Speaker Series, the Día de los Muertos, the Fiesta Noche Buena, the Summer Nights at the Museum, the ongoing Oral History Project, the Pioneer Ranching and Crafts Days, and a host of other programs provide community members with ongoing opportunities to explore cultural and historical meaning. The museum features the River Legacy Galleries that have been described by visitors and media outlets as “world class”; it houses over 100,000 historical photographs and 1,000 historical maps pertinent to regional life and culture. There is no equivalent museum in the city, or the region. MOSTHistory is an American Alliance of Museums accredited institution.

The museum is fortunate to exist in a city that supports its cultural institutions; the museum fills important social, cultural, and economic functions in the life of Edinburg. As such, the museum has historically benefited from the City’s Hotel Occupancy Tax funds and hopes that investment will continue. The museum employs 17 full-time and 16 part-time residents, employment data points that translate to a meaningful economic impact on the local economy. In short, the museum performs a vital role in the local economy: more museum capacity spells greater economic vitality.

b. Was this program funded by the City in FY 2024-2025? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, what was the previous funding amount: \$ 255,000

What **NEW** or **EXPANDED** services/programs will your agency provide for the

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Community (be quantitative)?

The museum now conducts organized tours for city employees, including members of the Edinburg Police Department and workers at City Hall. The returns have been positive in 2024.

Historically, the museum and the City of Edinburg have planned separate public events on music festivals, Veterans Day, and Día de los Muertos. The primary reason for the separate work is because the museum's financial sustainability plan has been based on generating income from these three events, while the City delivers these events free to the public. In 2022-2023, the museum collaborated with the city on the three public programs, but it did so without additional support from the city. The result of that was a financial loss. Nevertheless, the museum would like to continue to offer its services free or at a reduced price to the public, but it really needs additional support from the city. This proposal for funding requests that public support so the museum can work with the City's Cultural Arts division to enhance public programming for the residents of Edinburg and neighboring communities.

The museum will provide greater energy and initiative relative to three issues: (1) travelers and tourists through programming, such as listed above; (2) historic preservation, such as the continuation of taking in archival material and collections items; (3) cultural and historical awareness, such as the museum galleries through its permanent and changing exhibits.

- 1) The museum will provide new, expanded, and synergized services to the community in 2025 and 2026, as it has begun to plan with the City of Edinburg's Cultural Arts programming division. The partnership between Museum and the City will feature an emboldened and richer Día de los Muertos commemoration and celebration.**
- 2) We can enhance tourism as an economic opportunity: the museum needs to place one communications and public relations specialist to work directly with the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce, the City's Economic Development arm, and the Dustin Sekula Memorial Library to strengthen the narrative of Edinburg as a uniquely cultural and historically vibrant community.**
- 3) The museum has been working closely with Society 204 in Society's efforts to restore the Citrus Theater. The museum will inherit the Citrus archival collection and will assist with the process of historicizing the emerging narrative of Citrus Live.**
- 4) Take history to the public: through a closer integration and collaboration between the museum and the city, we can bring more historical awareness to city offices and divisions across the community. Edinburg and the broad swath of South Texas possess a rich culture and history, but the community is largely unaware. Through a closer partnership, we can deploy local history and culture to public places where the community can observe, contemplate, and learn from historical photographs, maps, and other historical artifacts that we can share more publicly. With additional resources, the museum can free up full time staff members to be able to focus on this work.**

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If requesting an increase, is a quantifiable increase? Yes ☒ No ☐

5. Clientele

- a. What is the target population? (Example: children, elderly, etc.)

General Public, school children, local families, students, researchers, adult daycare and rehabilitation service providers, Winter Texans and media

- b. How many individuals will be served by this program in Edinburg?

30,000

- c. What is the estimated cost to provide services to one person?

\$9.67

6. Performance Management (measuring your goals and objectives)

Show how you identify and measure the results and impacts brought about by your event/program. When completing this section keep in mind the question:

"How do we know this event/program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve"?

The museum collects daily feedback from visitors in a comment book (consistently very positive) and teacher surveys following school tours (85% rated Excellent, 10% rated Average, with 5% rated Poor). We obtain visitor survey feedback at our special events and programs to use to evaluate the offerings and make improvements. Accreditation, and maintaining those standards, is also a performance measure.

III. EVENT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a brief description of the specific event/program for which you are requesting funding and how the problem or need involves residents in Edinburg.

The Museum of South Texas History is requesting funding for annual operation of the museum, preservation of its collection, for its programs and their promotion, and for current and additional personnel. The museum is seeking increased funding for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to collaborate with the City of Edinburg's Cultural Arts division to enhance programming focused on Music Fest, Veterans Day, and Dia de los Muertos. This request includes support in Hotel Occupancy Tax funding for advertising and programs; historic preservation personnel funding is included in the General Fund request but would also qualify for HOT\$ funding.

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The museum brings the unique history of our region to life through its special events, programs, and 11,000 square feet of state-of-the-art exhibits. It fosters curiosity, tells stories that really happened, attracts visitors to our community—and it makes learning an enjoyable activity. It provides information to researchers ranging from authors to national news media such as The History Channel, CBS and CNN doing stories on our community. It preserves the collections needed to do this work.

The museum interfaces with UTRGV, STC, and local school districts on a variety of levels. It is the only museum in the region that provides a comprehensive overview of the region’s historical development and has the professional staff needed to support the collection, preservation, and interpretation activities that are a fundamental part of preserving and presenting regional history. Approximately 10,000+ students and 20,000+ other visitors are served annually at the museum—and another 50,000 plus are reached through outreach activities and exhibits outside of the museum.

The museum provides a cultural offering in downtown Edinburg that could only be matched if residents would travel to San Antonio or Austin or Monterrey, Mexico—but would be unmatched in content as the story told at MOSTHistory is largely unknown, specific to our regional community and fills a void not addressed in current textbooks. Residents of Edinburg access the museum six days a week, as can the thousands of tourists and residents of other local communities that are drawn to Edinburg annually.

Edinburg residents, and tourists, are particularly fond of the 1910 Jail and want to see it re-opened. Renovation was completed in December 2018, and exhibit opened to the public in 2021. The Jail’s Hanging Room continues to be a significant draw.

Key to maintaining a close relationship with museum visitors is the capacity to communicate with them and to serve their historic preservation needs. Increased advertising and program development funding will facilitate better communication and increased interaction. Increased funding for the archive assistant will enhance historic preservation capacity. Funding for the Operations & Safety Officer will improve the museum’s maintenance, production, and exhibit development capacity.

2. Please provide the number of individuals assisted in Edinburg for the following fiscal years:

	FY 2024-2025	Proposed for FY 2025-2026
Total # Assisted	88,630	90,000
# of Edinburg Residents Served	21,360	30,000

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3. List similar projects in Edinburg. Is there a coordinating agency? If so, whom? (Name, Address & Phone Number of Contact Person)

N/A

4. Provide backup information regarding event/program service necessity, such as surveys, waiting list, etc.

Visitor comments, teacher surveys, and program surveys reflect the positive impact the museum has on its visitors. A common theme from those who comment is that they would simply like to see “more.” Students return with their families in tow, and visitors repeat their visits to special events and programs. Addressing the “more” they would like to see is a challenge on a limited budget, but the museum staff consistently searches for and implements ways to fulfill that need.

5. Attach letter(s) of support for this event/program. X
6. If this event/program is unfunded or partially funded, will the event/program be carried out?

If this funding were cut, the museum would have to cut staff, and that would significantly impact services, families, and the local economy.

7. Is there a fee for your services? If so, please attach a fee schedule.

General Admission: Adults \$9; Seniors/Active Military/Students \$6; children 4-12 \$6; Children 0-3 FREE; FREE ADMISSION to all visitors on Saturday mornings (except Special Event days) from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m. **See enclosed promotional materials.**

School tour contracts: Annual contracts with school districts are arranged to assure the maximum number of students can come to the museum and so that docents can be secured for the tours. Fees vary based on the number of students in the contracted grade but average approximately \$7.50 per student. Non-contracted schools pay \$8 per student, with a minimum fee of \$120 per group.

Archive services: The museum charges fees for reproduction and use of materials from the archives.

Facility rentals: The museum can be rented for meetings and social events.

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IV. BUDGET

1. Please list City of Edinburg funding amount requested and other sources of funds and amounts for this event/program/organization.

a. Funding amount requested from City of Edinburg \$ 355,000

Other Sources	Funding Amount
other government	650,000
earned income & fundraising	1,237,748
Total Event/Program Expenses	

2. Provide a line-item budget that will identify the allocation of the requested City of Edinburg funding amount.

CATEGORY	FUNDS REQUESTED
Salaries	160,000
Fringe Benefits	
Utilities	
Advertising	60,000
Program Supplies	
Other (Specify)	35,000
Other (Specify)	100,000
Total Event/Program Expenses	355,000

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3. Is event/program dependent on "Other Funds"?
Note: If other funds are pending approval and the event/program is dependent on them, please be advised that we reserve the right to rescind City of Edinburg funding if other funding becomes unavailable.

Yes

4. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for staffing and operations?
66%
5. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for direct benefit.
34%
6. Describe the need and the degree of urgency for the proposed funding. What would be the consequences if not funded in the next year?

Funding from the City of Edinburg is essential for everything the museum does. If the museum does not receive funding from the City, the consequences would be the loss of quality in how Edinburg and the rest of South Texas are represented historically; it would also mean the loss of staff for the museum.

Heritage Tourism is an important aspect of drawing tourists into a region, and a major interpretive and information center is essential for a successful heritage tourism program. The Museum of South Texas History fills that need, and it is in the heart of the City of Edinburg.

The history of our region is largely undocumented and easily lost. It is critical to preserve the story of this portion of the State of Texas; it has frequently been overlooked, and our region has made important contributions to the heritage and culture of our state and nation. The history and heritage of our state is a proven magnet for attracting tourists—but it extends far beyond the Alamo. At the museum, tourists and newcomers to the region gain an appreciation for how our area developed and gain a context within which to experience the Valley and its surprising impact on world events. This requires trained professionals to preserve and document our story and to present it through exhibits and programs—in a climate controlled secure environment. City funding is essential to meet those requirements.

Without the Museum of South Texas History, much of the region's history would be lost or shifted to museums outside of the area. We would lose an important center for preserving our community's sense of identity and an opportunity for learning. It is well-established that children who visit museums early in life with their parents become life-long learners, a trait essential for success in life. As a center for educational opportunity, with excellent schools and a university, the City of Edinburg provides opportunity to become educated and succeed

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in life. What museum visitors call a “world-class” museum makes the educational offerings more comprehensive and sets Edinburg apart from other communities in the region.

If city funding were not approved, the city, and the region, would face losing a major attraction because the museum would be required to make such drastic cuts that it would impact the museum’s long-term sustainability and viability.

City of Edinburg General Fund dollars (\$160,000) have long been applied to general operation of the museum, which can include anything from personnel to utilities; for purposes of this application, and later reporting, we have selected the personnel category. We respectfully request, however, that in the event not all funds are needed for personnel (due to unanticipated turnover, or incomplete funding) they could be applied to other categories such as utilities, advertising, etc. If this category is not funded at least as fully as last year, the museum will not be able to maintain staff—and could be faced with reducing already-inadequate staffing.

The Hotel Occupancy Tax dollars (\$95,000) are directed to the very essence of the museum’s annual activities: historic preservation, advertising and promotion, and promotional programs to encourage tourists to visit preserved historic sites and museums, as outlined in the tax code.

With the new hotels in the city, and the increasing HOT taxes, it is hoped more Hotel Occupancy Tax dollars can be made available to the museum for these categories.

- The museum’s exhibits and public programs provide the magnet to draw visitors to the museum.
- The preservation activities include the materials, equipment, personnel, and training associated with acquisition and preservation of the museum’s collection and the development of exhibits and programs. A portion of the requested increase will enable the museum’s part-time archive assistant to increase the number of hours that can be worked at the museum.
- The marketing/public relations activities are how the public is informed of the activities that are occurring at the museum.

Failure to fund this segment of the museum’s budget would reduce or eliminate public programming, preservation activities, and the museum’s ability to inform the community of its activities; this would result in a visitation/income decrease and jeopardize the care of the museum collection. It would deprive the community of an opportunity for education that cannot be found in any other location in the region. We respectfully request that in the event not all funds are needed for the categories listed (due to unanticipated turnover, or incomplete funding) they could be applied to other categories within the acceptable Hotel Occupancy Tax categories.

Additionally, The Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archive, part of the Museum of South Texas History, respectfully seeks the support of the City of Edinburg (\$100,000) to preserve

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one of its most significant historical resources: the Edinburg Daily Review newspaper collection. These newspapers serve as a vital record of the city's civic life, chronicling decades of community milestones, This includes local governance to school news and labor walkouts, cultural celebrations, and historic moments that shaped Edinburg's identity. As one of the city's most comprehensive and authentic reflections of daily life, this collection offers researchers, students, and residents an unparalleled view into Edinburg's social and political evolution.

Unfortunately, the physical condition of the newspapers has significantly deteriorated over time, and the materials remain undigitized and accessible only in person at the archive. To safeguard this vital community resource, we are requesting support to fund part-time positions dedicated to the preparation and digitization of the *Edinburg Daily Review*. This effort involves careful handling of newspapers in varying conditions: loose, partially bound, and bound volumes, as well as the organization and long-term digital storage of the collection. As the largest collecting archive in South Texas, we believe this project will not only preserve Edinburg's historical legacy but also make it more accessible for future generations of residents, scholars, and civic leaders.

V. EVENT/PROGRAM TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS

1. When will the event/program fiscal year begin and end?
10/1/2025 - 09/30/2026

2. If funded, indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg funds to be spent each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.
\$97,500 each quarter

3. Indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg beneficiaries to be assisted during each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.
7,500 beneficiaries each quarter

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VI. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

If application is **NOT** signed by an authorized representative, the application will be disqualified.

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. Proof of tax exemption (Tax ID#)
3. Must provide a copy of the most current single or program audit report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. Include Independent Auditor's Report, Management Letter, if noted in the Audit, and the response to the Management Letter addressing all issues, concerns, and/or findings.
4. Copy of most recent 990 Tax Return. (provide copy of IRS Form 8868)
5. Current budget for agency - Show all sources of expected revenues and expenditures
6. Applicant's By-Laws
7. Resume of Chief Administrator
8. Resume of Chief Financial Officer
9. Board of Directors: Provide name, address, occupation, and phone number of current Board of Directors, include position/title on Board.
10. Current Organizational Chart
11. Documentation of non-profit status, include state and federal tax-exempt determination letters.
12. **Authorized Officials:** Designated officials authorized to enter into contracts. Identify all personnel with signatory powers. Provide a letter signed by Board Member or approved "Minutes".

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If this request is accepted for funding, the applicant must be willing to comply with all applicable federal, state and city requirements and enter into a funding agreement with the City of Edinburg.

I certify under penalty of perjury the foregoing application for City of Edinburg funds for FY 2024-2025 is true and correct. I understand additional documentation may be required if funding is granted.



Signature:

Date: June 12, 2025

[must be authorized representative] Please

print or type name and title of signer:

Francisco Guajardo

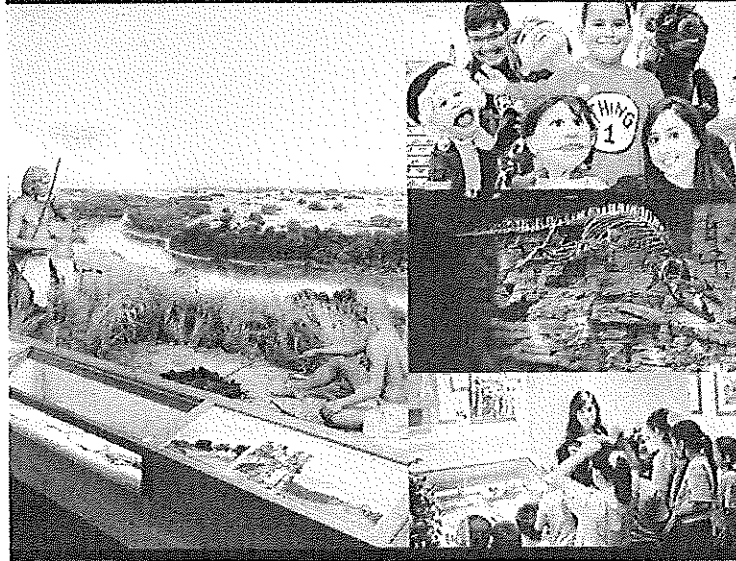
Title:

CEO

Museum of South Texas History
2025 Budget

	2024 Budget	2024 Projected Actual	2024 Budget vs. Projected Actual	2025 Budget	2025 Budget vs. 2024 Projected Act.
Income					
40000 • In-kind Contributions	0	1,491	1,491	0	(1,491)
40100 • Donations	7,850	7,323	(527)	7,400	77
41000 • Gov't Agency Grants	755,000	755,000	0	905,000	150,000
41500 • Grants	90,000	75,013	(14,987)	85,000	9,987
42000 • Fundraising Revenues	184,700	210,404	25,704	200,450	(9,954)
43000 • General FRIENDships	25,420	24,769	(651)	26,785	2,016
43500 • HA FRIENDships	377,500	398,858	21,358	395,000	(3,858)
44000 • Admissions	63,757	70,948	7,191	82,101	11,154
44400 • Fees / Classes	126,500	67,231	(59,269)	37,000	(30,231)
44500 • Student Fees	117,525	98,521	(19,004)	78,720	(19,801)
45000 • Museum Store	88,250	102,215	13,965	110,852	8,636
46000 • Investment Income	15,089	57,864	42,775	43,000	(14,864)
46460 • Refunds & Reimbursements	300	3,457	3,157	300	(3,157)
48000 • Rental Income	33,450	33,259	(191)	40,550	7,291
49900 • Miscellaneous Income	1,000	6,824	5,824	7,000	176
Total Income	1,886,341	1,913,176	26,835	2,019,158	105,982
Cost of Goods Sold					
50000 • Cost of Goods Sold	45,735	52,993	7,258	60,537	7,544
Total COGS	45,735	52,993	7,258	60,537	7,544
Gross Profit	1,840,606	1,860,182	19,576	1,958,620	98,438
Expense					
50100 • Archives, Collections, Exhibits	17,000	16,594	(406)	17,000	\$ 406
50300 • Education / Grants	56,642	65,857	9,215	43,825	(22,032)
50400 • Sp. Events / Programming	35,500	19,666	(15,834)	25,500	\$ 5,834
50500 • In-kind Expenses	0	1,491	1,491	0	(1,491)
50600 • Advertising	62,500	63,746	1,246	62,500	\$ (1,246)
50800 • Public Relations	2,000	6,317	4,317	6,500	183
50900 • Fundraising Expenses	122,575	135,899	13,324	134,900	(999)
51000 • Bank Charges	12,060	8,319	(3,741)	6,720	(1,599)
52000 • Insurance	63,989	62,888	(1,101)	65,037	2,149
53000 • Professional Fees	30,500	34,686	4,186	32,500	(2,186)
53100 • Contract Labor	15,000	28,833	13,833	26,000	(2,833)
53200 • Salaries & Wages	1,045,262	1,062,446	17,185	1,131,290	68,844
53300 • Employee Benefits	131,825	130,315	(1,510)	161,438	31,122
53400 • Payroll Taxes	81,718	87,165	5,447	91,155	3,990
54000 • Travel Expenses	16,044	13,586	(2,457)	15,644	2,057
54100 • Professional Development	9,755	8,076	(1,679)	7,955	(121)
55000 • Administrative Expenses	40,933	38,961	(1,972)	36,480	(2,481)
55500 • Postage & Supplies	26,720	26,979	259	25,420	(1,559)
56000 • Repair & Maintenance	129,483	134,338	4,855	127,135	(7,203)
56500 • Miscellaneous Expenses	8,580	8,069	(511)	7,730	(339)
58000 • Utilities	105,181	104,660	(521)	105,709	1,049
Total Expense	2,013,266	2,058,891	45,625	2,130,438	71,547
Net Ordinary Income (Loss)	(172,660)	(198,709)	(26,049)	(171,818)	26,891
46470 • Gains/(Loss) Investment Sales		0	0		0
68500 • Interfund Transfers-In	172,660	170,210	172,660	171,818	1,608
68100 • Interfund Transfers-Out		28,332	28,332		(28,332)
69900 • Federal Income Taxes		(48)	(48)		48
Net Other Income	172,660	209,875	37,215	171,818	29,988
Net Surplus (Deficit)	0	11,166	11,166	0	56,879

MOSTHistory.org ★ +1-956-383-6911



ADMISSION

Subject to change

Adults (18+).....\$9 Students with ID (13+)\$6
Seniors with ID (62+).....\$6 Children (4-12).....\$5
Active Military with ID\$6 Children (3 and under).....FREE

FRIENDS of MOSTHistory.....FREE

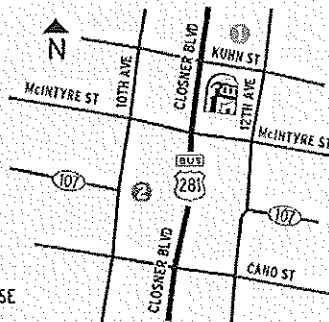
HOURS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

1-5 p.m. Sunday ★ 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

Closed Mondays and major holidays

1
MUSEUM
PARKING
& VISITOR
ENTRANCE

2
HIDALGO
COUNTY
COURTHOUSE



Ranked Edinburg's #1 Attraction – TripAdvisor



+1-956-383-6911
MOSTHistory.org
info@mosthistory.org
#MOSTHistory



Museum of South Texas History
200 N Closner Blvd ★ Edinburg, TX 78541 ★ USA



*Founded in 1967 as the
Hidalgo County Historical Museum*

Date: June 10, 2025
To: City of Edinburg
From: Museum of South Texas History
Board Chair, Bill Martin
Re: 2025-2026 request for funding

As Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of South Texas History, I support this application for funding submitted to the City of Edinburg. The museum is an important tourist destination that helps fuel the local economy, and it is an important place where local people learn about their past. We look forward to continuing the long and fruitful relationship between the museum and the City of Edinburg.

We understand the interdependent and historical importance of the relationship between the city and the museum. The city owns the historic 1910 Jail, which the museum has opened as its newest permanent exhibit. We provide cultural and historical enrichment services to the city, and the city provides financial support to be able to provide those services.

We have a talented, committed, and inspired staff and are hopeful the City of Edinburg can continue to support the museum in meaningful ways. This application requests increased funding for fiscal year 2025-2026. The increase is the result of a commitment the museum is making with the City of Edinburg's Cultural Arts division to enhance public programming specific to MusicFest, Veterans Day, and Día de los Muertos. I hope the city can appropriate the resources requested so the museum can continue to be a strong partner, and so we can continue to strengthen the local economic and cultural vibrancy of the community.

Please let me know if you have any questions about anything that may be museum related.

Respectfully,

William F Martin

Bill Martin
Chair of the Board
Museum of South Texas History



REQUEST FOR FUNDING APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE • P.O. BOX 1079 • 415 W. UNIVERSITY DRIVE •

EDINBURG, TX 78540

TEL: 956.388.8207

Agency: <i>Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Hidalgo County, Inc.</i>
Name of Event/Program: <i>CASA 25 – 26</i>
Executive Director: <i>Veronica Whitacre</i>
Contact Person: <i>Stephanie Vandever</i>
Address: <i>1001 South 10th Avenue, Edinburg, Texas 78539</i>
Phone Number: <i>956-381-0346</i>
E-Mail of Contact Person: svandever@casaoftidalgo.com
Organizations Federal Identification No. (Tax ID): <i>74-2722553</i>
Amount Requested: <i>\$ 10,000.00</i>
Proposal Due Date: Friday, June 20, 2025 at 4:30p.m.
Appli mitted after the deadline specified

Statement of Non-Discrimination: *The City of Edinburg does not discriminate on the basis of Age, Race, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Genetic Information, Color, National Origin, Religion, Disability or Any Other Legally Protected Status in Admission to, Access to, or Operations of its Programs, Services, or Activities.*

SPECIFIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ☐ **WHO CAN SUBMIT REQUEST:** All public or private non-profit agencies, organizations, or authorities are eligible to apply for City of Edinburg funds. This application must be completed and submitted to: City of Edinburg City Manager's Office located at 415 West University Drive, Edinburg, TX 78539.
- ☐ **DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received by the City Manager's Office by: **4:30 pm, Friday, June 20, 2025.**
- ☐ **SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:** Submit one original application and all supporting material. Please provide all pages in letter size (8 ½ x 11). All originals and copies must be legible and unbound.
- ☐ **FORMAT:** Application must be submitted in typed format.
- ☐ **METHOD OF DELIVERY:** Applications **cannot** be submitted on-line, via e-mail or by fax. All Applications **must be** mailed or delivered to: City of Edinburg, City Manager's Office, 415 West University Drive, 2nd floor, Edinburg, Texas 78539.
- ☐ **MISSING INFORMATION:** Applications missing any information will be deemed "incomplete" and may not be considered. The City reserves the right to request clarification or any additional information deemed necessary in order to make its determination. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding and the City reserves the right to determine the completeness of all proposals. Further, the City Council reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Funding granted in one fiscal year does not guarantee that an applicant will receive future funding.
- ☐ **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Public or Private Non-Profit Agencies/Organizations submitting a funding application may be required to make a presentation to the Mayor and City Council on a date and time to be determined later. The City of Edinburg will hold a budget work session to review funding requests for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. **Presentations will be timed, so please ensure your presentation is no longer than 5 minutes.**

If you have any questions regarding the application and required documentation, please contact Assistant City Manager, Nelda Ramirez, or Management Analyst, Brandon Alaniz, at 956.388.8207.

I. AGENCY INFORMATION

1. Longevity: Number of Years agency has been in business: **31**
2. Does your agency develop or explore new sources to generate funds such as soliciting donations, fundraisers, applying for grants, etc.)? Yes ☐ No ☒
3. Has the agency been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Are there any outstanding judgements against the agency? Yes ☐ No ☒
5. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest:

Are any of the board members or employees of the agency which will be carrying out this program, or members of their immediate families, or their business associates:

- Employee of the City of Edinburg or related to a City employee? Yes ☐ No ☒
- Members of or closely related to members of Edinburg City Council or Advisory Committee Board? Yes ☐ No ☒

If you answered "Yes" to any questions a and/or b, you must provide an explanation. The existence of a potential conflict of interest may make the request ineligible for funding. The existence of an undisclosed conflict may result in the termination of any funding.

List all individuals associated with the applicant or ownership entity that have a reportable financial interest in the program. Include type of participation in the program, percentage, and dollar amount of financial interest in the program.

6. Does the agency formally evaluate and measure the effectiveness of this program?
Yes ☒ No ☐
7. What steps have been taken in the past year to make the agency more cost-effective?
 - Over the past year, CASA of Hidalgo County has implemented several strategies to enhance cost-effectiveness, ensuring that resources are optimized to serve as many children as possible while maintaining high-quality advocacy.
 - To maximize efficiency and accountability, the agency's administration has maintained a rigorous monthly review of service logs. This ongoing process ensures

that all visits, services, and resources are accurately documented and that advocates are meeting the needs of each child in a timely and effective manner. By identifying any missed or unnecessary visits early, CASA can streamline efforts, reducing resource waste and reallocating time and funds toward cases that need immediate attention.

- CASA of Hidalgo County has restructured workflows to enhance productivity among Child Advocacy Specialists and other staff. By refining the case assignment process based on case complexity and location, CASA has reduced travel time and expenses, ensuring advocates can meet the needs of more children with fewer resources. CASA also leverages digital communication tools for remote meetings when appropriate, saving on transportation costs and time.
- Optima. By utilizing Optima online data management system, CASA has reduced administrative costs associated with record- keeping, case tracking, and reporting. Optima's centralized database allows for efficient tracking of case progress and service delivery, minimizing the need for paper records and reducing the time required for manual data entry. This technology not only lowers operational costs but also enables staff to allocate more time to direct advocacy work.
- CASA has focused on enhancing training programs to better equip volunteers and retain them longer, reducing turnover and the associated costs of recruiting and training new advocates. By investing in comprehensive initial and ongoing training, CASA ensures that volunteers are prepared for their roles, which in turn reduces inefficiencies and the need for frequent retraining. High volunteer retention also lowers costs related to recruitment and onboarding, allowing CASA to allocate more of its budget directly to child advocacy.
- In an effort to diversify funding and reduce reliance on grant funds alone, CASA has strengthened partnerships with local businesses and organizations, resulting in increased donations and in-kind support. This additional funding helps to cover operational costs without detracting from core services, allowing us to maintain or expand our services even in the face of budget constraints.
- Through these measures, CASA of Hidalgo County has successfully enhanced cost-effectiveness while continuing to deliver high-quality advocacy for children in need. These efforts ensure that our agency can stretch each dollar further, directly benefiting the children and communities we serve.

II. AGENCY OVERVIEW

1. Provide a brief summary of the agency.

- CASA of Hidalgo County has been speaking for the best interest of the abused and neglected children during court proceedings for over 30 years. Our program has made an improved quality of life for over 3,000 abused and neglected children in Hidalgo County.

2. Indicate if this is a new or existing agency/program below:

☒ Existing (previously funded by the city)

☐ New (never been funded by the City)

3. What is the full-service area of this agency? ☐ Edinburg ☐ Other Please describe the service area(s):

- Hidalgo County

4. Demand for Services

- Explain the need for this program and the gap in services in the City of Edinburg. Provide quantitative data for your explanation.

- The need for CASA services in Hidalgo County is urgent and growing, particularly given the persistently high rates of child abuse and neglect in the region. The quantitative data highlights both the prevalence of these issues and the service gaps that CASA of Hidalgo County aims to fill.
- High Rates of Child Abuse and Neglect: According to data from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), Hidalgo County consistently ranks among the Texas counties with the highest rates of reported child abuse and neglect cases. In recent years, Hidalgo County has reported an average of over 2,000 confirmed cases of child abuse and neglect annually. This number underscores the persistent demand for child advocacy services and the need for CASA's support to help navigate the foster care and judicial systems.
- Children in Foster Care: Across Hidalgo County, hundreds of children are placed in foster care each year due to abuse or neglect. CASA of Hidalgo County is currently assigned to 223 children, 36 of which are from the City of

Edinburg, each of whom requires ongoing support and representation to ensure their safety and well-being. However, this figure only represents only a portion of the children in need. Due to limited resources, CASA cannot serve all the children in foster care, resulting in a significant number of cases without the dedicated advocacy that CASA provides.

- Was this program funded by the City in FY 2024-2025? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, what was the previous funding amount: \$10,000

What **NEW** or **EXPANDED** services/programs will your agency provide for the Community (be quantitative)?

If requesting an increase, is a quantifiable increase? Yes ☐ No ☐

5. Clientele

- What is the target population? (Example: children, elderly, etc.)
- How many individuals will be served by this program in Edinburg?
- What is the estimated cost to provide services to one person?
 - i CASA of Hidalgo County's primary population is male and female children ages 0 – 18 years of age residing in Hidalgo County. Currently CASA is serving 36 children in just the City of Edinburg and with the annual employee salary expenditure of approximately \$172,000, the estimated cost to provide services per child is approximately \$3,185 per year

6. Performance Management (measuring your goals and objectives)

Show how you identify and measure the results and impacts brought about by your event/program. When completing this section keep in mind the question: **"How do we know this event/program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve"**?

At CASA of Hidalgo County, we use a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods to ensure our programs and events are making a measurable, meaningful difference in the lives of the children and families we serve. Our performance

management approach is centered around tracking progress toward clearly defined goals and outcomes.

We begin by identifying specific, measurable objectives tied to each program or event. For example, in our advocacy program, goals include increasing the number of children assigned a CASA volunteer improving permanency outcomes, and reducing time spent in foster care.

To measure our impact, we regularly collect and analyze data such as the number of children served and matched with a volunteer Advocate, court outcomes and progress towards permanency, volunteer retention and training completion rates, participant feedback, including post-event surveys.

We also assess qualitative impact through volunteer and child success stories, direct feedback from judges and CPS caseworkers, and observations from staff and partners. These stories and data points help us understand the real-world outcomes of our efforts.

By comparing these metrics over time and against our stated goals, we can determine what's working, identify areas for improvement, and adapt our strategies to maximize impact. This ongoing evaluation ensures that our program continues to respond effectively to the needs of the community and truly make a difference in the lives of the children we serve.

III. EVENT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a brief description of the specific event/program for which you are requesting funding and how the problem or need involves residents in Edinburg.

- CASA of Hidalgo County is requesting funding to support the salaries of our Child Advocacy Specialists, who play a vital role in advocating for children in the foster care system due to abuse or neglect. These professionals are responsible for supervising trained CASA volunteers, attending court hearings, and collaborating with child welfare agencies to ensure each child's needs are being met.

- Many of the children we serve are from Edinburg. This funding will directly support staff who work with the children from Edinburg, ensuring that they receive consistent, high-quality advocacy. By investing in our Child Advocacy Specialists, the City of Edinburg is helping provide vulnerable children in the community with a voice in court and path to a safe, permanent home.
2. Please provide the number of individuals assisted in Edinburg for the following fiscal years:

	FY 2024-2025	Proposed FY 2025-2026
Total # Assisted	223	230
# of Edinburg Residents Served	36	40

3. List similar projects in Edinburg. Is there a coordinating agency? If so, whom? (Name, Address & Phone Number of Contact Person)
- CASA of Hidalgo County is the only non-profit organization in which the volunteers are appointed as Guardian ad Litem for the children who have been victims of abuse and neglect.
4. Provide backup information regarding event/program service necessities, such as surveys, waiting list, etc.
- The need for CASA services in Hidalgo County, and specifically within the City of Edinburg, is underscored by both national and local data on child abuse and neglect, waiting lists for advocacy services, and community needs assessments.
 - National Context and CASA's Impact: According to National CASA, more than 100,000 advocates currently serve across over 1,000 local programs nationwide. CASA volunteers play a critical role in ensuring that children who have suffered abuse or neglect find safety and stability. Studies indicate that children with a CASA Advocate are more likely to secure safe, permanent homes than those without advocacy, underscoring the effectiveness of the CASA model.

- Local need and Community Surveys: In Hidalgo County, the rates of child abuse and neglect are significantly higher than national averages, reflecting the urgent need for intervention and advocacy. Community surveys and needs assessments conducted in partnership with local child welfare organizations have shown that the City of Edinburg is particularly impacted, with many families experiencing socio-economic hardships that place children at increased risk. These assessments consistently identify CASA services as a critical support in protecting the children's welfare and improving outcomes for vulnerable youth.
 - Waiting Lists and Service Demand: Due to limited resources, CASA of Hidalgo County often maintains a waiting list for children in need of advocacy. At present, there are numerous cases awaiting assignment of an advocate, with many of these cases located within Edinburg. The demand for CASA's services continues to exceed current funding and staffing capacity, emphasizing the necessity of securing additional resources through grants from cities like Edinburg to reduce wait times and reach more children.
 - Documented Service Outcomes: Data from CASA programs nationwide, including those in Texas, show that children with a CASA advocate spend less time in foster care, receive more consistent mental health and educational support, and have a higher likelihood of funding and resources could have on the well-being and future stability of children in Donna.
 - In summary, CASA of Hidalgo County plays an essential role in meeting the needs of abused and neglected children in Edinburg. Additional funding would allow CASA to reduce its waiting list, increase service capacity, and provide each child with the advocacy needed to secure a safer, healthier future.
5. Attach letter(s) of support for this event/program.
 6. If this event/program is unfunded or partially funded, will the event/program be carried out?
 - Yes.
 7. Is there a fee for your services? If so, please attach a fee schedule.
 - No, there is no fees for our services.

IV. **BUDGET**

1. Please list City of Edinburg funding amount requested and other sources of funds and amounts for this event/program/organization.

a. Funding amount requested from City of Edinburg \$ 10,000

b.

Other Sources	Funding Amount
City of McAllen	\$5,000
City of Pharr	\$3,000
City of Mission	\$3,000
Precinct 1	\$5,000
Precinct 2	\$18,000
Precinct 4	\$15,000
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)	\$204,088
Health & Human Services (HHSC)	\$122,958
United Way	\$25,000
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$401,046

2. Provide a line-item budget that will identify the allocation of the requested City of Edinburg funding amount.

CATEGORY	FUNDS REQUESTED
Salaries	\$7,500.00
Fringe Benefits	\$2,500.00
Travel	\$0.00
Capital	\$0.00
Utilities	\$0.00

Advertising	\$0.00
Program Supplies	\$0.00
Other (Specify)	\$0.00
Other (Specify)	\$0.00
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$10,000.00

3. Is event/program dependent on "Other Funds"?

Note: If other funds are pending approval and the event/program is dependent on them, please be advised that we reserve the right to rescind City of Edinburg funding if other funding becomes unavailable.

4. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for staffing and operations?.

- 100%

5. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for direct benefit.

- 0%

6. Describe the need and the degree of urgency for the proposed funding.

What would be the consequences if not funded in the next year?

- CASA of Hidalgo County respectfully requests full funding from the City of Edinburg to continue our essential services for abused and neglected children within your community. In the event that only partial funding is allocated, we remain steadfast in our commitment to serving the children of Edinburg. We will continue to bridge any funding gaps through targeted fundraising efforts, ensuring that every child receives the advocacy and support they need to thrive.

V. **EVENT/PROGRAM TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS**

1. When will the event/program fiscal year begin and end?
 - October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026
2. If funded, indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg funds to be spent each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026.
 - Quarter 1: \$2,500
 - Quarter 2: \$2,500
 - Quarter 3: \$2,500
 - Quarter 4: \$2,500
3. Indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg beneficiaries to be assisted during each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026.
 - Quarter 1: 20 Children
 - Quarter 2: 23 Children (some continued from Quarter 1)
 - Quarter 3: 24 Children (some continued from Quarters 1 & 2)
 - Quarter 4: 24 Children (some continued from Quarters 1 – 3)

Please Note: *If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.*

VI. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

If application is **NOT** signed by an authorized representative, the application will be disqualified.

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. Proof of tax exemption (Tax ID#)
3. Must provide a copy of the most current single or program audit report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. Include the Independent Auditor's Report, Management Letter, if noted in the Audit, and the response to the Management Letter addressing all issues, concerns, and/or findings.
4. Copy of most recent 990 Tax Return. (provide copy of IRS Form 8868)
5. Current budget for agency - Show all sources of expected revenues and expenditures
6. Applicants' By-Laws
7. Resume of Chief Administrator
8. Resume of Chief Financial Officer
9. Board of Directors: Provide name, address, occupation, and phone number of current Board of Directors, include position/title on Board.
10. Current Organizational Chart
11. Documentation of non-profit status include state and federal taxexempt determination letters.
12. **Authorized Officials:** Designated officials authorized to enter into contracts. Identify all personnel with signatory powers. Provide a letter signed by the Board Members or approved "Minutes".

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

If this request is accepted for funding, the applicant must be willing to comply with all applicable federal, state and city requirements and enter into a funding agreement with the City of Edinburg.

I certify under penalty of perjury the foregoing application for City of Edinburg funds for FY 2025-2026 is true and correct. I understand additional documentation may be required if funding is granted.

Signature: _____

Veronica Whitacre

[must be authorized representative]

Date: _____

June 19, 2025

Please print or type name and title of signer:

Name: *Veronica Whitacre*

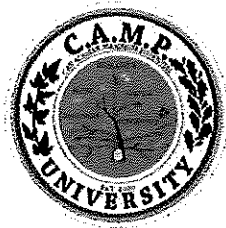
Title: *Executive Director*

CASA of Hidalgo County, Inc.
Annual Operating Budget - VOCA
For the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2025

Description	Proposed Budget	Personnel	Fringe	Contractual	Travel & Training	Equipment	Supplies	Direct Operating	Total
VOCA	204,088	148,213	11,338	8,667	8,062	0	3,305	15,000	194,585
CVC	122,958	94,228	7,208	5,508	5,124	0	2,101	9,862	124,031
OVAG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National CASA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other State / Federal Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City Funds	12,250	12,250	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,250
Urban County Funds	38,000	38,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	38,000
Private Foundation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Way	25,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other State / Federal Funding	0	128,010	9,793	7,325	6,814	0	2,794	22,643	177,379
Per Grant Award Letters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue / Sources of Funds	402,296	420,701	28,339	21,500	20,000	0	8,200	47,505	546,245

CASA of Hidalgo County					
TEXAS CASA BUDGET FYE 8/31/2025 (3rd Revision)					
For the Periods Indicated					
Line Item Description	HHSC	VOCA	Sub-Total	Other Funding	Total
Executive Director	13,905.00	23,175.00	37,080.00	55,620.00	92,700.00
Allocated Percentages					
Program Director	6,952.50	30,127.50	37,080.00	9,270.00	46,350.00
Allocated Percentages					
Grants Manager	5,700.00	9,500.00	15,200.00	22,800.00	38,000.00
Allocated Percentages					
Volunteer Coordinator	15,330.00	24,090.00	39,420.00	4,380.00	43,800.00
Allocated Percentages					
Supervisor 1	15,200.00	17,100.00	32,300.00	5,700.00	38,000.00
Allocated Percentages					
Supervisor 2	16,320.00	18,360.00	34,680.00	6,120.00	40,800.00
Allocated Percentages					
Supervisor 3	16,320.00	18,360.00	34,680.00	6,120.00	40,800.00
Allocated Percentages					
Supervisor 4	4,500.00	7,500.00	12,000.00	18,000.00	30,000.00
Allocated Percentages					
Fringe - Executive Director	1,063.73	1,772.89	2,836.62	4,254.93	7,091.55
Allocated Percentages					
Fringe - Program Director	531.87	2,304.75	2,836.62	709.16	3,545.78
Allocated Percentages					
Fringe - Grants Manager	436.05	726.75	1,162.80	1,744.20	2,907.00
Allocated Percentages					
Fringe - Volunteer Coordinator	1,172.75	1,842.89	3,015.63	335.07	3,350.70
Allocated Percentages					
Fringe - Supervisor 1	1,162.80	1,308.15	2,470.95	436.05	2,907.00
Allocated Percentages					

CASA of Hidalgo County					
TEXAS CASA BUDGET FYE 8/31/2025 (3rd Revision)					
For the Periods Indicated					
Line Item Description	HHSC	VOCA	Sub-Total	Other Funding	Total
7. Direct Cost - Security & Alarm	97.36	153.18	250.53	129.47	380.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Advertising	384.30	604.65	988.95	511.05	1,500.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Cell Phone	1,665.30	2,620.15	4,285.45	2,214.55	6,500.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Equipment Lease Copier	512.40	806.20	1,318.60	681.40	2,000.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Utilities - Electricity	1,152.90	1,813.95	2,966.85	1,533.15	4,500.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Utilities - Internet	486.78	765.89	1,252.67	647.33	1,900.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Utilities - Telephone	717.36	1,128.68	1,846.04	953.96	2,800.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Utilities - Water	499.59	786.05	1,285.64	664.37	1,950.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost- Facility Repairs & Maint.	2,075.22	3,265.11	5,340.33	2,759.67	8,100.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Insurance Property	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,200.00	3,200.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Insurance Liability	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,600.00	6,600.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Worker's Comp	0.00	0.00	0.00	925.00	925.00
Allocation Percentages					
7. Direct Cost - Software Optima	900.00	900.00	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00
Allocation Percentages					



4200 N Main, McAllen, TX 78504
PO Box 2294 McAllen, TX 78502
956-800-5292
www.CAMPUniversity.org

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for **CASA of Hidalgo County** and its invaluable work in advocating for children in the foster care system. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) provides a critical service by ensuring that abused and neglected children have a dedicated advocate to represent their best interests in court and in the community.

CASA volunteers are essential in guiding vulnerable children toward safe, permanent, and nurturing homes. Their commitment to child welfare strengthens our community by giving these children a voice and the support they need to heal and thrive. The work of CASA of Hidalgo County not only benefits the children they serve but also contributes to a more just and compassionate society.

As a community member, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact CASA has had on the lives of many children in our region. Their efforts improve outcomes for children who might otherwise be left without proper representation or guidance. I firmly believe that supporting CASA of Hidalgo County—whether through volunteerism, funding, or awareness—is an investment in the future of our community.

I wholeheartedly endorse CASA of Hidalgo County and urge others to support this essential organization in any way possible. If you require further information regarding my support, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Tiffany Miller
Director of Grant Management
Tiffany_miller@campuniversity.org

Mujeres Unidas

Phone: (956) 630-4878



Women Together

Fax: (956) 687-4715

E-mail: womentog@swbell.net

511 N. Cynthia Street • McAllen, Texas 78501

January 30, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for **CASA of Hidalgo County** and its invaluable work in advocating for children in the foster care system. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) provides a critical service by ensuring that abused and neglected children have a dedicated advocate to represent their best interests in court and in the community.

CASA volunteers are essential in guiding vulnerable children toward safe, permanent, and nurturing homes. Their commitment to child welfare strengthens our community by giving these children a voice and the support they need to heal and thrive. The work of CASA of Hidalgo County not only benefits the children they serve but also contributes to a more just and compassionate society.

As a business leader, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact CASA has had on the lives of many children in our region. Their efforts improve outcomes for children who might otherwise be left without proper representation or guidance. I firmly believe that supporting CASA of Hidalgo County—whether through volunteerism, funding, or awareness—is an investment in the future of our community.

I wholeheartedly endorse CASA of Hidalgo County and urge others to support this essential organization in any way possible. If you require further information regarding my support, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Estella De Anda, LCSW

Executive Director



**REQUEST FOR FUNDING
APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE • P.O. BOX 1079 • 415 W. UNIVERSITY DRIVE • EDINBURG, TX
78540
TEL: 956.388.8207

Agency: The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Name of Event/Program: UTRGV ARTS FESTIBA and Mariachi Festival
Executive Director: Richard W. Burrows
Contact Person: Jeffrey Ward; Leah Hollingshead
Address: LABS 334, Building #34: 1201 W. University Dr; Edinburg, TX 78539
Phone Number: (956) 665-2175
E-Mail of Contact Person: jeffrey.ward@utrgv.edu ; leah.hollingshead@utrgv.edu
Organizations Federal Identification No. (Tax ID): 46-5292740
Amount Requested: \$5,000
Proposal Due Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:30p.m. Applications submitted after the deadline specified will not be considered.

Statement of Non-Discrimination: The City of Edinburg does not discriminate on the basis of Age, Race, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Genetic Information, Color, National Origin, Religion, Disability or Any Other Legally Protected Status in Admission to, Access to, or Operations of its Programs, Services, or Activities.

SPECIFIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ☐ **WHO CAN SUBMIT REQUEST:** All public or private non-profit agencies, organizations, or authorities are eligible to apply for City of Edinburg funds. This application must be completed and submitted to: City of Edinburg City Manager's Office located at 415 West University Drive, Edinburg, TX 78539.
- ☐ **DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received by the City Manager's Office by: **4:30 pm, Friday, June 13, 2025.**
- ☐ **SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:** Submit one original application and all supporting material. Please provide all pages in letter size (8 ½ x 11). All originals and copies must be legible and unbound.
- ☐ **FORMAT:** Application must be submitted in typed format.
- ☐ **METHOD OF DELIVERY:** Applications **cannot** be submitted on-line, via e-mail or by fax. All Applications **must be** mailed or delivered to: City of Edinburg, City Manager's Office, 415 West University Drive, 2nd floor, Edinburg, Texas 78539.
- ☐ **MISSING INFORMATION:** Applications missing any information will be deemed "incomplete" and may not be considered. The City reserves the right to request clarification or any additional information deemed necessary in order to make its determination. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding and the City reserves the right to determine the completeness of all proposals. Further, the City Council reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Funding granted in one fiscal year does not guarantee that an applicant will receive future funding.
- ☐ **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Public or Private Non-Profit Agencies/Organizations submitting a funding application may be required to make a presentation to the Mayor and City Council on a date and time to be determined later. The City of Edinburg will hold a budget work session to review funding requests for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. **Presentations will be timed, so please ensure your presentation is no longer than 5 minutes.**

If you have any questions regarding the application and required documentation, please contact Assistant City Manager, Nelda Ramirez, or Management Analyst, Brandon Alaniz, at 956.388.8207.

I. AGENCY INFORMATION

1. Longevity: Number of Years agency has been in business: 10
2. Does your agency develop or explore new sources to generate funds such as soliciting donations, fundraisers, applying for grants, etc.)? Yes ☒ No ☐
3. Has the agency been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Are there any outstanding judgements against the agency? Yes ☐ No ☒
5. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest:

Are any of the board members or employees of the agency which will be carrying out this program, or members of their immediate families, or their business associates:

- a. Employee of the City of Edinburg or related to a City employee? Yes ☐ No ☒
- b. Members of or closely related to members of Edinburg City Council or Advisory Committee Board? Yes ☐ No ☒

If you answered "Yes" to any questions a and/or b, you must provide an explanation. The existence of a potential conflict of interest may make the request ineligible for funding. The existence of an undisclosed conflict may result in the termination of any funding.

List all individuals associated with the applicant or ownership entity that have a reportable financial interest in the program. Include type of participation in the program, percentage, and dollar amount of financial interest in the program.

6. Does the agency formally evaluate and measure the effectiveness of this program? Yes ☒ No ☐
7. What steps have been taken in the past year to make the agency more cost effective?

Evaluate Return on Investment, Cost Controls, Accuracy in Accounting

II. AGENCY OVERVIEW

1. Provide a brief summary of the agency.

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in 2024 welcomed its highest first-day enrollment ever, with more than 34,000 students. UTRGV was created by the Texas Legislature in 2013 in a historic move that brought together the resources and assets of UT Pan American and UT Brownsville.

2. Indicate if this is a new or existing agency/program below:

☒ Existing (previously funded by the city)

☐ New (never been funded by the City)

3. What is the full-service area of this agency? ☐ Edinburg ☐ Other

Please describe the service area(s):

Edinburg, Harlingen, and Brownsville, TX

4. Demand for Services

- a. Explain the need for this program and the gap in services in the City of Edinburg. Provide quantitative data to your explanation.

In 2006, Dr. Dahlia Guerra established the International Festival of Books and Arts to increase literacy, improve secondary/post-secondary student success and to celebrate and appreciate the cultural arts. In past years, the City of Edinburg has been the focal point and main locale of FESTIBA. National and International guest artists and students from the entire state attend events in Edinburg, stay in Edinburg hotels, and visit Edinburg restaurants with a high index of economic impact for the region.

- b. Was this program funded by the City in FY 2024-2025? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, what was the previous funding amount: \$ _____

What **NEW** or **EXPANDED** services/programs will your agency provide for the Community (be quantitative)?

This program will expand from 12-14 days to the entire month of February 2026. Events will increase from 60 to 100. Participant numbers will increase by 20%.

If requesting an increase, is a quantifiable increase? Yes ☐ No ☒

5. Clientele

- a. What is the target population? (Example: children, elderly, etc.) K-12 students, Citizens
- b. How many individuals will be served by this program in Edinburg? 12,000
- c. What is the estimated cost to provide services to one person? \$0.42/person

6. Performance Management (measuring your goals and objectives)
Show how you identify and measure the results and impacts brought about by your event/program. When completing this section keep in mind the question:
"How do we know this event/program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve"?
 1. Number of participants
 2. Increased program reservation requests.
 3. Enthusiasm for festivals, lectures, GEAR UP events, community participation

III. EVENT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a brief description of the specific event/program for which you are requesting funding and how the problem or need involves residents in Edinburg.
1. 300 GEAR UP 7th/8th grade student participants. 2. 900 middle/high school Mariachi Competition participants (and teachers/parents)
2. Please provide the number of individuals assisted in Edinburg for the following fiscal years:

	FY 2024-2025	Proposed FY 2025-2026
Total # Assisted	10,000	12,000
# of Edinburg Residents Served	70%	70%

3. List similar projects in Edinburg. Is there a coordinating agency? If so, whom? (Name, Address & Phone Number of Contact Person)
No local equivalent
4. Provide backup information regarding event/program service necessity, such as surveys, waiting list, etc.
5. Attach letter(s) of support for this event/program.
6. If this event/program is unfunded or partially funded, will the event/program be carried out?
Possibly
7. Is there a fee for your services? If so, please attach a fee schedule.

IV. BUDGET

1. Please list City of Edinburg funding amount requested and other sources of funds and amounts for this event/program/organization.

a. Funding amount requested from City of Edinburg \$5,000

b.

Other Sources	Funding Amount
UTRGV ARTS Staff Time	\$116.20/hour
UTRGV ARTS Space Costs	Value: \$3,500/day
Marketing/Communications	\$18,000.00
Social Media Ads	Variable
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$158,000+

2. Provide a line-item budget that will identify the allocation of the requested City of Edinburg funding amount.

CATEGORY	FUNDS REQUESTED
Salaries	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	
Capital	
Utilities	
Advertising	
Program Supplies	
Other (Specify)	Artist's Fees: \$3,000.00
Other (Specify)	Judge's Fees: \$2,000.00
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$5,000.00

3. Is event/program dependent on "Other Funds"?

Note: If other funds are pending approval and the event/program is dependent on them, please be advised that we reserve the right to rescind City of Edinburg funding if other funding becomes unavailable.

Yes

4. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for staffing and operations?

0%

5. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for direct benefit.

100%

6. Describe the need and the degree of urgency for the proposed funding. What would be the consequences if not funded in the next year?

There's a strong need to support at-risk students through quality programs. Mariachi workshops and events not only enrich their education but also serve as a proud cultural tradition in the community.

V. EVENT/PROGRAM TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS

1. When will the event/program fiscal year begin and end?
September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026

2. If funded, indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg funds to be spent each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

Primary expenses are from January 2, 2026 to March 30, 2026

3. Indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg beneficiaries to be assisted during each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

8,400 Edinburg beneficiaries (1/2/26 to 3/30/26)

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

VI. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

If application is **NOT** signed by an authorized representative, the application will be disqualified.

1. Articles of Incorporation -
2. Proof of tax exemption (Tax ID#) -
3. Must provide a copy of the most current single or program audit report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. Include Independent Auditor's Report, Management Letter, if noted in the Audit, and the response to the Management Letter addressing all issues, concerns, and/or findings.
4. Copy of most recent 990 Tax Return. (provide copy of IRS Form 8868)
5. Current budget for agency - Show all sources of expected revenues and expenditures
6. Applicant's By-Laws
7. Resume of Chief Administrator
8. Resume of Chief Financial Officer
9. Board of Directors: Provide name, address, occupation, and phone number of current Board of Directors, include position/title on Board.
10. Current Organizational Chart
11. Documentation of non-profit status, include state and federal tax-exempt determination letters.
12. **Authorized Officials:** Designated officials authorized to enter into contracts. Identify all personnel with signatory powers. Provide a letter signed by Board Member or approved "Minutes".

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

If this request is accepted for funding, the applicant must be willing to comply with all applicable federal, state and city requirements and enter into a funding agreement with the City of Edinburg.

I certify under penalty of perjury the foregoing application for City of Edinburg funds for FY 2025-2026 is true and correct. I understand additional documentation may be required if funding is granted.

Signed by:
Signature: Thomas B. Spencer, PhD **Date:** 6/13/2025
[must be authorized representative]

Please print or type name and title of signer:

Name: Thomas B. Spencer, PhD

Title: Assoc VP: Research Operations

June 13, 2025

City of Edinburg
Office of the City Manager
PO Box 1079
415 W. University Dr.
Edinburg TX 78540

Dear City of Edinburg,

On behalf of The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) College of Fine Arts, we are writing to formally request funding from the City of Edinburg for UTRGV ARTS FESTIBA and Mariachi Festival.

Our organization is committed to providing high-quality programs and mariachi workshops for under-resourced students. The requested funding will play a vital role in supporting these efforts. Over the years, the City of Edinburg has served as the central hub for FESTIBA, attracting national and international guest artists, as well as students from across Texas. These events bring significant economic benefits to the region, with attendees staying in local hotels, dining at Edinburg restaurants, and contributing to the city's cultural and economic vitality.

We have carefully planned and outlined the budget for this initiative, and we are confident that the support from the City of Edinburg will enable us to achieve our objectives effectively. Enclosed with this letter, you will find detailed information about our project, including the budget breakdown and expected outcomes.

UTRGV appreciates your consideration of our request and looks forward to the opportunity to collaborate with the City of Edinburg in making a positive impact on our community.

Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Signed by:



1FA75058D16B457...

Thomas B. Spencer, PhD, MBA

Associate Vice President for Research Operations

Authorized Official Representative (AOR) & Signing Official (SO)



**REQUEST FOR FUNDING
APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE • P.O. BOX 1079 • 415 W. UNIVERSITY DRIVE • EDINBURG, TX
78540
TEL: 956.388.8207

Agency: South Texas Literacy Coalition
Name of Event/Program: The South Texas Reading Initiative
Executive Director: Dr. Ida Acuña-Garza
Contact Person: Karen Rodriguez
Address: 108 N. Jackson Road, Edinburg, TX 78541
Phone Number: 956-378-9871; 956-279-1689
E-Mail of Contact Person: karen.stxliteracy@gmail.com; idagarza2010@gmail.com
Organizations Federal Identification No. (Tax ID): 27-0718636
Amount Requested: \$20,000.00
Proposal Due Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:30p.m. Applications submitted after the deadline specified will not be considered.

Statement of Non-Discrimination: The City of Edinburg does not discriminate on the basis of Age, Race, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Genetic Information, Color, National Origin, Religion, Disability or Any Other Legally Protected Status in Admission to, Access to, or Operations of its Programs, Services, or Activities.

SPECIFIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ☐ **WHO CAN SUBMIT REQUEST:** All public or private non-profit agencies, organizations, or authorities are eligible to apply for City of Edinburg funds. This application must be completed and submitted to: City of Edinburg City Manager's Office located at 415 West University Drive, Edinburg, TX 78539.
- ☐ **DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received by the City Manager's Office by: **4:30 pm, Friday, June 13, 2025.**
- ☐ **SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:** Submit one original application and all supporting material. Please provide all pages in letter size (8 ½ x 11). All originals and copies must be legible and unbound.
- ☐ **FORMAT:** Application must be submitted in typed format.
- ☐ **METHOD OF DELIVERY:** Applications **cannot** be submitted on-line, via e-mail or by fax. All Applications **must be** mailed or delivered to: City of Edinburg, City Manager's Office, 415 West University Drive, 2nd floor, Edinburg, Texas 78539.
- ☐ **MISSING INFORMATION:** Applications missing any information will be deemed "incomplete" and may not be considered. The City reserves the right to request clarification or any additional information deemed necessary in order to make its determination. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding and the City reserves the right to determine the completeness of all proposals. Further, the City Council reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Funding granted in one fiscal year does not guarantee that an applicant will receive future funding.
- ☐ **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Public or Private Non-Profit Agencies/Organizations submitting a funding application may be required to make a presentation to the Mayor and City Council on a date and time to be determined later. The City of Edinburg will hold a budget work session to review funding requests for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. **Presentations will be timed, so please ensure your presentation is no longer than 5 minutes.**

If you have any questions regarding the application and required documentation, please contact Assistant City Manager, Nelda Ramirez, or Management Analyst, Brandon Alaniz, at 956.388.8207.

I. AGENCY INFORMATION

1. Longevity: Number of Years agency has been in business: 17
2. Does your agency develop or explore new sources to generate funds such as soliciting donations, fundraisers, applying for grants, etc.)? Yes ☒ No ☐
3. Has the agency been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Are there any outstanding judgements against the agency? Yes ☐ No ☒
5. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest:

Are any of the board members or employees of the agency which will be carrying out this program, or members of their immediate families, or their business associates:

- a. Employee of the City of Edinburg or related to a City employee? Yes ☐ No ☒
- b. Members of or closely related to members of Edinburg City Council or Advisory Committee Board? Yes ☐ No ☒

If you answered "Yes" to any questions a and/or b, you must provide an explanation. The existence of a potential conflict of interest may make the request ineligible for funding. The existence of an undisclosed conflict may result in the termination of any funding.

List all individuals associated with the applicant or ownership entity that have a reportable financial interest in the program. Include type of participation in the program, percentage, and dollar amount of financial interest in the program.

6. Does the agency formally evaluate and measure the effectiveness of this program?
Yes ☒ No ☐
7. What steps have been taken in the past year to make the agency more cost effective?

We are still at a more affordable office space. Our employees are college interns, not onl



II. AGENCY OVERVIEW

1. Provide a brief summary of the agency.

The South Texas Literacy Coalition is a 501-c-3 nonprofit dedicated to the improvement of the

2. Indicate if this is a new or existing agency/program below:

☒ Existing (previously funded by the city)

☐ New (never been funded by the City)

3. What is the full-service area of this agency? ☒ Edinburg ☐ Other

Please describe the service area(s):

We are headquartered in Edinburg and do a great deal of outreach here but we also serve the

4. Demand for Services

- a. Explain the need for this program and the gap in services in the City of Edinburg.
Provide quantitative data to your explanation.

Since the pandemic, many students have remained at or below level in literacy pre-pandemic.

- b. Was this program funded by the City in FY 2024-2025? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, what was the previous funding amount: \$20,000.00

What **NEW** or **EXPANDED** services/programs will your agency provide for the Community (be quantitative)?

Our program is in demand by public and school libraries. We support summer reading progra

If requesting an increase, is a quantifiable increase? Yes ☐ No ☒

5. Clientele

- a. What is the target population? (Example: children, elderly, etc.) children, students, families

- b. How many individuals will be served by this program in Edinburg? 75,000

- c. What is the estimated cost to provide services to one person? \$7.50

6. Performance Management (measuring your goals and objectives)
Show how you identify and measure the results and impacts brought about by your event/program. When completing this section keep in mind the question:
"How do we know this event/program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve"?

We have photo and written documentation from our program partners that parents and their ch

III. EVENT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a brief description of the specific event/program for which you are requesting funding and how the problem or need involves residents in Edinburg.

The South Texas Reading Initiative is an educational effort to distribute books to increase read

2. Please provide the number of individuals assisted in Edinburg for the following fiscal years:

	FY 2024-2025	Proposed FY 2025-2026
Total # Assisted	200,000	225,000
# of Edinburg Residents Served	75,000	85,000

3. List similar projects in Edinburg. Is there a coordinating agency? If so, whom? (Name, Address & Phone Number of Contact Person)

We partner with Sekula Library and ECISD school libraries. We are independent but one of eig

4. Provide backup information regarding event/program service necessity, such as surveys, waiting list, etc.

5. Attach letter(s) of support for this event/program.

6. If this event/program is unfunded or partially funded, will the event/program be carried out? Yes. We will distribute book
There is no fee for our serv

7. Is there a fee for your services? If so, please attach a fee schedule.

IV. **BUDGET**

1. Please list City of Edinburg funding amount requested and other sources of funds and amounts for this event/program/organization.

a. Funding amount requested from City of Edinburg \$ 20,000.00

b.

Other Sources	Funding Amount
Fundraising	\$50,000
HEB	\$15,000
Trull Foundation	\$15,000
Dollar General	\$3,000
Donations	\$3,000
BLOOM Project - Grant	\$19,000
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$88,900

2. Provide a line-item budget that will identify the allocation of the requested City of Edinburg funding amount.

CATEGORY	FUNDS REQUESTED
Salaries	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	\$700.00
Capital	
Utilities	
Advertising	
Program Supplies	\$2,800.00
Other (Specify)	\$16,500.00(books acq.)
Other (Specify)	
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$20,000.00

3. Is event/program dependent on "Other Funds"?

Note: If other funds are pending approval and the event/program is dependent on them, please be advised that we reserve the right to rescind City of Edinburg funding if other funding becomes unavailable.

We purchase books at a much reduced cost. We rely on donors and sponsors to help us p

4. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for staffing and operations?

No amount of the funding is used for staffing and operations.

5. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for direct benefit.

One hundred percent (100%) of the funding from the City of Edinburg is used for direct be

6. Describe the need and the degree of urgency for the proposed funding. What would be the consequences if not funded in the next year?

Literacy skills are needed throughout life and the more literate the more life success can be

V. **EVENT/PROGRAM TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS**

1. When will the event/program fiscal year begin and end?

The STLC operates on a calendar year basis.

2. If funded, indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg funds to be spent each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

October 2025 - \$3,000; January 2026 - \$10,000; April 2026 - \$4,000; July 2026-\$3,000

3. Indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg beneficiaries to be assisted during each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

October 2024-25,000; Jan. 2026-25,000; April 2026-25,000; July 2026- 10,000

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

VI. **REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS**

If application is **NOT** signed by an authorized representative, the application will be disqualified.

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. Proof of tax exemption (Tax ID#)
3. Must provide a copy of the most current single or program audit report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. Include Independent Auditor's Report, Management Letter, if noted in the Audit, and the response to the Management Letter addressing all issues, concerns, and/or findings.
4. Copy of most recent 990 Tax Return. (provide copy of IRS Form 8868)
5. Current budget for agency - Show all sources of expected revenues and expenditures
6. Applicant's By-Laws
7. Resume of Chief Administrator
8. Resume of Chief Financial Officer
9. Board of Directors: Provide name, address, occupation, and phone number of current Board of Directors, include position/title on Board.
10. Current Organizational Chart
11. Documentation of non-profit status, include state and federal tax-exempt determination letters.
12. **Authorized Officials:** Designated officials authorized to enter into contracts. Identify all personnel with signatory powers. Provide a letter signed by Board Member or approved "Minutes".

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

If this request is accepted for funding, the applicant must be willing to comply with all applicable federal, state and city requirements and enter into a funding agreement with the City of Edinburg.

I certify under penalty of perjury the foregoing application for City of Edinburg funds for FY 2025-2026 is true and correct. I understand additional documentation may be required if funding is granted.

Signature: 
[must be authorized representative]

Date: June 12, 2025

Please print or type name and title of signer:

Name: Dr. Ida Acuña-Garza

Title: CEO



South Texas Literacy Coalition

Letters of Support



June 28, 2024

To: Mayor Ramiro Garza, Jr. and Councilmembers

I am writing this letter to express my wholehearted support for the South Texas Literacy Coalition (STLC) and the invaluable work it does in promoting literacy within our community. As an advocate for education, I am deeply inspired by STLC's unwavering commitment to fostering a love of reading and improving literacy rates among individuals of all ages in South Texas.

STLC's vision and mission—to create “life-long learners skilled with the highest levels of literacy and to enhance and enrich the quality of life of our region through literacy outreach partnerships”—are truly commendable. Their dedication to building a more literate community is evident in every initiative they undertake.

Since its inception, STLC has demonstrated exceptional dedication in addressing the literacy needs of our region, particularly in Edinburg, their base city. They have consistently provided thousands of free books to children in Edinburg schools, as well as to the Dustin M. Sekula Memorial Library for special programs such as our annual Summer Reading Program and the Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros celebration. These efforts have significantly enriched the educational experiences of countless young readers in our community.

Additionally, STLC has been a strong partner by offering a variety of presentations at the library, including sessions on financial and health literacy, and has also provided early literacy training to engage parents in their children's learning journey. These programs are vital in equipping our community with the knowledge and skills needed for personal and academic success.

Through its innovative programs, collaborative initiatives, and extensive outreach efforts, STLC has successfully made a profound impact on the lives of countless Edinburg residents. Their relentless dedication to making a difference in our community makes them highly deserving of the requested financial award.

Thank you for considering my endorsement of the South Texas Literacy Coalition. By investing in literacy, we are investing in the future of Edinburg and empowering our residents to reach their full potential. STLC's work is not only transforming lives but also building a brighter, more literate future for our entire region.

Sincerely,

Letty Leija

Director of Library & Cultural Arts



1906 South Clossner Blvd. • Edinburg, Texas 78539 • Phone (956) 383-6246

www.cityofedinburg.com





Empowering Minds Through Literacy

Advocating for Literacy Advancement Through Strategic
Funding

Letter of Support for South Texas Literacy Coalition

Arlene Z. Longoria
Director
Region One Service Center-Project BLOOM
1900 W. Schunior
Edinburg, TX 78541
alongoria@esc1.net

June 12, 2025

Dr. Ida Garza Acuna

CEO South Texas Literacy Coalition

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for South Texas Literacy Coalition (STLC). As Director for Project BLOOM at Region One Education Service Center, I have had the privilege of witnessing the profound impact that STLC has had on our community and beyond.

The Importance of Literacy

Literacy is a fundamental skill that serves as the cornerstone for lifelong learning and personal empowerment. In an increasingly complex world, the ability to read and write effectively opens doors to opportunities and can significantly improve an individual's quality of life. However, many individuals continue to face challenges in achieving literacy, which can hinder their personal, professional, and social advancement.

The Work of South Texas Literacy Coalition

STLC has been a beacon of hope and a catalyst for change in our community. Their innovative programs and dedicated team work tirelessly to address the literacy needs of individuals across all age groups. By offering personalized free books, community workshops, and engaging literacy events, they have successfully fostered a culture of learning and curiosity.

Additionally, their collaborative efforts with local schools and libraries have bolstered community support and resources for literacy development.

Impact and Community Collaboration

The positive ripple effects of STLC initiatives are evident throughout the community. Participants not only gain literacy skills but also develop greater self-confidence and a stronger sense of belonging. This organization has consistently demonstrated its commitment to making an impact and empowerment, making literacy accessible to all, regardless of socio-economic background.

In collaboration with Project BLOOM, we have successfully executed numerous book distributions and literacy lessons in participating small and rural districts in our project, further amplifying the reach and effectiveness of their programs. This partnership has been instrumental in creating a more literate and engaged community.

Conclusion

I strongly believe South Texas Literacy Coalition will expand their reach and enhance their programs, thereby benefiting even more individuals in our community. Their unwavering dedication to literacy development and their proven track record of success make them an ideal candidate for this grant.

Thank you for considering this letter of support. I am confident that the investment in STLC will yield significant and lasting benefits for our community. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 956.655.4877 or alongoria@esc1.net should you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Arlene Z. Longoria, M. Ed

Project Director

Region One Education Service Center-Division of Leadership and Community Impact



South Texas Literacy Coalition
2025 Budget

South Texas Literacy Coalition 2023-24 Budget

[illegible]

South Texas Literacy Coalition 2023-24 Budget

[illegible]

South Texas Literacy Coalition 2023-24 Budget

[illegible]

South Texas Literacy Coalition 2023-24 Budget

[illegible]



**REQUEST FOR FUNDING
APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE • P.O.BOX 1079 • 415W. UNIVERSITY DRIVE •
EDINBURG, TX 78540
TEL: 956.388.8207**

Agency: Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg, Rio Grande Valley, Inc.
Name of Event/Program: Safe Spaces, Strong Futures: Edinburg Youth Initiative
Executive Director: Daisy Martinez
Contact Person: Daisy Martinez
Address: 702 Cullen, St., Edinburg, TX 78541 P.O. Box 1079 Edinburg, TX 78540
Phone Number: (956)383-2582
E-Mail of Contact Person: daisymartinez@edinburgkids.com
Organizations Federal Identification No. (Tax ID): 74-2549652
Amount Requested: \$550,000.00
Proposal Due Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:30p.m. Applications submitted after the deadline specified will not be considered.

Statement of Non-Discrimination: *The City of Edinburg does not discriminate on the basis of Age, Race, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Genetic Information, Color, National Origin, Religion, Disability or Any Other Legally Protected Status in Admission to, Access to, or Operations of its Programs, Services, or Activities. City of Edinburg – City Manager's Office*

*Request for Funding Application – Fiscal Year 2025-2026
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SPECIFIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ☑ **WHO CAN SUBMIT REQUEST:** All public or private non-profit agencies, organizations, or authorities are eligible to apply for City of Edinburg funds. This application must be completed and submitted to: City of Edinburg City Manager's Office located at 415 West University Drive, Edinburg, TX 78539.
- ☑ **DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received by the City Manager's Office by: **4:30 pm, Friday, June 13, 2025.**
- ☑ **SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:** Submit one original application and all supporting material. Please provide all pages in letter size (8 ½ x 11). All originals and copies must be legible and unbound.
- ☑ **FORMAT:** Application must be submitted in typed format.
- ☑ **METHOD OF DELIVERY:** Applications **cannot** be submitted on-line, via e-mail or by fax. All Applications **must be** mailed or delivered to: City of Edinburg, City Manager's Office, 415 West University Drive, 2nd floor, Edinburg, Texas 78539.
- ☑ **MISSING INFORMATION:** Applications missing any information will be deemed "incomplete" and may not be considered. The City reserves the right to request clarification or any additional information deemed necessary in order to make its determination. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding and the City reserves the right to determine the completeness of all proposals. Further, the City Council reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Funding granted in one fiscal year does not guarantee that an applicant will receive future funding.
- ☑ **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Public or Private Non-Profit Agencies/Organizations submitting a funding application may be required to make a presentation to the Mayor and City Council on a date and time to be determined later. The City of Edinburg will hold a budget work session to review funding requests for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. **Presentations will be timed, so please ensure your presentation is no longer than 5 minutes.**

If you have any questions regarding the application and required documentation, please contact Assistant City Manager, Nelda Ramirez, or Management Analyst, Brandon Alaniz, at 956.388.8207.

I. AGENCY INFORMATION

1. Longevity: Number of Years agency has been in business:

The Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley, Inc. has been proudly serving the community since 1969, providing 56 years of continuous support, mentorship, and enrichment opportunities to the youth and families of Edinburg and surrounding areas.

2. Does your agency develop or explore new sources to generate funds such as soliciting donations, fundraisers, applying for grants, etc.)? Yes ☒ No ☐

3. Has the agency been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ☒ No ☐

The Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley, Inc. was involved in a facility-related lawsuit during 2018–2019. The case was resolved in favor of the Club.

4. Are there any outstanding judgements against the agency? Yes ☐ No ☒

5. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest:

Are any of the board members or employees of the agency which will be carrying out this program, or members of their immediate families, or their business associates:

a. Employee of the City of Edinburg or related to a City employee? Yes ☐ No ☒

b. Members of or closely related to members of Edinburg City Council or Advisory Committee Board? Yes ☐ No ☒

If you answered "Yes" to any questions a and/or b, you must provide an explanation. The existence of a potential conflict of interest may make the request ineligible for funding. The existence of an undisclosed conflict may result in the termination of any funding.

List all individuals associated with the applicant or ownership entity that have a reportable financial interest in the program. Include type of participation in the program, percentage, and dollar amount of financial interest in the program.

6. Does the agency formally evaluate and measure the effectiveness of this program? Yes ☒ No ☐

7. What steps have been taken in the past year to make the agency more cost effective?

Over the past year, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg has taken several strategic steps to enhance operational efficiency and ensure that every dollar received is maximized in support of our mission. These steps include:

Staff Restructuring and Cross-Training

We conducted a comprehensive review of our staffing model to eliminate redundancy and improve productivity. Select administrative roles were consolidated, and frontline staff received cross-training

to handle multiple responsibilities, reducing the need for additional hires while maintaining program quality.

Leveraging In-Kind Donations and Partnerships

We expanded community partnerships to increase in-kind contributions, such as educational supplies, healthy snacks, and volunteer-led programming. This reduced our out-of-pocket costs and allowed us to reallocate funds to core services for youth.

Grant Writing and Fundraising Optimization

Our development team refined the grant writing and fundraising process by prioritizing high-ROI opportunities and automating donor communications. This led to increased grant awards and donor retention while reducing overall fundraising costs.

Program Evaluation and Adjustment

We implemented a performance review system to evaluate program attendance, outcomes, and cost-per-participant. Underutilized or low-impact programs were revised or phased out, allowing us to focus on the most effective services with the greatest community impact.

Volunteer Engagement Expansion

We increased recruitment and retention of community volunteers, including college interns, retired educators, and corporate partners. These volunteers contributed hundreds of service hours in tutoring, mentoring, and enrichment activities, reducing the need for paid support staff.

Shared Services and Collaborative Grants

We partnered with other local nonprofits and school districts to share resources such as transportation, training, and special event coordination. Collaborative grant applications also helped spread administrative costs across organizations.

These steps reflect our commitment to fiscal responsibility, transparency, and long-term sustainability while continuing to deliver high-quality programs that meet the needs of Edinburg's youth and families.

II. AGENCY OVERVIEW

1. Provide a brief summary of the agency.

Since 1969, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley has stood at the forefront of youth development in our region. Our mission is to provide all youth—particularly those who need us most—with opportunities in a positive, caring environment that empowers them to become productive, responsible, and influential citizens. We are committed to ensuring equitable access to high-quality programs and services that enhance the lives of children and teens while supporting their academic, emotional, and social development.

The Club serves as a safe and engaging space where young people can complete homework, build friendships, explore creative outlets, and grow into confident leaders. As the premier youth-serving organization in Edinburg and surrounding communities, we have continued to expand our reach and deepen our impact across five core program areas: Character & Leadership Development, Education & Career Development, Health & Wellness, The Arts, and Sports & Recreation.

Driven by data, community needs, and emerging youth trends, our organization offers dynamic, evidence-based programming led by trained youth development professionals. Our success is further strengthened by a dedicated staff, board of directors, committed volunteers, and growing community partnerships. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg RGV remains a trusted resource for families and a cornerstone of positive youth development in the Rio Grande Valley.

2. Indicate if this is a new or existing agency/program below:

☒ **Existing (previously funded by the city)**

☐ **New (never been funded by the City)**

3. What is the full-service area of this agency? ☒ Edinburg ☐ Other

Please describe the service area(s):

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley, Inc. serves the All-American City of Edinburg and surrounding communities.

4. Demand for Services

a. Explain the need for this program and the gap in services in the City of Edinburg. Provide quantitative data to your explanation.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley (BGCE-RGV) plays a vital role in addressing the critical needs of youth and families in our community. According to the latest U.S. Census Bureau data, **28.1% of Edinburg's population is under the age of 18, and 24.5% of residents live at or below the poverty line.** These figures underscore a significant need for accessible, affordable, and comprehensive youth development services—particularly for low-income, working families who rely on the Club for consistent, year-round care.

Program Demand and Family Impact

BGCE-RGV provides essential services during out-of-school hours, including after-school programs, summer camps, and enrichment opportunities that promote academic success, life skills, and emotional well-being. The demand for our services continues to rise, particularly as the region recovers from the pandemic and grapples with the effects of inflation, rising childcare costs, and a highly competitive labor market.

Many families served by our Club have multiple children enrolled, reflecting both the scale of need and the cost-prohibitive nature of alternative childcare options. The Club remains one of the few affordable and reliable options in Edinburg for safe, structured, and enriching youth programming.

Key Gaps in Services and Program Challenges

Transportation Access

Our ability to safely transport youth to and from the Club, educational outings, and community service projects is limited by an aging and unreliable transportation fleet. These vehicles are essential to our mission, particularly for families without consistent access to transportation. Without reliable vehicles, participation is restricted—especially for youth living in underserved or rural areas.

Facility Safety Enhancements

The safety and well-being of our Club members and staff remain a top priority. As concerns around school and community safety rise, we are taking proactive steps to secure our facilities by installing and expanding **security camera systems**. These enhancements are essential to ensure our Club remains a physically and emotionally safe space for youth to learn and grow.

Areas of Programmatic Focus

Academic Success

Our Academic Success programs are designed to close the achievement gap. Through nationally recognized initiatives like **Project Learn**, youth are supported in completing homework, improving grades, and preparing for post-secondary success. Among participants, **87% reported fewer missed school days** compared to non-Club youth. The Club proudly maintains a **93% high school graduation rate** among seniors, many of whom have received scholarship support toward higher education.

Health and Life Skills

We offer multiple evidence-based programs that empower youth to lead healthier lives:

- **Smart Moves:** Drug and alcohol prevention education for ages 6–15.
- **Smart Girls:** Health, fitness, and self-esteem building for girls ages 8–17.
- **Passport to Manhood:** Character development for boys ages 11–14.
- **Healthy Habits:** Nutrition and wellness education for ages 6–15.

In addition, food insecurity remains a serious issue in our region. According to Feeding America, **1 in 8 Texans experiences food insecurity**, which can hinder academic performance and health. In response, BGCE-RGV provides over **60,000 nutritious meals annually** to ensure no child in our care goes hungry.

Mental Health Services

In addition to academic, recreational, and health-focused programming, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg RGV recognizes mental health as a foundational pillar of youth development. While some progress has been made in expanding mental health resources in the region, **significant service gaps persist—particularly for youth and families in underserved communities**. These gaps pose critical challenges, directly affecting academic performance, social relationships, emotional well-being, and long-term developmental outcomes.

To address these needs, our organization has integrated mental health support into Club programming through our **Youth & Family Support Services**. During the most recent fiscal year, our **Youth Family Support Services Specialist**:

- Responded to **4 suicide outcries**,
- Assisted **1 family dealing with sexual assault**,
- Supported **3 active Child Protective Services (CPS) cases**, and
- Delivered **social-emotional coping skills services to over 125 youth**.

Additionally, **750 individuals**—including Club members and their families—participated in **psychoeducation classes**, which focused on topics such as emotional regulation, trauma-informed care, and stress management. These efforts are designed to normalize conversations around mental health, reduce stigma, and build resilience in our youth.

The Club serves as a trusted access point for families navigating crisis situations. We provide immediate, compassionate support and connect individuals to qualified mental health professionals and community resources. In many cases, we serve as the **first and only point of contact** for youth experiencing trauma or emotional distress.

As demand for youth mental health services continues to grow, so too does the need for increased capacity, staff training, and sustainable funding. Continued investment from the City of Edinburg would ensure that vulnerable youth receive timely, appropriate mental health support, helping to build a stronger, healthier, and more resilient community.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg RGV fills a critical gap in the City of Edinburg by providing high-impact, affordable programming to the youth who need it most. With rising operational costs, increased demand, and urgent facility and staffing needs, continued and enhanced funding from the City is essential to sustain and expand services. This investment will directly support academic

achievement, health and wellness, character development, and the overall success of the next generation in Edinburg.

b. Was this program funded by the City in FY 2024-2025? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, what was the previous funding amount: \$400,000 What NEW or EXPANDED services/programs will your agency provide for the Community (be quantitative)?

If requesting an increase, is it a quantifiable increase? Yes ☒ No ☐

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley continues to evolve in response to the growing needs of youth and families in our community. As part of our commitment to providing safe, accessible, and high-quality services, funding from the City of Edinburg is critically needed to support several key operational and programmatic priorities.

Transportation Fleet Replacement and Maintenance

Reliable transportation is essential to our daily operations. Our current fleet of vehicles is aging and increasingly costly to maintain, diverting funds from direct youth services. These vehicles are used to transport children safely from school campuses to our Club units and to educational field trips, community events, and service-learning opportunities. A renewed investment in our transportation infrastructure is vital to maintaining consistent attendance and program access—particularly for youth who would otherwise lack transportation.

Organizational Infrastructure Expansion

In alignment with recommendations from City Administration, the Club is expanding its internal capacity by establishing **in-house Human Resources and Finance departments**. This development will improve oversight, compliance, and operational efficiency, allowing us to better manage public funds and sustain organizational growth. These new departments will also ensure we are meeting best practices in nonprofit governance and employee support.

Strengthening Mental Health Services

As part of our long-term vision for holistic youth development, we are enhancing our mental health programming by onboarding a **licensed Social Worker** to lead and grow our Youth & Family Support Services. This investment builds upon our successful mental health efforts, which have supported families facing crises and delivered vital psychoeducation, counseling, and referral services. With continued support, we aim to expand trauma-informed care, suicide intervention, and social-emotional learning resources to address the increasing mental health needs of our youth and families.

These initiatives reflect our strategic focus on **safety, organizational excellence, and youth well-being**, and demonstrate our deep commitment to serving as a trusted community partner. Continued investment from the City of Edinburg will ensure that we are equipped to meet today's challenges and expand opportunities for tomorrow's leaders.

5. Clientele

a. What is the target population? (Example: children, elderly, etc.)

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley's City of Edinburg Funding Allocation proposal is designed to serve **children and youth ages 6 to 18**, with a particular focus on **low-income families, at-risk youth, and underserved populations** within the City of Edinburg and surrounding communities. Our programs are intentionally structured to support youth who face barriers to academic achievement, emotional well-being, and long-term economic stability.

BGCE engages and supports families through wraparound services, referrals, and community education. Our mission is to create equitable access to high-quality after-school care, mentorship, educational support, and career readiness programming that builds a strong foundation for lifelong success. We aim to foster resilience, reduce risk factors, and promote upward mobility for Edinburg's next generation of leaders.

b. How many individuals will be served by this program in Edinburg?

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley anticipates serving 4,800 individuals within the City of Edinburg over the upcoming program year. This includes youth ages 6 to 18 who are actively enrolled in our year-round programs, as well as family members and community participants engaged through outreach, family support services, and educational events.

Our focus is on delivering impactful services that meet the unique needs of youth, with programming centered on academic support, mentorship, mental health, life skills, and career readiness. By targeting this population, we aim to bridge existing gaps in access to quality enrichment opportunities and empower young people to break the cycle of poverty through education, leadership development, and long-term skill-building.

This investment from the City of Edinburg will directly support our capacity to reach more youth, enhance the quality of services provided, and ensure that every child has the tools and support needed to thrive—both in school and in life.

c. What is the estimated cost to provide services to one person?

Estimated cost for year-round program for one individual is \$235.00

6. Performance Management (measuring your goals and objectives) Show how you identify and measure the results and impacts brought about by your event/program. When completing this section keep in mind the question: "How do we know this event/program is making a difference in the lives of those we serve"?

BGC-Edinburg will use the following to track grant measures and metrics:

Program Quality and Outputs

- # Peer Leaders
- Unit Effectiveness Ratings
- % Activities Completed
- # and % of participants who attended 70% of program sessions

Short-term Indicator

- # and % of participants with an increase in post-test score from pretest score

Intermediate-term Indicators

- Members and families feel a sense of belonging and connection to the Club
- Members and families feel physically and emotionally safe at the Club
- Members and families report that the Club is fun
- Members have an adult at the Club they trust and feel connected to
- Members believe that Club staff have high expectations for them
- Members and families report receiving recognition at the Club
- Members and families attend the Club regularly

Long-term Indicators

- Conflict resolution skills
- Avoidance of association with juvenile justice
- Avoidance of tobacco
- Avoidance of alcohol
- Avoidance of marijuana
- Avoidance of other drugs

Club Resources:

- To what extent did the facilitator have the required knowledge and skills to implement the program?
- To what extent did the facilitator receive appropriate training, support, and resources to implement the program effectively?
- To what extent was the facility conducive to the implementation of program activities?
- What was the quality of the Club environment and culture?
- What were the characteristics of the trained peer leaders?

Program Implementation:

- To what extent was the program implemented as presented in the written curriculum?
If the program departed from the curriculum, what changes were made?
- What was the frequency, duration, and quality of the program activities delivered?
- What were the characteristics of the participants?
- What was the attendance rate for the participants?

- How engaged were the participants in the program?

Participant Outcomes:

- To what extent did participants change their awareness, knowledge, attitude, motivation, and skills with regard to the desired outcome areas (e.g., caring for self, health relationships, decision-making skills, healthy/unhealthy choices, media, and future plans)?

III. EVENT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a brief description of the specific event/program for which you are requesting funding and how the problem or need involves residents in Edinburg.

As a leading provider of after-school services in Edinburg since 1969, Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg offers a safe haven where at-risk youth have the opportunity to learn and grow during the most vulnerable time of day. Our four Club sites give our youth a vital alternative to the rampant dangers of crime, gangs, and drugs that they face on a daily basis in communities that often struggle to provide true economic opportunity and development. National studies have shown that youth who attend Boys & Girls Clubs have higher graduation rates, are less likely to get in trouble after school, and lead healthier and more active lifestyles.

The continued support from the City of Edinburg Funding request enhances the comprehensive youth development programs in our locations serving over 4,000 youth this year. BGC-Edinburg focuses its efforts on Edinburg's most economically challenged neighborhoods and most disadvantaged families to overcome these above-mentioned challenges. The youth we serve are between the ages of 5 and 18; 98% are minority and 60% come from families that qualify as low-income to moderate income. BGC-Edinburg provides these young people a stable, safe, and stimulating environment – a place where they receive the tools they need to become productive, caring, and responsible citizens. BGCE offers local, neighborhood-based solutions to these challenged communities, but also enjoys the benefit of being a part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's (BGCA) nationally vetted framework.

To ensure our members have great futures, the BGCE implements the Formula for Impact, the research-based theory of change that describes how providing an Outcome-Driven Club Experience can increase our impact exponentially on the young people who need us most. The Formula for Impact that focuses on Club members achieving priority outcomes in the areas of Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles.

BGC-Edinburg programs follow BGCA's "Formula for Impact" which calls for our Club to provide the most powerful Club Experience possible – by implementing the Five Key Elements of Youth Development: a safe, positive environment; fun; supportive relationships; opportunities and expectations; and recognition. Because we also know that attending the Club more frequently and over a greater length of time makes young people more likely to achieve positive outcomes, BGCE Club staff members pursue strategies to increase attendance, program participation, and member retention by providing high-yield activities and targeted programs from our five Core Program Areas: Education & Career, Character & Leadership, Health & Life Skills, the Arts, and Sports, Fitness & Recreation. These include, but are not limited to, the below programs:

Education & Career

- *Power Hour*: Homework assistance and tutoring program provides our Youth Development Club Professionals with the strategies, activities, resources and information to create an engaging homework help and tutoring program that encourages Club members to become self-directed learners.
- *Money Matters*: Our program promotes financial responsibility and independence. Participants learn how to manage a checking account, create a budget, save and invest, start small businesses and pay for college. BGCE partners up with local banks and provides financial literacy sessions to families as well on a quarterly basis.
- *DIY STEM*: A hands-on, activity-based STEM curriculum which connects youth to science themes they encounter regularly.
- *Summer Brain Gain*: Summer Brain Gain consists of one-week modules with fun, themed activities for elementary school, middle school and high school students that are aligned with common core anchor standards and prevent the summer learning slide.
- *My.Future*: Technology-based programming that teaches young people computer skills and artistic expression. Programs include coding, video making/editing, and web and graphic design.

Health & Life Skills and the Arts

- *SMART Girls*: A health, fitness, prevention/education, and self-esteem enhancement program designed to meet the developmental needs of girls.
- *Passport to Manhood*: A health, fitness, prevention/education, and self-esteem enhancement program designed to meet the developmental needs of boys.
- *Triple Play: Healthy Habits*: Health and nutrition activities, fitness programs, and sports leagues and events that teach youth how to eat healthy, make time for regular physical activity, and improve their overall well-being.

Character & Leadership Programs

- *Torch and Keystone Clubs*: Small-group leadership and service clubs for adolescents to elect officers, plan and implement activities, and contribute something of value to others. Activities encourage service to the Club and community, leadership development, education and career exploration, unity, free enterprise, and social interaction.
- *Mentoring*: Pairing members with adult mentors at the Club who provide academic and moral support, encouragement, and guidance to help youth become academically successful and active in setting long-term goals.
- *Youth of the Year*: Each Club annually selects a Youth of the Year (aged 14-18) and Junior Youth of the Year (aged 11-13). Winners compete for local, regional, and national Youth of the Year. BGC-Edinburg has awarded over \$19,000 in scholarships for our Club members from 2023-2024.

BGC-Edinburg will continue to develop and modify programs to specifically recruit and retain youth between the ages of 6 to 18, thereby preventing youth engagement in violence.

- **CAPACITY**: Strengthens the youth experience at the Club.
- **PROGRAMS**: Ensures our program offerings are relevant to members we serve.
- **PARTNERSHIPS**: Increases access points for youth and teens, making it easy for

them to engage.

- **OUTREACH:** Reaches more youth, teens and families, more often.

Through City Allocation Funding, the City of Edinburg and Club gives our youth, teens and families a safe alternative to the streets during the out of school hours and beyond. We anticipate to continue to develop meaningful connections with teens that will lead to greater Club attendance thereby preparing youth to avoid risky lifestyle choices and violent alternatives.

2. Please provide the number of individuals assisted in Edinburg for the following fiscal years:

	FY 2024-2025	Proposed FY 2025-2026
Total # Assisted	4,016	5,000
# of Edinburg Residents Served	98%	98%

3. List similar projects in Edinburg. Is there a coordinating agency? If so, whom? (Name, Address & Phone Number of Contact Person)

N/A

4. Provide backup information regarding event/program service necessity, such as surveys, waiting list, etc.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg has received numerous requests for us to assist in additional Edinburg Housing Authority Centers, ECISD School Sites, IDEA Quest Academy, and other Urban County Rural Areas to service additional youth and teens. Without reliable transportation to transport our Club members to our main Legacy Unit, it is a hard task.

We currently have a wait list of potential members to serve due to our limited capacity-most recently due to renovations at our Legacy Facility. Please see the waitlist attached.

5. Attach letter(s) of support for this event/program.

Please see letters of support attached

6. If this event/program is unfunded or partially funded, will the event/program be carried out?

If the Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley is unfunded or only partially funded through the City of Edinburg Annual Allocation, the ability to fully deliver our core programs and services would be significantly compromised. While we remain committed to our mission of serving Edinburg's youth, a funding shortfall would result in substantial reductions in both program

availability and organizational capacity.

The most immediate impact would be a scaling back of essential services, including after-school academic support, recreational and enrichment programs, mentorship, healthy meals, and mental health resources. Reduced funding could also lead to staff layoffs or reduced staff hours, directly affecting our ability to maintain safe staff-to-youth ratios and to deliver high-quality programming. This, in turn, diminishes our reach and the overall effectiveness of our youth development efforts.

For the thousands of young people and families who depend on the Club as a safe, supportive environment, particularly during out-of-school hours, this would mean fewer opportunities for structured engagement, skill-building, and access to caring adult mentors. Many of these youth come from households facing economic hardship, and losing access to Club services could leave them vulnerable to negative influences and outcomes, including academic setbacks, food insecurity, social isolation, and behavioral challenges.

BGC-Edinburg plays a role as a community anchor, offering support to families and fostering connections that strengthen the city's social fabric. A reduction in services would not only disrupt those relationships but could place added pressure on local government agencies, schools, and nonprofits to fill the gap—resources that are already stretched thin.

Finally, a loss or reduction in City funding may also impact stakeholder confidence and public perception, potentially affecting other sources of support and collaboration.

Without full funding from the City of Edinburg, the program would face significant limitations, and the overall well-being of the youth and families we serve would be adversely affected.

7. Is there a fee for your services? If so, please attach a fee schedule.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley fees can be found below. Our goal is to ensure that no child is ever turned away due to an inability to pay. The current fee schedule is as follows:

- **School Year Membership Fee:** \$35.00 per child
(Includes access to after-school programming, Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Supper and snacks are provided daily.)
- **Summer Camp Fee:** \$200.00 per child
(Covers a full 9-week summer program, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Includes breakfast, lunch, and snacks.)

To ensure equity and inclusion, financial assistance is available based on HUD income guidelines, and military families receive additional discounts. Scholarships are awarded on a sliding scale to ensure that all youth, regardless of economic status, have access to our life-enriching programs.

IV. BUDGET

1. Please list City of Edinburg funding amount requested and other sources of funds and amounts for this event/program/organization.

a. Funding amount requested from City of Edinburg \$550,000

b.

Other Sources	Funding Amount
Total Event/Program Revenue	\$1,938,883.14
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$1,900,204.80

2. Provide a line-item budget that will identify the allocation of the requested City of Edinburg funding amount.

CATEGORY	FUNDS REQUESTED
Salaries	\$350,000
Fringe Benefits	\$50,000
Travel	\$5,000
Capital	\$0
Utilities	\$20,000
Advertising	\$5,000
Program Supplies	\$35,000
Other (Facility Enhancement Safety)	\$25,000
Other (Transportation)	\$60,000
Total Event/Program Expenses	\$550,000

3. Is event/program dependent on "Other Funds"? ☒ YES ☐ N

Note: If other funds are pending approval and the event/program is dependent on them, please be advised that we reserve the right to rescind City of Edinburg funding if other funding becomes unavailable.

4. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for staffing and operations?

100% of requested city funding will be used for BGCE-RGV Staff and Operations.

5. Identify what percentage of City of Edinburg funding will be used for direct benefit.

100% of requested city funding will be used for BGCE-RGV Staff and Operations

6. Describe the need and the degree of urgency for the proposed funding. What would be the consequences if not funded in the next year?

Funding plays a crucial role in supporting our youth and families in our community. Should BGC-Edinburg RGV, Inc. not be funded for 2025-2026 through the City of Edinburg's Annual Funding Allocation, our programs will suffer tremendously and hinder the progress and success we've made over the past year. Without funding our Club initiatives may be compromised leaving vulnerable populations without access to essential services and opportunities.

V. EVENT/PROGRAM TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS

1. When will the event/program fiscal year begin and end?

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley will operate the proposed program during the City of Edinburg's designated funding period. **Services will begin on October 1, 2025, and will continue through September 30, 2026.** During this time, the Club will deliver year-round programming, including after-school services, summer camp, family support, and youth development initiatives aligned with our mission and funding objectives.

2. If funded, indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg funds to be spent each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

If awarded funding, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley will allocate the City of Edinburg funds evenly across the fiscal year to ensure consistent service delivery, staffing, and program quality. The proposed quarterly distribution is as follows:

- **October – December 2025:** \$137,500.00
- **January – March 2026:** \$137,500.00
- **April – June 2026:** \$137,500.00

- **July – September 2026:** \$137,500.00

Total Requested Amount for FY 2024–2025: \$550,000.00

These funds will be used to support core programming, personnel, transportation, meals, mental health services, and facility operations, ensuring that youth and families in Edinburg continue to receive safe, high-quality, and impactful services year-round.

3. Indicate below the amount of City of Edinburg beneficiaries to be assisted during each quarter, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg Rio Grande Valley anticipates serving approximately **1,250 youth, teens, and family members per quarter** throughout the 2025–2026 fiscal year. Services will be delivered consistently across all program sites and community outreach efforts. The projected breakdown is as follows:

- **October – December 2025:** 1,250 individuals served
- **January – March 2026:** 1,250 individuals served
- **April – June 2026:** 1,250 individuals served
- **July – September 2026:** 1,250 individuals served

Total Projected Annual Reach: 5,000 individuals

These figures reflect direct participants in after-school programs, summer camps, mentorship and academic initiatives, mental health services, family support programs, and community outreach events. Our goal is to ensure broad, equitable access to life-changing opportunities for Edinburg's youth and families year-round.

Please Note: If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.

VI. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

If application is **NOT** signed by an authorized representative, the application will be disqualified.

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. Proof of tax exemption (Tax ID#)
3. Must provide a copy of the most current single or program audit report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. Include Independent Auditor's Report, Management Letter, if noted in the Audit, and the response to the Management Letter addressing all issues, concerns, and/or findings.
4. Copy of most recent 990 Tax Return. (provide copy of IRS Form 8868)
5. Current budget for agency - Show all sources of expected revenues and expenditures
6. Applicant's By-Laws
7. Resume of Chief Administrator
8. Resume of Chief Financial Officer
9. Board of Directors: Provide name, address, occupation, and phone number of current Board of Directors, include position/title on Board.
10. Current Organizational Chart
11. Documentation of non-profit status, include state and federal tax exempt determination letters.
12. **Authorized Officials:** Designated officials authorized to enter into contracts. Identify all personnel with signatory powers. Provide a letter signed by Board Member or approved "Minutes".

Please Note: *If funding is approved, the city reserves the right to request reports of program activity, effective measures, and accountability of funding.*

If this request is accepted for funding, the applicant must be willing to comply with all applicable federal, state and city requirements and enter into a funding agreement with the City of Edinburg.

I certify under penalty of perjury the foregoing application for City of Edinburg funds for FY 2025-2026 is true and correct. I understand additional documentation may be required if funding is granted.

Signature: Date: 06/12/25



Please print or type name and title of signer:

Name: Daisy Martinez

Title: Chief Executive Officer

2024-2025 Budget

City of Edinburg, Texas
Annual Budget
Boys' and Girls' Club of Edinburg, Inc

Data as of 10/01/2024

Revenues		Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	YTD Activity	YTD Activity + Encumbrances	Budget Remaining
RevType: 42 - InterGov't						
460-9500-421103	ARPA GRANT	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
460-9500-421107	CHILD & ADULT CARE FOOD PRG	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -			\$ -
460-9500-421115	HIDALGO URBAN CO SAN C	40,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-421116	IDEA REIMBURSEMENT	110,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-421124	METHODIST HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES	-	-			\$ -
460-9500-422117	DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH	-	-			\$ -
460-9500-422120	TEXAS ALLIANCE	-	-			\$ -
460-9500-423127	VOCA GRANT	-	-			\$ -
Subtotal		\$ 350,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
RevType: 43 - Charges for Services						
460-9500-437100	CONCESSION SALES	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -			\$ -
460-9500-437101	RENTAL CENTERS	5,000.00	-			\$ -
Subtotal		\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
RevType: 45 - Miscellaneous						
460-9500-451100	INTEREST EARNED	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -			\$ -
460-9500-453200	UNITED WAY	102,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453201	CONTR-SPECIAL EVENTS	360,400.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453202	CONTR-SERVICE CLUBS	5,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453203	CONTR-SALES TO MEMBERS	2,400.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453204	CONTR-PROGRAM FEES	53,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453205	CONTR-MEMBERSHIPS	-	-			\$ -
460-9500-453206	CONTRIBUTION-GRANTS	676,344.28	-			\$ -
460-9500-453207	CONTRIBUTION OTHER	-	-			\$ -
460-9500-453210	CONTR-CORPORATIONS	28,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453211	CONTR-CITY OF EDINBURG	400,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453212	CONTR ONE CAMPAIGN	25,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-453214	CONTR-INDIVIDUALS	15,000.00	-			\$ -
460-9500-454100	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	-	-			\$ -
460-9500-454104	CASH SHORT OR OVER	-	-			\$ -
Subtotal		\$ 1,737,144.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
RevType: 49 - Transfers In (Interfund)						
460-9500-499100	TRANSFER IN GENERAL FUND					\$ -
Subtotal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Total Revenues		\$ 2,097,144.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Budget
		Original	Current	YTD Activity	YTD Activity +	Encumbrances	Budget	Remaining	
		Total Budget	Total Budget						
Expenses									
ExpType: 50 - Personnel Services									
460-8100-501100	SALARIES	\$ 744,703.39	\$ -						
460-8100-501101	LONGEVITY	9,464.00	-						
460-8100-501102	OVERTIME	-	-						
460-8100-501110	PART-TIME WAGES	301,571.00	-						
460-8100-502100	TAXES	80,100.00	-						
460-8100-502101	RETIREMENT	143,240.00	-						
460-8100-502102	GROUP INSURANCE	100,357.00	-						
460-8100-502103	DISABILITY INSURANCE	1,924.00	-						
460-8100-502104	WORKERS COMPENSATION INS	16,000.00	-						
Subtotal		\$ 1,397,359.39	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ExpType: 51 - Contractual and Maintenance Services									
460-8100-511200	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 16,100.00	\$ -						
460-8100-512210	COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE AGREEMENTS	15,100.00	-						
460-8100-512220	UTILITIES	70,300.00	-						
460-8100-512230	PRINTING	1,900.00	-						
460-8100-512240	RENTS & CONTRACTUALS	-	-						
460-8100-513200	TRAVEL, TRAINING, MEETINGS	54,580.00	-						
460-8100-513210	MEMBERSHIP DUES, SUBSCR	33,000.00	-						
460-8100-513300	MOTOR VEHICLES - MAINTENANCE	6,500.00	-						
460-8100-513301	OFFICE MAINTENANCE & CONTRACTUAL - IT	4,700.00	-						
460-8100-513306	BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES	72,000.00	-						
460-9500-513230	CREDIT CARD MERCHANT CHARGES	1,800.00	-						
Subtotal		\$ 275,980.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ExpType: 52 - Supplies, Materials and Small Equipment									
460-8100-521300	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 13,800.00	\$ -						
460-8100-522205	ADVERTISING AND MARKETING	2,500.00	-						
460-8100-522300	WEARING APPAREL	3,000.00	-						
460-8100-522303	RECREATION & EDUCATION	38,750.00	-						
460-8100-522304	FOOD	130,000.00	-						
460-8100-522305	MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL	5,000.00	-						
460-8100-522306	JANITORIAL	8,000.00	-						
460-8100-522307	CHEMICALS-MEDICAL & LAB	1,000.00	-						
460-8100-511202	AUDIT	1,500.00	-						
460-8100-522308	OFFICE HARDWARE AND RELATED SOFTWARE - IT	-	-						
460-8100-522312	BUILDING	-	-						
460-8100-522316	MOTOR VEHICLES - SUPPLIES	-	-						

Letters of Support

Brenda E Perez

3609 Joby St Apt 1

Edinburg TX 78541

Email: Perezb0304@gmail.com

(956) 609-0409

June 12, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Boys & Girls Club and to share my strong belief in the incredible work this organization does for our youth and our community.

For years, the Boys & Girls Club has been a pillar of hope, support, and opportunity for countless young people. Through a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment, the Club empowers children and teens to reach their full potential, both academically and personally. The programs they offer—ranging from educational support and leadership training to sports, arts, and healthy lifestyle initiatives—are thoughtfully designed to meet the diverse needs of today's youth.

What sets the Boys & Girls Club apart is not only the quality of its programming, but also the deep compassion and commitment shown by its staff and volunteers. They are mentors, role models, and advocates who make a lasting difference in the lives of the young people they serve.

I have seen firsthand the positive impact the Club has made in our community, and I firmly believe that continued support for this organization is an investment in a brighter, more equitable future for all. I stand behind their mission wholeheartedly and encourage others to do the same.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information or would like to discuss my support in more detail.

With sincere appreciation and respect,

Brenda E Perez

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BEP', written over a horizontal line.



EDINBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY

Serving Families Since 1949



June 12, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to extend our support to the Edinburg Boys & Girls Club (EBGC) and their application for funding. As a committed partner and advocate for youth development in our community, I can attest to the profound and positive impact the Edinburg Boys & Girls Club has had on the youth residing on the Edinburg Housing Authority developments, and their families.

For several years now, EBGC has provided a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment for children and teens, offering essential programs in academics, leadership, health & wellness, arts, and nutritional meals. Their work directly addresses the challenges faced by many of our youth, including lack of access to after-school programs, hot meals, academic support, and mentorship opportunities.

The funding requested will allow EBGC's to expand its reach and deepen its impact to our youth. These programs are crucial to ensuring that more youth can grow into successful, contributing members of our community.

Again, we fully support the Edinburg Boys & Girls Club efforts to secure additional funding for their needs and will deliver exceptional programs that make a lasting difference.

Please feel free to call me if need any additional information or have any questions at 956-383-3839.

Thank you,

Marissa Garza, Executive Director

COUNTY *of* HIDALGO

ELLIE TORRES

1051 N. DOOLITTLE RD.
EDINBURG, TEXAS 78542
OFFICE: (956) 383-3112
FAX: (956) 381-5905



COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PCT. NO. 4

June 11, 2025

Honorable Mayor Ramiro Garza Jr.
and Members of the Edinburg City Commission
City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, TX 78541

Dear Mayor Garza and City Commissioners,

As a proud member of the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court and a strong advocate for youth development and community wellness, I am writing in full support of the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg as they seek continued annual funding from the City of Edinburg.

The Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg has long been a vital institution for families in Edinburg and the surrounding areas. It serves as a safe, accessible, and enriching environment for hundreds of children and teens—providing critical services during both the school year and summer months. Its presence not only benefits the young people who attend, but also supports working parents and strengthens our broader community.

During the academic year, the Club plays a key role in keeping youth engaged after school through tutoring, mentoring, athletics, and leadership programs. These services help bridge the gap for students who may need extra support, and they offer peace of mind to parents who depend on the Club for safe, supervised care during critical hours.

In the summer, the Club's full-day programming provides structure, nourishment, and enrichment for children who might otherwise face the challenges of unsupervised time. These programs help combat learning loss, promote healthy lifestyles, and keep kids connected to positive role models and peers.

I have seen firsthand the impact this organization has had—not only in shaping the lives of young people but also in enhancing public safety, reducing juvenile delinquency, and fostering stronger family foundations in Edinburg. It is a model of what public-private partnership and community-driven leadership can achieve.

I respectfully urge the City Commission to continue its funding support for the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg. Your investment in this organization is an investment in the future of Edinburg and Hidalgo County as a whole.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the well-being of our youth and for supporting services that truly make a difference.

Sincerely,


Ellie Torres, Hidalgo County Precinct 4 County Commissioner

COUNTY of HIDALGO

ELLIE TORRES

1051 N. DOOLITTLE RD.

EDINBURG, TEXAS 78542

OFFICE: (956) 383-3112

FAX: (956) 381-5905



COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PCT. No. 4

June 11, 2025

City of Edinburg Mayor and Commission
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, TX 78541

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg as they seek continued annual funding from the City of Edinburg. As a vital cornerstone of our community, the Club plays an irreplaceable role in supporting local families and shaping the next generation of responsible, healthy, and productive citizens.

Throughout the school year, the Boys & Girls Club provides a safe, structured, and nurturing environment where young people can go after school—when they are most vulnerable to negative influences. With access to homework help, mentoring, leadership development, and recreational activities, children not only stay engaged but also gain the skills and confidence needed to succeed academically and socially. For many working families in Edinburg, the Club is a lifeline—offering peace of mind that their children are safe, supported, and thriving.

During the summer months, the Club becomes even more essential. It fills a critical gap when school is out by offering full-day programs that include educational enrichment, healthy meals, physical activity, and fun. This not only helps prevent summer learning loss but also ensures that children remain active and well-nourished while their parents work. It is no exaggeration to say that for many families, the Boys & Girls Club is the only affordable and accessible option for high-quality summer care.

Beyond academic and recreational services, the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg fosters a sense of belonging, resilience, and community pride among its members. It is an investment not just in programs, but in people—in the youth who will one day lead our city.

For these reasons and more, I respectfully urge the City of Edinburg to continue its vital funding of the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg RGV. Your ongoing support is instrumental in helping this organization carry out its mission and expand its positive impact across our community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to the well-being of Edinburg's youth and families.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Mendoza Culbertson
Chief of Staff for Internal Affairs
Hidalgo County Precinct 4