



State Council Charities

“Follow Me”

MESSAGE FROM THE CHARITIES DIRECTOR

Joe Jacobo, State Charities Director, (432) 638-5578 or JoeJacoboKofC@yahoo.com

Our State Council theme resounds very well, “Follow Me”. Our Bishops and Priests need the Knights of Columbus now more than ever! The first principle of our Order is Charity, and it is the basis for all we do as Brother Knights. Charity is at the heart of all the work we do and our faith — and it always has been. For the Knights of Columbus, charity means supporting a boundless variety of projects. Together, we make a difference. This is our path, and our faith leads the way.

Brothers, this fraternal year each of you are called to be inspired with the true spirit of charity and discharge our full duty to God, to our neighbors and to ourselves. We grow together in friendship with the Lord through our fraternity, and this friendship is lived and cultivated by our practice of charity. Membership in the Order offers a wide variety of opportunities for men and their families to grow in their faith and serve those in need.

Whether with gifts of money or works of service, the Knights must continue their staunch support within their communities through initiatives and programs, such as American Wheelchair Mission, Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund, Cardinal Medeiros Fund, Disaster Response, Educational Grants, Special Olympics, Thanksgiving Masses, and more. Knights recognize our mission, and our faith in God; it compels us to action and calls us to Christ and his call to “Follow Me”.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING TEAM

Josh Gomez, Chairman, (972)-313-5398 or JoshGomezKofC@gmail.com

The Charity Fundraising Team, led by Josh Gomez, is fundraising with our Brother Knights, our Councils, Districts, and each Diocese. They will be inspiring our members to contribute to State Council Charities.

The Fundraising Committeeman:

- Bob Schmidt: 281-798-0817 or rhsch03@aol.com
- Thomas Oaks: 956-648-0463 or major.oaks_1995@att.net
- Mario Mallari: 915-373-5794 or mpogie10@gmail.com

Josh and the members of the fundraising team will instill in our Brother Knights that while Charity begins at home, it must not stop there. In fact, if we are to truly give witness to Fr. McGivney’s vision, it cannot stop at our local boundaries. While Charity is the first principle of our Order, it is only when implemented in conjunction with our two other founding principles of Unity and Fraternity can we realize our full potential. United with the Councils across each Diocese and with our Brother Knights throughout the state, we will be able to help those in need, wherever the need arises.

Every year, your Council is given an opportunity to earn awards by reaching their State Council Charity goal. The goal is derived by requesting \$10.00 per regular member, as reflected on your Council membership roster on July 1, 2024. Remember, the Bishop of your Diocese will receive 70% of your Council’s charity contribution. The remaining 30% is retained by the State Council Charity Board to be used for statewide charitable purposes. If your Council exceeds their goal, 100% of all monies exceeding your Diocesan charity goal will be returned to your Bishop. To ensure your Council receives proper credit, please make your checks payable to “State Council Charities” and ensure the Council Number is listed on the check.

Mail your check to:

Texas State Council Knights of Columbus • 6633 Hwy 290 East, Suite 204 • Austin, Texas 78723-1157

OR you can pay online via the Texas State Website: www.tkofc.org then click on Pay State Charities Online at the top of the home page. You can pay State Per Capita Dues as well!

The Charity Pin

Whenever a Brother Knight or family member donates \$20.00 or more, they are eligible to receive one of the beautiful, limited edition, State Council Charity lapel pins. By completing the Charity Contribution Form, the member’s Council is given credit for the contribution towards its assigned goal.

State Council Charities

Donations of \$20.00 or higher will be recognized with a State Charities Lapel Pin. Thank you for your generosity and assisting the Texas State Charities Program as well as supporting our Bishop’s selected Diocesan charities. Please include your pledge or contribution. Make checks payable to:

State Council Charities
6633 Highway 290 East Suite 204
Austin, TX 79723-1157

Name: _____ Council _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Lapel Pin Presented (Y/N): _____

Thank you for your generosity – State Officers and State Charities Team



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6633 Highway 290 East Suite 204
Austin, TX 79723-1157

Name: _____ Council _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Lapel Pin Presented (Y/N): _____

Thank you for your generosity – State Officers and State Charities Team

The Pledge Letter

We are asking your council to make a pledge to contribute toward your TSC Charity goal this fiscal year that ends on June 30th, 2025. Can we count on your council? Your decision will help us to plan at the state level to maximize donations for our Texas Bishops. Please present this pledge to your council in the months of July through October, then submit this pledge to your District Deputy before Nov. 15th, 2024.



**State Council Charities
Board of Directors**

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Ron Alonzo
skronalanzo1202@gmail.com

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Bishop of Corpus Christi

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bob@gossfaw.com

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skdr2001@gmail.com

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pelsd66@gmail.com

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reed.fontenot@att.net

Immediate Past State Deputy
Terry Frugé
tbfruge@comcast.net

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Alfredo Vela
alfredovela@hotmail.com

BOARD MEMBER (2 YEARS)
Joe Jacobo
joejacobokofc@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBER (2 YEAR)
Tony Gonzalez
tonyglz@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBER (2 YEAR)
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Chiefjoe58@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBER (1 YEAR)
Vincent Pena
kofcvincent@outlook.com

BOARD MEMBER (1 YEAR)
Leo Hanus
lehanus@verizon.net

STATE OFFICE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Carlos Gonzalez
6633 Hwy 290 East, Ste 204
Austin, TX 78723
(512) 442-1492
carlos@tkofc.org

Worthy Grand Knight,

State Council Charities Board of Directors (SCC) leadership would like to ask for your council's pledge to support Your Bishop's charity of choice through our Diocesan State Charities goal, of which 70% comes back to support your Bishop. Any amount over 100% goes directly to your Bishop. Your Council can help your Bishop's charity of choice and SCC with Special Olympics, Disaster Relief, College Catholic Centers, Front Line Faith, Habitat for Humanity, and other requests that are brought to Texas State Council for consideration.

We are asking your council to meet their goal in the fiscal year that ends on June 30th, 2025. **Can we count on your council?** Your decision will help us to plan at the state level to maximize donations for our Texas Bishops. Please present this pledge to your council in the months of July through October, then submit this pledge to your District Deputy before Nov. 15th, 2024.

My Council will provide the following support

State Council Charities 2-step: My Council will contribute at or above 120% of our goal in two steps!

Step #1: 100% by December 31, 2024*

Step #2: additional 20% or more by June 30, 2025

My Council will contribute at or above 100% of our goal by December 31, 2024*

My Council will contribute at or above 100% of our goal by TSC Convention April 25th.

My Council will contribute \$ _____ toward our goal by TSC Convention April 25th.

No support, but we wish the Texas State Council well in this endeavor.

Signed by GK _____ Date _____

Print Name _____ Council # _____

This free-will pledge is not legally binding. It is an aspirational goal of your diocese. *100% goal met with 100% TSC per capita paid, qualifies your council for "Quick Start."

BISHOPS DESIGNATION FOR THEIR CHARITY FUNDS

Bishop Patrick J. Zurek, Amarillo

Secondary Catholic Education in the Amarillo Diocese

Bishop Joe S. Vasquez, Austin

Catholic Schools

Bishop David L. Toups, Beaumont

Seminarian Fund

Bishop Daniel E. Flores, Brownsville

Deaf Ministry/Disabled Program

Bishop William Michael Mulvey, Corpus Christi

Farm of Hope (Fazenda da Esperança)

Bishop Edward J. Burns, Dallas

Persons with Disabilities and Deaf Ministries

Bishop Mark J. Seitz, El Paso

Vocations

Bishop Michael F. Olson, Fort Worth

Deaf Ministry and Seminarian Support

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Galveston/Houston

Retired Priests Pension Funds

Bishop James A. Tamayo, Laredo

Evangelization/Outreach Charity & Seminarian Support

Bishop Robert M. Coerver, Lubbock

Vocations/Seminarian Support

Bishop Michael J. Sis, San Angelo

Seminarian Education

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, San Antonio

Propaedeutic Program at Assumption Seminary

Tyler

Seminarian Education & Training

Bishop Brendan Cahill, Victoria

Continuing Education for Priests, Extension of Lay Ministry and Evangelization



WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM

Bill Weber, Chairman, (214) 405-8023 or yankeesweb@tx.rr.com

Brian Nelson, Assistant Chairman, (210) 275-7921 or abn091951@gmail.com

The Knights of Columbus, in partnership with the American Wheelchair Mission, raise funds to support the purchase of wheelchairs for distribution worldwide, including in the USA. It is estimated that over 100 million people worldwide need a wheelchair and cannot afford one. It is also estimated that each wheelchair delivered changes and improves an average of 10 lives. Our Worthy State Deputy has continued to set a goal for each Council to donate at least \$150 for the purchase of one wheelchair. To achieve this objective the Council's budget should reflect this amount as a line item. The Grand Knight should regularly include the wheelchair ministry on the agenda of the monthly Council meeting.

Make checks payable to the American Wheelchair Mission and mail to: American Wheelchair Mission, Attn: Dan Moberg, 2600 E. Solstice Way, Suite A172, Post Falls, ID 83854-7991. Please do not mail checks to anyone else. To donate online, visit <https://amwheelchair.org/donate/> and select "Knights of Columbus" in the Campaign field and enter your Council Number in the Organization/Council field.

The most effective way to raise funds for this program is to conduct a weekend parish wide fundraiser called Wheelchair Sunday. This gives parishioners an opportunity to join in this ministry and is quite easy to conduct.

Preparing for a Wheelchair Sunday:

- Get approval from your Pastor to hold a Wheelchair Sunday and to read a 2–3-minute pulpit talk and/or show a video at all the Masses. If you do not get approval from your Pastor for a pulpit talk or video, you can still hold a Wheelchair Sunday.
- Once approved, schedule 1 or 2 weekends for your Wheelchair Sunday that does not compete with other parish fundraisers.
- Obtain a sample pulpit talk and donation envelopes, or forms, from the Wheelchair Chairman or Assistant Chairman.
- Advertise up to 6 weeks in advance in all parish media and include instructions on how to donate online.
- Obtain needed materials and supplies such as a display wheelchair, Certificate of Thanks, donation envelopes, newsletters, DVDs, pins, display board, pens, clipboards, baskets, and Our Lady of Guadalupe lithographs. If you do not have lithographs available to give to donors of \$500 or more, a lithograph can be shipped to them. We can bring all these materials and supplies if we are available to be there to help.

Conducting a Wheelchair Sunday:

- Setup at least 1 table in the narthex or outside, depending on space and what your Pastor will allow.
- Read the 2–3-minute pulpit talk and/or show a video at all the Masses.
- After each Mass: make sure all the exits are covered, collect cash/check donations in baskets and hand out donation envelopes.
- Checks must be made payable to American Wheelchair Mission.
- Parishioners should fill out a donation envelope if: requesting a Certificate of Thanks (\$150 or more donation), requesting an Our Lady of Guadalupe lithograph (\$500 or more donation), or using a credit card.
- Credit card readers are available where the funds go directly to the American Wheelchair Mission.
- If a lithograph is given out, please write "Took OLG" on the donation envelope. One lithograph per donor.

Tasks after Wheelchair Sunday

- For loose cash, your Council will write a check for the total amount.
- For cash in donation envelopes, be sure to write “Cash” at top of each envelope and write a personal check for the total amount or include this amount in the Council check.
- Mail all checks and envelopes to American Wheelchair Mission, Attn: Dan Moberg, 2600 East Seltice Way, Suite A172, Post Falls, ID 83854-7991 via FedEx. We can give you a FedEx Number to use.

Wheelchairs are shipped in small and large containers. The small container costs \$16,500 and contains 110 wheelchairs and the large container costs \$42,000 and contains 280 wheelchairs. Only large containers are shipped to other countries. American Wheelchair Mission manages all arrangements for procurement and shipment of containers.

An organization raising funds sufficient to fill either a small or large container may designate the location for distribution. Volunteers wishing to assist in a distribution may do so at their own expense.

Holding a Wheelchair Sunday will not only raise funds but will also present an opportunity to recruit new members. Emphasize that Charity is being demonstrated as the first principle of our Order. If it is not possible to conduct a Wheelchair Sunday, then Grand Knights should direct efforts to assure that their Council donates at least \$150 for one wheelchair.

“CHANGING LIVES THROUGH MOBILITY”



BISHOP THOMAS J. FLANAGAN FUND - GRANTS FOR RETIRED PRIESTS

Dan Stoffel, Chairman, (469) 682-1046 or danstoffel@yahoo.com

This established fund is named in honor of the late Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan who served the Archdiocese of San Antonio as Auxiliary Bishop from 1998-2005 and the Texas State Council as State Chaplain from 2000-2002.

Ensuring the care and welfare of those who so faithfully served us is vitally important. There is no better way to do so than by contributing to the newly established Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund. This fund has been established to provide grants for our retired priests.

The first way to contribute to this fund is one all our members should be familiar with. It is by acquiring and displaying a Texas Knights of Columbus license plate on your vehicle. This proudly proclaims you are a Knight, a Catholic, and the fact America is “One Nation Under God”! What better statement could you make to those seeing your vehicle on the road? By purchasing or renewing a K of C license plate, you have an opportunity to take care of our Infirm Priests. The price of this specialty license plate is an additional \$30.00 annually added to your registration fee, however, Texas DMV may increase this fee. When a member chooses to proudly display one of these on their vehicle, \$22.00 of this fee is returned to the State Council Charities for the Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund.

A set of the Texas Knights of Columbus license plates may be obtained for automobiles or trucks and are available with the handicap logo. Personalization of the specialty plate is available for an additional \$40 annually.

If you currently have a set of Texas Knights of Columbus license plates on your vehicle (s), thank you for your support! If you do not, and you would like a set, it is as easy as logging onto the Texas DPS website.



Go to: <https://www.myplates.com>

You can also print the following two pages and bring the completed form to your local DMV.

The second way you can make a difference in the life of a retired priest is by making a direct contribution to this fund with the State Council Charities. Go to the Texas State Council website, Fundraising Page, <https://www.tkofc.org/fundraising/>. On the Fundraising Page click on the “Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund” link and follow the on-screen instructions. Anyone making a direct contribution of at least \$30.00 will be eligible to receive a Custom, Chromed License Plate Frame, to proudly display on their vehicle to show support for our Retired Priests!

All funds contributed to this fund shall be distributed equally to the fifteen dioceses in Texas each fraternal year.



Application for Specialty License Plate

For County Use Only	
License No _____	
Mo/Yr of Exp _____	
Date Issued _____	

Instructions

Submit completed application; payment in the form of a personal check, money order, or cashier's check; and any required attachments to your local county tax assessor-collector's office. **Do not mail cash.** The specialty plate fee is \$30 or \$40 per year, as indicated on page 2, in addition to the annual registration fee. License plates may be personalized for an additional \$40 fee; make your choice below. **Fees are not refundable.**

When the specialty plate is issued, additional fees may be collected to establish a single expiration date for both the specialty plate and the vehicle registration. If you order by mail, contact your county tax assessor-collector's office in three weeks to verify your plate is ready.

The vehicle must be for personal use only and have a Texas title and registration in your name. If the vehicle is not titled in your name, attach a statement affirming that you have legal right of possession and control of this vehicle at all times. If you recently submitted an application for title, attach a copy of the title application (VTR-500 RTS) receipt. If the vehicle is leased, attach a copy of the lease agreement. Submit a separate application for each vehicle. Contact your county tax assessor-collector if you have any questions.

Applicant Information

First Name Your Name	Middle Name	Last Name Your Name	Suffix	County Your County
Address Your Address		City Your City	State TX	ZIP 00000
Email Your.email@Your.com			Phone Number	

Vehicle Type: Passenger car Truck Motorcycle/Moped Trailer

Personalize Your Plate – If you would like to personalize your specialty plate, there will be a \$40 fee per year in addition to the annual registration fee.

- Show personalization(s) exactly as you want them to appear on your license plate(s). You may list more than one option in the event the personalization you have chosen is already issued.
- A personalization that has been issued, is deemed offensive, or conflicts with the regular license plate numbering system cannot be approved.
- Enter your desired personalized letters, numbers, and/or symbols in the blocks below. The available symbols include: a period, a dash, a blank space, a Texas silhouette (use an asterisk "*" to indicate), a heart (use an at "@" to indicate), and a star (use an ampersand "&" to indicate).
- Passenger car, truck, and trailer plates are limited to five (5) characters total, including punctuation characters. The Alamo, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and Keep Texas Beautiful plates may be personalized with up to six (6) characters due to the plate design.
- Motorcycle and moped plates are limited to four (4) characters total, including punctuation characters. The Alamo and Keep Texas Beautiful plates may be personalized with up to five (5) characters due to the plate design.
- You are not required to use all the blocks provided.
- The International Symbol of Access " ♿ " counts as two (2) characters and will be located at the beginning of the plate number. If you are disabled and applying for personalized specialty plates, the plate may consist of only three (3) characters (or two (2) if it is a motorcycle/moped). Use a percent "%" to indicate the International Symbol of Access.

1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	3 rd Choice

International Symbol of Access

To display the International Symbol of Access on your license plate, attach a signed *Application for Persons with Disabilities Parking Placard and/or License Plate* (Form VTR-214) to this application to show your eligibility. The International Symbol of Access is only available on motor vehicles that have a gross vehicle weight of 18,000 lbs. or less. Contact your county tax assessor-collector's office for more information.

Application for Specialty License Plate

Specialty Plate Choices – All plates are available for passenger cars and trucks. Plates available for motorcycles/mopeds are indicated by (M). Plates available for trailers are indicated by (T).

Circle your specialty plate choice below or enter your choice here:

Knights of Columbus

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-H • A Fine Cause for Unknown Cancer (M) (T) • Adopt a Beach (M) (T) • Air Force Association • Alamo (M) (T) • American Quarter Horse (T) • Animal Friendly • Autism Awareness (M) (T) • Be A Blood Donor • Big Bend National Park (M) • Big Bend Fossil (M) (T) • Big Brothers Big Sisters • Boy Scouts of America • Buffalo Soldiers (M) (T) • Burn Pits 360 Veterans Organization (M) (T) • CASA-Court Appointed Special Advocate (Lone Star Proud for Kids) • Childhood Cancer Awareness (M) (T) • Coastal Conservation - Redfish (M) (T) • College for All Texans (M) (T) • Conserve Texas Quail (M) (T) • Conserve Water (M) (T) • Cotton Boll • Daughters of the American Revolution (M) (T) • Ducks Unlimited (Blue Heron) (M) (T) • Ducks Unlimited (Classic) (M) (T) • Ducks Unlimited (Three Dogs) (M) (T) • Eastern Star (M) (T) • El Paso Mission Valley • Fallen Law Enforcement Officer (M) (T) • Family First • Fight Terrorism (M) • Girl Scouts • God Bless America (M) (T) - \$40 fee • God Bless Texas (M) - \$40 fee • Houston Audubon (Birds and Habitat) (M) (T) • Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo • I Love Texas (Deaf and Hard of Hearing) • In God We Trust (M) (T) • Insure Texas Kids (M) (T) • Juneteenth (M) (T) • K9S4COPS (M) (T) • K9S4KIDS (M) (T) • Keep Texas Beautiful (Don't Mess with Texas) (M) (T) • Knights of Columbus • Love Honey Bees • Make-A-Wish • March of Dimes • Marine Mammal Recovery • Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M) • Native Texan (Daughters of the Republic of Texas) (M) • Organ Donor • PGA Foundation (M) (T) • Read to Succeed • Red Grapefruit (Texas Citrus Industry) • Register to Vote | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotary International (M) (T) • San Jacinto Texas Historic District (M) (T) • Save Texas Ocelots (M) (T) • Sea Turtle (M) (T) • Share the Road Y'all (Bicycle) (M) (T) • Sheriffs' Association of Texas (M) (T) • Sickle Cell Disease Awareness • Smile Texas Style • Smokey Bear (Prevent Wildfires) (M) (T) • Sound of Freedom (M) (T) • Space Shuttle Columbia • Special Olympics • State Capitol • Stop Child Abuse (M) (T) • Stop Human Trafficking (M) (T) • Take Care of Texas (M) (T) • Texans Conquer Cancer • Texas Aerospace Commission • Texas is Home (M) (T) • Texas Lions Camp • Texas Masons (M) (T) • Texas Master Gardener (M) (T) • Texas Master Naturalist (M) (T) • Texas Medical Center (M) (T) • Texas Music (M) (T) • Texas, Our Texas (M) (T) • Texas Reads • Texas Realtors Working for You (M) • Texas Trails (M) (T) • Texas Wildflowers (M) (T) • Texas Young Lawyers (And Justice for All) • Texas. It's Like a Whole Other Country
(Texas Department of Economic Development) • United States Olympic Committee (Olympic Spirit) • United We Stand • Urban Forestry • YMCA <p>Texas Parks and Wildlife – Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bighorn Sheep ("Wild Texas") (M) (T) • Bluebonnet ("Texas State Parks") (M) (T) • Camping ("Texas State Parks") (M) (T) • Horned Lizard ("Keep Texas Wild") (M) (T) • Hummingbird ("Keep Texas Wild") (M) (T) • Largemouth Bass ("Fish Texas") (M) (T) • Monarch Butterfly (M) (T) • Rattlesnake ("Keep Texas Wild") (M) (T) • Roadrunner • Texas Rivers (M) (T) • White-tailed Deer ("Hunt Texas") (M) (T) <p>Professional Sports Teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houston Astros • Houston Texans |
|--|--|

CARDINAL MEDEIROS FUND

Leo Saenz Jr., Chairman, (512) 831-8516 or leosaenz@gmail.com

The Cardinal Medeiros Trust Fund was established in 1981 and incorporated into the State Council Charities program. Humberto Cardinal Medeiros was the Bishop of Brownsville, Texas from 1966 until 1970. He served as the Texas State Council Chaplain 1969-1970. He was named the Archbishop of Boston on September 8, 1970, and created a Cardinal on March 5, 1973.

The Cardinal Medeiros Fellow Program was started in 1998 to increase the principal in the trust fund. The interest earned is used to exclusively fund our educational grants. An increase in the interest income facilitates and permits additional educational grants.

A Cardinal Medeiros Fellow may be ordered for a Knight of Columbus or for a Knight's wife. Additionally, it may be ordered in memory of a deceased Knight or for a deceased Knight's wife. This is a marvelous way to honor an individual, while at the same time providing a gift that keeps on giving through scholarship grants. With a contribution of \$1,000, the honoree is awarded a plaque, a lapel pin and their name is engraved on the Honor Roll which is on display at the State Council Office. The Honor Roll is displayed each year at the Texas State Council Convention.

The Cardinal Medeiros Sustaining Member Program was established to allow greater participation. The entry level into this program is \$100.00, with the balance payable in installments. An attractive lapel pin designates the contributor as a Sustaining Member. The Fellow is awarded when the full \$1,000 contribution is completed.

To become a Medeiros Fellow Sustaining Member, visit the Texas State Council website:

<https://www.tkofc.org/starguide/charities/cardinal-medeiros-fund> and follow the application instructions.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

Leo Saenz, Jr., Chairman, (512) 831-8516 or leosaenz@gmail.com

Ken Orze, Assistant Chairman, (678) 656-3911 or k.orze@yahoo.com

State Council Charities maintains two Education Grant Programs that are funded by the interest received on the Cardinal Humberto Medeiros and Christopher Trust Funds managed by the Supreme Council. These two programs are the Catholic School Grants and the individual student Educational Grants.

Catholic School Grants

Texas State Council Charities will award \$2,000 or more per diocese to designated Catholic Schools within each diocese. Prior to March 1, the Educational Grant Committee will ask the Bishop of each Diocese, in conjunction with the Diocesan Superintendent or Director of Catholic Education, to designate schools in the Diocese to receive the funds and the amount (at least \$500) each school is to receive. Funds will be provided to the designated schools in the Diocese after the State Convention. The total amount available for each Diocese will be determined using a formula based on the number of Knights in each Diocese. Each Diocese will receive at least one \$2,000 grant.

Individual Educational Grants

The Texas State Council will award at least one \$1,000 Educational Grant per diocese and two more \$1,000 At-Large Educational Grants. The total number of grants for each Diocese will be determined using a formula based on the number of Regular Members, on July 1, in each Diocese. Applications for these grants are due March 1. Winners will be announced at the State Convention.

Who Is Eligible for the Individual Educational Grant?

An applicant must be a Knight of Columbus member in good standing of a Council located in Texas, his wife, son, or daughter. A granddaughter or grandson of a member in good standing in a Council in Texas may apply if their father is not a Knight or is not in good standing. Descendants of deceased members or grandfathers who were in good standing are also eligible. Any graduating senior of a Catholic High School in Texas is eligible when sponsored by a local Council in Texas – even when the student’s parent or grandparent is not a Knight.



Educational Grant money is to be used for education in a University, College, Junior College, Technical School, Business School or Seminary.

The application must be completed and received by March 1.

The sponsoring Council’s Supreme and State per capita must be paid in full and the Council may not be suspended by the Supreme Council.

Guidelines for the Educational Grant Application are found in the application, which is available: at the Texas State Council website <https://www.tkofc.org/assets/uploads/docs/Fillable-A-Educational-Grant-Form-2024-revised-jul2-23.pdf> in the Star Guide, from your District Deputy or by email from Educational Grant Chairman Leo Saenz, Jr., at leosaenz@gmail.com

The formula for determining numbers of grants is one per Diocese, plus one additional grant for reaching each increment of 7,500 Knights in the Diocese as of July 1 each year.

EDUCATIONAL GRANT APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 1 OF THE GRANT YEAR.

**A completed application counts as an award write-up
toward the Lone Star Award for Excellence with Distinction.**



Special Olympics

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Chris Hofer, Chairman, (903) 736-5309 or choe6482@aol.com

The mission of Special Olympics Texas is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. These activities give them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

Volunteers

Special Olympics Texas could not have been created and would not exist today without the time, energy, and the dedication of thousands of volunteers. Over 38,000 volunteers dedicate their time helping athletes with intellectual disabilities achieve their dreams. We as volunteers take an oath:

“I promise to give the time of my life, so that Special Olympics Athletes can have the time of their life. I promise to support Special Olympics not just as an expression of charity, but as a form of respect for my fellow human beings. I promise to spread the word of volunteerism because in giving, I receive so much more in return.”

Partnership with Special Olympics (Form 10784)

EVERY Council should fill out a Form 10784, reporting Partnership Activities with Special Olympics, which details your Council’s involvement - events attended, dollar contributions and manpower hours devoted to various Special Olympics competitions. Those Councils who participate in State Council Charities may report 2.5% of the Councils State Charities donated amount. The report is to be submitted whether a Council was actively involved in Special Olympics or not. We need every council to submit this report. These reports are due January 31 of each fraternal year to Supreme. Please also send a copy your council’s completed Form 10784 to Texas State Council Office at forms@tkofc.org.

Charles ‘Chic’ O’Conner October 9, 1919 –April 22, 2010

Chic was a proud member of the Knights since 1943. He was very instrumental in starting Special Olympics in Gregg County (Longview). He became involved because of his daughter Monica. The O’Conner family has done everything from being Timers, Huggers, Chaperones and Pizza Providers for the entire Gregg County Delegation and Area events. The Texas State Council approved the Charles ‘Chic’ O’Conner Annual Memorial Award in his honor. This award will recognize a Brother Knight for his exemplary contributions in supporting Special Olympics Texas. Criteria includes Leadership, Volunteering, Fundraising and Community Involvement. Deadline for the submission of this form is January 31, each fraternal year.

Nomination forms can be e-mailed to Chris Hofer at choe6482@aol.com or Joe Jacobo at JoeJacobokoC@yahoo.com

We will have Special Olympic lapel pins available for purchase this year! This will be a limited edition and additional details will be forthcoming!

“LET ME WIN, BUT IF I CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT”

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Harry Storey, Chairman, (214) 557-2923 or hss@storeycorp.net

REGIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATORS:

Ron Kwiat – Northeast – Dallas, Fort Worth, Tyler
(619) 368-5996 or rpkwiat48@gmail.com

Edward Cantu – South – San Antonio, Laredo, Corpus Christi, Brownsville
(361) 855-3440 or edwardcnt@gmail.com

Larry Pellerito – Central - Austin, Beaumont, Galveston/Houston, Victoria
(281) 224-3728 or kcpellerito@gmail.com

Harry Storey – West – Amarillo, Lubbock, El Paso, San Angelo
(214) 557-2923 or hss@storeycorp.net

For information on the Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Program: www.KofC.org/prepare

For disaster assistance and grant information, e-mail: EmergencyResponse@TKofC.org

TEXAS STATE COUNCIL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM

The mission of our emergency response program is to provide GUIDANCE and ASSISTANCE to our brothers and councils before and after disasters.

Utilizing our statewide network of Emergency Response Coordinators (ERC), we provide GUIDANCE to councils and Knights, thus allowing a concerted effort for all involved. Our relief ASSISTANCE comes through charitable giving from our brothers and councils.

2024-2025 TEXAS STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATORS

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail
State ERC Chairman	Harry Storey	214-557-2923	hss@storeycorp.net
Central Regional ERC	Larry Pellerito	281-224-3728	KCPellerito@gmail.com
- Austin Diocesan ERC	Kevin Brinkman	512-574-7855	kabrinkman78613@gmail.com
- Galveston/Houston Diocesan ERC	“G” Giegerich	281-610-6507	jlglogs@gmail.com
- Victoria Diocesan ERC	Scott Strnadel	361-550-3207	sstrnadel@ktconstruction.com
- Beaumont Diocesan ERC	Rick Thomisee	409-454-6593	rlthomiseekc@gmail.com
Northeast Regional ERC	Ron Kwiat	619-368-5996	rpkwiat48@gmail.com
- Dallas Diocesan ERC	Eduardo Valenzuela	469-782-7076	eduardo.valenzuela@kdrp.com
- Ft. Worth Diocesan ERC	Sam Simon	817-455-7955	ssimon46@hotmail.com
- Tyler Diocesan ERC	Wally Embrey	402-880-8014	wallye56@msn.com
West Regional ERC	Harry Storey	214-557-2923	hss@storeycorp.net
- Amarillo Diocesan ERC	Michael Peterson	512-636-5232	Go.diesel@yahoo.com
- Lubbock Diocesan ERC	Robert Leal	806-781-9875	rleal1971@yahoo.com
- El Paso Diocesan ERC	James Weber	915-244-4849	jamesweber1940@yahoo.com
- San Angelo Diocesan ERC	Jeff Wheaton	432-528-7931	jturbotime@aol.com
South Regional ERC	Edward Cantu	361-855-3440	edwardcnt@gmail.com
- Brownsville Diocesan ERC	David Salinas	956-560-3890	davmar727@icloud.com
- Corpus Christi Diocesan ERC	Eloy Ozuna	361-396-2680	mpbchurchfacilities@gmail.com
- Laredo Diocesan ERC	Julian Luna, III	956-645-0539	jlunaiii3@gmail.com
- San Antonio Diocesan ERC	Bill Havlic	210-584-3046	whavlic@satx.rr.com

CHARITIES AWARDS – 2024-2025

Council Awards:

Quick Start Honor Roll	Plaque	Meet 100% of goal and pay State per capita by 12/31.
Honor Roll	Plaque	Meet 100% of goal and pay State per capita by 06/30.
Joseph G. Murphy	Plaque	Highest % or Highest \$ Amount (Council can only qualify for one award) and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Hall of Fame	Plaque	5 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Emil E. Ogden	Plaque	10 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Mike Brown Award	Plaque	15 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Daniel Cardinal DiNardo	Plaque	20 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Saint John Paul II	Plaque	25 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Judge Ricardo H. Garcia	Plaque	30 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
PSD Javier Martinez	Plaque	35 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
Kevin Cardinal Farrell	Plaque	40 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30.
200% Club	License Plate (or BTJF Fund Contribution) and Statue for Grand Knight	200% of Goal and State per capita paid by 6/30.
300% Club	License Plate (or BTJF Fund Contribution) and Statue for Grand Knight and License Plate (or BTJF Fund Contribution) for 1 additional member	300% of Goal and State per capita paid by 6/30.

District Awards:

District Deputy Quick Start	TSC Commemorative Knife	All Councils in the District meet 100% of charity goal by December 31.
District Deputy Honor Roll	K of C License Plate (or BTJF Fund contribution)	District meets 100% of District Charity goal with each Council Contributing a minimum of 25% of Council's charity goal.

Diocesan Awards:

Diocesan Deputy Quick Start	TSC Commemorative Knife	25% of assigned DD's achieve DD Quick Start in the Dioceses or 70% of active councils achieve Quick Start Honor Roll by December 31.
Diocesan State Charities Consecutive Year Award	Plaque	Significant years (5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35) of consecutive State Charity goal at 100%.
Diocesan Deputy Hall of Fame	Ring	Diocese attains 100% of charity goal.
Charles 'Chic' O'Conner Annual Memorial Award	Plaque	In recognition of exemplary contributions in supporting Special Olympics Texas.