



Hill Country Community Ministries

“Help for people in crisis, hope for the future”

News Release

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Hill Country Community Ministries Receives Economic Impact Award

Leander, TX, December 2, 2011—Hill Country Community Ministries was one of six businesses and organizations selected by [Austin Business Journal](#) to receive the Economic Impact Award at the recent Williamson County Growth Summit. The City of Leander Economic Development Department and Greater Leander Chamber of Commerce nominated HCCM for the award and cited the organization’s 28 years of service to Leander and surrounding communities, providing food, clothing and other assistance for families in crisis.

“Hill Country Community Ministries provides a stabilizing effect in our community and contributes to our overall quality of life,” said Economic Development Director Kirk Clennan. “As the 37th fastest growing city in the United States, Leander is recognized as a city on the move. Economic variables, educational resources, transportation, and other essential factors form the basis of a sustainable community. HCCM cultivates community by caring for and serving those in need.”

Speaking for Hill Country Community Ministries, Executive Director Sherry McDonnell expressed her surprise and appreciation at winning the award. “It was especially gratifying to be nominated by the city and the chamber for our contribution to the community,” she said. “Winning the award was the icing on the cake! We depend on the faithful and generous support of area churches, businesses, schools, civic organizations, caring individuals and

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volunteers who make it possible for us to help our neighbors in their time of crisis. We especially appreciate the City of Leander Economic Development Department and the Greater Leander Chamber of Commerce for their support and for honoring us with the nomination.”

President Mary Bradshaw, Greater Leander Chamber of Commerce, said, “I’ve seen first-hand the need in our community and the difference HCCM makes in the lives of families who need assistance. Last year, HCCM provided more than \$500,000 worth of goods and services to families in Leander and surrounding communities. Whether the need is due to unemployment, medical or domestic crisis, or even the recent loss of homes by fire, HCCM is there to lend a helping hand.”

McDonnell and Connie Walker Sowell, president of HCCM Board of Directors, accepted the award at the Williamson County Growth Summit held in Round Rock. Also attending to lend their support were Economic Development Assistant Eric Zeno, Mayor Pro Tem David Siebold, Councilwoman Michell Cantwell and Councilman Chris Fielder.

Hill Country Community Ministries is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, a coalition of churches assisted by area businesses, civic organizations, schools and caring individuals that provides food, clothing and other assistance for people in crisis and those living in poverty in southwest Williamson and northwest Travis counties. For information about volunteer opportunities or to make a donation, contact Hill Country Community Ministries at 512-259-0360 or visit the website at www.hccm.org.

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