Deep East Texas Council of Governments

Annual Performance Report to the State of Texas

Fiscal Year 2022
(October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022)

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OVERVIEW

The Deep East Texas Council of Governments, better known as DETCOG, is a voluntary association of cities, counties, school districts, and other governmental units within Texas State Planning Region 14. The region encompasses the counties of Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler. Our region also includes the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, a fully functioning sovereign government which is the oldest Indian reservation in Texas. Some of our programs also provide services to residents of the neighboring South East Texas Region.

DETCOG was established in November of 1966 as an Economic Development District under the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. In 1968 DETCOG became a political subdivision of the State of Texas as a Regional Planning Commission under state law now re-codified as Chapter 391 of the Local Government Code.

DETCOG is not another layer of government. We have no taxing authority and no ordinance-making authority. We are an organization of, by, and for the local governments of Deep East Texas. We exist to support our member governments and serve their residents. DETCOG is governed by a diverse 54-member Board. More than two-thirds of our board members are elected officials of our counties and cities.

Deep East Texas is one of the most rural of the 24 state planning regions. We are home to all four of Texas' national forests as well as the three largest reservoirs in the state. The 2020 Census puts our population at 338,090.

Historically, Deep East Texas has been economically distressed with high rates of unemployment and poverty. These economic factors, plus the rural nature of our region, provide us with unique challenges but also underscore the importance of DETCOG's mission.

A major need in Deep East Texas is better access to broadband (high speed internet) service. The current state of broadband in our region has a negative impact on public education, healthcare, public safety, and economic development. DETCOG's goal is to ensure that every home and business in Deep East Texas has access to reliable and affordable broadband. Because of our rural nature, this can only be accomplished utilizing a regional approach – we must leverage the entire region's population to benefit every resident, including the most rural and difficult to serve.

Regional cooperation leads to stronger communities and more efficient use of resources. DETCOG provides the opportunity for local jurisdictions to work together to accomplish more than any individual member could accomplish on its own.

During all of FY-2022 DETCOG operated in temporary facilities. A fire caused extensive damage to the DETCOG office building on September 29, 2021. The entire building suffered heavy smoke damage. Reconstruction of our building is projected to be completed during the summer of 2023. In spite of the disruption and inconvenience caused by the fire, all DETCOG programs continue to function and provide full services to our member governments and the citizens of Deep East Texas.

DETCOG Regional 9-1-1 Network (DET911)

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Total number of 9-1-1 calls/Text-to-911 messages received by PSAPs was 195,349.
- Total number of wireless 9-1-1 calls received was 157,242.
- Conducted 168 monitoring visits to PSAPs (Public Safety Answering Points).
- Conducted 43 database monitoring visits to counties.
- Replaced all copper-based network circuits with fiber-based network circuits for more reliability and lower network costs.
- Implemented multi-factor authentication for the Regional 9-1-1 ESInet.
- Implemented location-based routing with AT&T Mobility.
- Began conversion of Originating Service Provider (OSP) Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) migration with AT&T.
- Upgraded the GIS servers for use with the PSAPs and county offices.
- Activated the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) plan to maintain operations in response to the DETCOG office fire.
- Migrated the 9-1-1 Net Database from Intrado to the new to AT&T Public Safety Platform (PSP).

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Citizens and stakeholders were served by an efficient 9-1-1 emergency communications delivery system that met or exceeded state agency performance measures.
- The PSAPs complied with all state agency requirements as documented through onsite and virtual monitoring reports.
- The County ALI Maintenance Coordinators complied with all state agency requirements as documented through onsite and virtual monitoring reports.
- PSAPs are more reliable with replacement and upgrade of technology.
- Security and protection against cyber-attacks was enhanced.
- The Regional 9-1-1 Network's successful activation of its Disaster Recovery & Continuity of Operations Plan following the DETCOG fire allowed the staff to provide uninterrupted services to the citizens of the region.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Total number of 9-1-1 calls/Text-to-911 messages received by PSAPs will exceed 150,000.
- Total number of wireless 9-1-1 calls will exceed 140,000.
- A minimum of 125 PSAP monitoring visits will be conducted.
- A minimum of 30 County Database monitoring visits will be conducted.
- Aging 9-1-1 PSAP call handling equipment at PSAPs will be replaced.
- Implement Location-Based Routing with additional wireless service providers.
- Continue OSP Migration with various service providers throughout the region.
- Perform a Cybersecurity Assessment of the Regional 9-1-1 ESInet and PSAPs.
- DETCOG will work in conjunction with the PSAPs to conduct testing of the Regional PSAP Network and equipment

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Citizens and stakeholders will be served by an efficient 9-1-1 emergency communications delivery system that meets or exceeds state agency performance measures.
- Location based routing will improve the accuracy of 9-1-1 call routing when a 9-1-1 call is made from a mobile device on a carrier's network. The estimated location is derived from the handset.
- Continued migration to Next Generation 9-1-1 will allow OSPs to take full advantage of the digital technologies available to replace the aging 9-1-1 system infrastructure.
- The deployment of Next Generation Security at all PSAPs will help improve our ability to
- defend against Cyber Attacks and Internal Risks.
- Network testing of the Regional ESInet with Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP), telephone companies, wireless service providers, and others public safety entities will ensure the continued operation, functionality, and reliability of the Regional PSAP Network and equipment.

DETCOG Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

NUTRITION SERVICES

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided funding for 67,456 congregate meals that meet the Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) requirements to 3,384 older adults for an average cost per meal of $7.47.
  - This service also generated $217,920 in program income that purchased 31,638 additional meals.
  - This service also generated $10,718 local in-kind match funds.
- Provided funding for 139,877 home delivered meals that meet the Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) requirements to 3,437 older adults for an average cost per meal of $6.54.
  - This service also generated $18,631 in program income that purchased 6,858 additional meals.
  - This service also generated $181,513 in local in-kind match funds.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Older citizens benefited from nutritious meals and social contacts five days a week which helped alleviate economic risk to those low-income individuals and helped to reduce isolation of individuals who live alone or in rural and remote areas.
- Served 50% more persons in the congregate meal program in FY22 as most of the congregate nutrition sites were open in FY22. Only one provider did not resume providing congregate meals in FY22 – Jasper County Committee on Aging, Inc.
- Achieved 82% of 2022 Projected Outputs in number of congregate meals served. This lower number can be attributed to some early reluctance to persons attending the congregate nutrition sites because of COVID-19.
- Achieved a 78% percent of 2022 Projected Outputs in number of meals delivered.
- Achieved a 70% percent increase over 2022 Projected Outputs for persons served with home delivered meals.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide funding for 81,467 Congregate Meals that meet the DRI requirements to 3,384 older adults for an average cost per meal of $7.8-. Increased costs are due to across the board increases in food, supplies and staffing.
- Provide funding for 179,733 Home Delivered Meals that meet DRI requirements to 3,437 persons for an average cost per meal of $6.83. (Reimbursement rate is currently capped at $5.31 per meal for HHSC common contractors.)

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Older adults who are at greatest social and economic risk will receive nutritious meals and regular social contact. This will promote better health and allow them to continue living independently, as well as reduce hunger in the Deep East Texas region.

HOMEMAKER SERVICES

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided Homemaker Services for 53 persons.
- Provided 1,067 hours of Homemaker services at an average cost of $14.32.
- Average cost per person for Homemaker Services $288.19, which was 51% less than projected. The lower cost/person is due to fewer hours used by individuals.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Older adults were able to continue to live independently in a safe and secure home environment while they were recovering from an illness and/or hospital stay.
- The number of hospital readmissions was reduced.
- Persons who were confined to home due to COVID-19 were served.
- Services were provided in a more efficient and cost-effective manner.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide Homemaker Services to 60 persons at an average cost of $302.60 per person.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Older adults will be able to continue living independently in a safe and healthful home environment while they are recovering from an illness and/or hospital stay.
- The number of hospital readmissions will be reduced.

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided direct case management services for 421 persons, 37% less than projected number.
- Provided 1,147 hours of case management services for an average cost of $83.50 per hour.
- Average cost per person was $227.41, a 36% increase over FY21.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- More older adults and their families received direct services which equipped them to make informed choices about the programs and services available to help them continue to live independently and securely while recovering from illness, injury, or surgery.
- Persons affected by financial setbacks, including those caused by natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic, received assistance to help them recover and maintain an independent lifestyle.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide direct case management services for 442 persons at an average cost of $87.68 per person.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Older persons recovering from illness, injury or surgery will become more aware of programs and services available to help them maintain their independence by making informed choices about their care and arranging for those services.
- The cost of delivering these services will be reduced.

OMBUDSMAN SERVICES

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided Ombudsman Services to residents of 40 nursing homes and 19 assisted living facilities utilizing 12 trained and State Certified Ombudsman staff and volunteers.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Approximately 98 percent of complaints made by or on behalf of residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities were successfully resolved in a timely manner, promoting better care and a better quality of life for the residents.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Continue to provide Ombudsman Services to residents of 40 nursing homes and 19 assisted living facilities.
- Increase the number of trained and State Certified Ombudsman staff and volunteers to 15.
- Continue to achieve at least 95 percent of successful and timely resolutions to complaints made by or on behalf of residents or nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Residents of long-term care facilities will receive better care and live happier lives in a more secure environment.
- Residents will feel like there is someone they can turn to when they need help or have concerns.
- When complaints are received, they will be dealt with in a timely and professional manner.

BENEFITS COUNSELING

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Facilitated 1,929 legal awareness contacts to provide information about Medicare Open Enrollment.
- Provided one-on-one counseling services to 180 unduplicated persons.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Recipients and potential recipients of Medicare and Medicaid benefits have increased awareness and knowledge about the benefits and services available to them and how to access their benefits.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Conduct 75 legal awareness programs to provide information regarding Medicare Open Enrollment.
- Provide one-on-one counseling services to 189 persons.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- More citizens will be aware of public entitlement programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.
- More citizens will enroll in, and benefit from, these programs.

HOME REPAIR AND ACCESSIBILITY MODIFICATIONS

2022 Outputs Achieved
- 130 families/households were assisted with minor home repairs and modifications to make homes accessible for persons with disabilities, minor roof repairs, and repair/replacement of heating and air systems – average cost per household - $4,524.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Elderly and disabled citizens in 130 households were able to continue living independently at home rather than having to relocate to more expensive long-term care facilities.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Serve at least 70 families/households with minor home repairs and modifications to ensure accessibility.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- More elderly and disabled citizens will be able to continue living independently at home rather than having to relocate to more expensive long-term care facilities.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided funding for 4,184 one-way trips to assist 109 older adults. These trips were for medical appointments, grocery shopping and other personal business. Average cost was $19.76 per one-way trip.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Older persons living in remote, rural areas where medical and other services are limited or non-existent and public transit is unavailable had access to healthcare and other services.
- Older persons were able to independently schedule trips to grocery stores, pharmacies, banks, etc., to conduct personal shopping and business.
- Overall trip costs were kept low by utilizing volunteer drivers whenever possible.
- Number of individual riders was down 10 percent from previous year, attributable to COVID-19 restrictions and closings.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide funding for 4,288 one-way trips to assist 100 older adults.
- Increase the number of volunteer transportation drivers to 30.
- Achieve an average cost of $18.43 per one-way trip.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Older adults living in areas where public transit is unavailable will have transportation to medical appointments, purchase groceries, conduct personal business and/or attend senior center activities.
- Older adults living in rural areas will have the opportunity to continue to live independently and enjoy happier, healthier lives.
- State and Federal resources required to fund long-term care solutions will be conserved.

DETCOG 2-1-1 Texas Area Information Center

2022 Outputs Achieved
- The Deep East Texas Area Information Center (AIC) provided information and referral services to 38,720 callers, a 10 percent increase over the previous year.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Thousands of people received information about programs, services and resources that provided help with food, housing, childcare, crisis intervention, substance abuse treatment, Covid-19 testing/vaccinations.
- Citizens were better informed and protected during disasters and emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In spite of the fact that more people are accessing information online via the 2-1-1 Texas website, a substantial number of residents of Deep East Texas continued to rely on the regional call center. The number of calls received has trended upward in recent years:
    - 38,720 calls in 2022
    - 35,287 calls in 2021
    - 42,963 calls in 2020 (record call volume attributed to onset of COVID-19)
    - 29,017 calls in 2019
    - 27,955 calls in 2018
    - 22,971 calls in 2017

2023 Expected Outputs
- The Deep East Texas AIC will handle an estimated 40,656 calls for information and referral services.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Citizens who need help with food, housing, childcare, crisis intervention, substance abuse or other issues will be referred to resources to assist them.
- Citizens will receive important public safety information during emergencies and disasters.
- More citizens will become aware of the services and resources available within our region.
- Increased awareness will result in increased utilization of services to ensure the safety and improve the quality of life of the citizens in our region.

DETCOG Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

2022 Outputs Achieved
- 324 RSVP Volunteers served at 26 food pantries around the region, providing Education, Nutrition and Food Support.
- 86 RSVP Volunteers served with 11 Senior Citizens Nutrition Centers and Home-Delivered Meal providers to distribute and/or deliver meals to older and disabled persons, including many who are homebound. These volunteers also placed two or more reassurance calls to each homebound person each week.
- 13 RSVP Volunteers served at the San Augustine Master Gardeners outdoor school classroom community garden.
- 6 RSVP Volunteers served in after-school and summer tutoring programs and service-learning programs. These programs included Solid Foundation, an after-school tutoring program which served 25 at-risk youth.
- 421 RSVP Volunteers served at various other work stations throughout the region, including public libraries, historical commissions, thrift stores, volunteer ambulance and fire departments, and veterans service organizations.
- A total of 109,424 hours of service were documented by RSVP Volunteers with an estimated value of $3,277,260.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- More than 8,000 individuals received food support and education, reducing long-term hunger and short-term needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- More than 2,700 homebound persons received nutritious meals delivered to their homes and social interaction from Volunteers delivering meals and making reassurance calls.
- 50 young students learned how to grow a garden and received information about healthy eating, nutrition, and exercise.
- 25 at-risk youth are more likely to stay in school, be successful in their studies, and become involved in positive community activities because of mentoring and tutoring services they received.
- Many nonprofit organizations in Deep East Texas were able to extend their reach and provide services to the public that otherwise would not have been available.

2023 Projected Outputs and Outcomes
- All 2022 initiatives will continue.
- As the COVID pandemic continues to subside, and it is safe to do so, new volunteers and volunteer stations will be recruited to increase opportunities for volunteers to contribute their time to improve the lives of others in our region.
- Many community service organizations will be able to continue and expand their services which benefit the residents of Deep East Texas. These include Important services like senior citizens nutrition and social activities, outreach and meal delivery to homebound persons, public safety functions including volunteer fire departments and ambulance services, veterans' services, mentoring and tutoring for at-risk youth, and many other services and activities that are important to our region and improve the quality of life for our citizens.

DETCOG Public Safety Programs

REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided basic, intermediate, or advanced TCOLE-certified courses to 403 peace officers, correctional officers, and communications personnel.
- Provided 5,636 training contact hours in basic courses and intermediate or advanced TCOLE-certified courses.
- Provided a dedicated person for law enforcement agencies to contact when they are looking for or requesting specific training courses/subjects.
- Began a voluntary regional mental health peer support and assistance team to work with law enforcement professional in the region.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Officers had access to training close to home. Officers are better trained and have increased knowledge to perform their duties.
- Officers and first responders had increased support to deal with the stresses of the job.
- Agencies hosted training that their departments needed in their own communities.
- The cost of law enforcement training has been reduced for local governments and their taxpayers.
- Agencies from outside the region attended courses within the region, fostering greater collaboration between agencies and contributing to the economy of the region.
- The citizens of Deep East Texas live in a safer, more secure environment.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide Law Enforcement Training to 2,000 peace officers, correctional officers, and communications professionals, including hard-to-obtain training courses.
- Continue and expand mental health support and peer support programs.
- Keep our officers close to their jurisdictions.
- Provide Law Enforcement Training locally and at no cost to all Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the region, including some 27 recently constituted ISD Police Departments.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Law Enforcement personnel in the Deep East Texas Region will be better trained and have increased knowledge to perform their duties.
- More officers will benefit from hard-to-obtain training that was not previously offered close to home.
- Quality training will be provided, including numerous "Train the Trainer" courses which will lead to even more effective training in the future.
- The officers in the region will have greater resources and support to deal with job-related stress that impacts not only the officers, but their families and communities.
- The citizens of Deep East Texas will live in a safer, more secure environment.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Facilitated and supported work of the regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee including in-person and online meetings for planning and grant applications and scoring.
- Hosted training and meetings with local stakeholders to discuss challenges and best practices for CJIS reporting requirements.
- Provided grant application and management training and technical assistance.
- Collaborated with Chief Juvenile Probation Officers on options for use of grant funds in lieu of face-to-face counseling and reductions in funding caused by COVID-19.
- Updated the Combined CJAC Bylaws/Policy & Procedures.
- The 2022-2026 Criminal Justice Strategic Plan was developed and approved.
- All reports to the State were submitted on time or ahead of schedule.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Higher quality grant applications from regional stakeholders.
- Decreased errors on submitted applications and fewer audit findings.
- Regional partners including school districts and non-profits were better informed about issues and funding opportunities, resulting in more regional collaboration.
- Local officials and stakeholders are better informed about services the DETCOG Public Safety Programs can provide.
- The Governor's Public Safety Office and other state partners were well informed of activities, expenditure of grant funds, and special needs/issues in the region.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide technical assistance to over 150 Grantees/Applicants applying for State funding.
- Conduct at least two virtual Grant Workshops to educate and train Grantees/Applicants, including at least one online workshop.
- Continue to build and update databases and improve communications between the DETCOG Public Safety Program and regional stakeholders.
- Host an eGrants training session with training provided by the Governor's Public Safety.
- Work collaboratively with new TDEM Region 14 County Liaison Officers.
- Seek regional grant opportunities through the JAG Funding Line to compliment the SERI and GLO Mitigation grants for Regional Interoperable Communications Projects.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Local agencies and organizations will develop more effective programs and submit more complete grant applications with fewer errors.
- Law Enforcement Agencies, Schools, and Non-Profits will have more resources at their disposal to respond to public safety and criminal justice needs within their jurisdictions.
- All eleven counties will meet or exceed the mandate for 90% Reporting Status on CJIS.
- Provide information about funding sources outside the PSO to Regional Stakeholders.
- The citizens of Deep East Texas will be better served and live in a safer, more secure environment.

HOMELAND SECURITY PLANNING

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Facilitated and supported the work of the Deep East Texas Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) and local jurisdictions, utilizing a combination of virtual and in-person meetings to communicate with the HSAC and other regional partners to address issues & challenges.
- Updated the region's Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) using five incidents and 32 core capabilities in the exercise. Also updated the State Preparedness Report (SPR), the Implementation Plan (IP) and Risk-Based Methodology Report for Deep East Texas.
- Continued to support the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) Active Shooter Training Program in conjunction with the Lufkin Police Department.
- Reviewed current emergency management capabilities and processes to identify gaps.
- Updated Emergency Preparedness Task Force By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures.
- Submitted an implementation plan to the Texas Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) and the Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP) in Deep East Texas.
- Conducted one virtual grant workshop and one make-up workshop to provide grant application and management training to stakeholders.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Potential threats have been identified and risks have been reduced, allowing the citizens of Deep East Texas to live in a safer, more secure environment.
- Authorities throughout the region are better prepared to deal with an active shooter situation. 55 officers completed the ALERRT training using the latest techniques.
- Local jurisdictions and stakeholders have a better knowledge of processes and procedures used by the DETCOG Emergency Preparedness Task Force.
- Phase One of the Regional Interoperable Communications Plan has been developed and is in process of being implemented to connect six counties into the Texas Wide Area Radio Network (TxWARN).
- Received an additional $1.5 Million Funding Allocation through the Statewide Interoperable Communication Funding Source to expand and improve the regional interoperable radio communications project.
- $14 million in CDBG-Mitigation funding has been allocated to improve interoperable radio communications in Hurricane Harvey disaster counties (Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Tyler, and Jasper counties).

2023 Expected Outputs
- Working with regional partners we will continue to activate the TxWARN interoperable radio system in six counties along the US-59/I-69 corridor and the western portion of the region.
- Contingent on funding being received we will complete Phase One of the Regional Interoperable Radio Communications Project and begin Phase Two to extend improvements to the counties in the eastern portion of the region.

- Continue to review and update planning for the DETCOG P-25 Interoperable Communications Project to assess needs, identify gaps, and improve the communications capabilities of all 11 counties and local jurisdictions.
- Coordinate funding from multiple sources, including the Governor's Public Safety Office, State Emergency Radio Infrastructure (SERI) grant program, General Land Office Disaster Mitigation Grant programs, to continue making improvements in the region's interoperable radio communications infrastructure.
- Convene local jurisdictions and stakeholders to identify and monitor threats and risks through development of the 2023 Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), State Preparedness Report (SPR), the Implementation Plan (IP) and Risk-Informed Methodology Report.
- Utilizing the new course curriculum DETCOG will continue to facilitate, in partnership with the Lufkin Police Department, the ALERRT Program and provide 15 active shooter training classes for local jurisdictions.
- Continue DETCOG's Partnership with Texas Division of Emergency Management to host the DDC14 Regional Emergency Operations Center during times of disaster.
- Meet with and communicate the function of COG's to new TDEM "County Liaison Officers.
- Conduct one virtual grant workshop to provide grant application and management training to stakeholders.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Law Enforcement and Public Safety officials and First Responders throughout the region will have improved communications capabilities.
- Local authorities will be better prepared to respond to active shooter situations and other public safety and homeland security issues.
- All DETCOG Public Safety programs will continue to operate in a coordinated and efficient manner which will increase effectiveness while reducing administrative costs.
- The citizens of Deep East Texas will live in a safer and more secure environment and citizens from outside the region will be safer when travelling through our region.

DETCOG Family and Youth Success Program (FAYS)

2022 Outputs Achieved.
- Served 642 clients, exceeding annual target goal of 500.
- Averaged over eight visits per client served by face-to-face sessions.
- Achieved an over 90 percent positive affect at closure for each client served.
- Achieved an over 85 percent positive affect at follow-up for each client served.
- Met and surpassed monthly output target of 132 youth/families for all 12 months.
- Follow-ups were completed for more than 99 percent of clients served.
- Provided $195,550 in TANF Pandemic Emergency Basic Needs Assistance to 261 families.
- Conducted Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention outreach including public service campaign on local radio stations and distribution of brochures throughout the region.

2022 Outcomes Achieved.
- At Risk Youth and their Families received counseling services, anger management training, and family skills classes which strengthened the family unit and helped avoid disruption or breakup of families.
- Youth in crisis situations received help, enabling them to cope now and in the future.
- School truancy was reduced.
- 100% of Protective Factor Surveys (PFS) show an increase in scores for at least one protective factor.
- The public was better informed about the problem of Child Abuse and how to prevent it. 150,000 persons reached through radio campaign, social media, and print materials.
- Families affected by the pandemic received additional assistance including:
  - Rent/mortgage payment assistance, enabling them to maintain stability.
  - New appliances for cooking, washing, heating/cooling their homes.
  - Gift cards for children needing clothing and families facing food insecurity.

2023 Expected Outputs.
- Serve a minimum of 500 unduplicated clients during the year with increased one-on-one counseling sessions as well as family sessions.
- Continue to utilize DFPS approved evidence-based programs to serve clients.
- Achieve a success rate of over 85 percent on follow-up completed for each client served, and a positive affect at closure and follow-up for at least 85 percent of clients.
- Continue to strengthen public awareness of child abuse awareness and prevention.

2023 Expected Outcomes.
- Reduction of at-risk delinquent behaviors and reduced conflict within families.
- Youth and their families will be able to better cope with stressful events.
- Increased accountability resulting from evidence-based approaches being used.
- Increased school attendance.
- Reduction of child abuse and neglect with aggressive April Child Abuse Prevention Campaign, as well as the use of Evidence based Parenting Skills training.

DETCOG Regional Housing Authority
(HUD Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program)

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Provided rental payments to local landlords for 1,700 families (monthly average).
- Processed 1,550 waiting list applications.
- Processed paperwork on 399 families determined ineligible or non-responsive.
- Provided orientation/briefings to 366 new families.
- Performed inspections on 1,207 housing units.
- Provided rental assistance for 69 Veterans and their families in the VASH program.
- Issued 14 emergency vouchers in the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program.
- Provided case management for 56 families enrolled in the Family Self Sufficiency Program.
- Provided monthly mortgage assistance payments for 15 families.
- Accepted an allocation of 25 new vouchers per fiscal year in the Foster Youth to Independence Initiative (FYI).

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- More families who otherwise could not afford it have access to safe and fair housing.
- Families are more self-sufficient. 14 families graduated from the Family Self Sufficiency Program and two voucher families received financial pre-approval to purchase a home.
- 14 families in emergency situations received expedited housing vouchers.
- More than $11 million was injected into the region's economy in payments to landlords.
- 1,500 applications were received online resulting in no staff data entry errors.
- The program functioned effectively, and families continued to received assistance despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and a major fire at our office building.
- We operated more efficiently through the use of paperless file system and digital fax service.
- Time spent on waiting list was reduced from average of 21 months to 15 months.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Provide rental payments to local landlords on behalf of 1,800 HCV families and 102 Veterans.
- Identify and provide housing assistance payments for more Homeless Veteran Families.
- Issue all remaining Emergency Housing Vouchers allotted to DETCOG.
- Perform bi-annual inspections on 900 housing units.
- Increase participation in the Family Self Sufficiency and Homeownership Programs.
- Develop partnerships with lenders in support of the Homeownership Program.
- Implement Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) initiative serve up to 25 clients per year.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Low-income families and families experiencing homelessness and other threats beyond their control will have access to safe, fair, and affordable housing.
- Families will become more self-sufficient and more families will achieve home ownership.
- Homelessness in the region will be reduced.
- In partnership with Public Child Welfare Agencies, youth and young adults who age out of foster care will have safe and fair housing as they transition to independence and self-sufficiency.

DETCOG Community & Economic Development Program
(Includes Disaster Recovery and Mitigation Programs)

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Advanced DETCOG's rural broadband initiative, including securing of funding, and substantial completion of network design, for a proposed 7-county regional broadband network.
- Developed and received state approval of the Method of Distribution to allocate $161,542,000 in Hurricane Harvey CDBG-Mitigation funding for projects designed to mitigate the impact of future disasters. $56,000,000 was set aside for regional projects to address two long-standing vulnerabilities of the region – broadband infrastructure and interoperable public safety radio communications. $105,542,000 was allocated to local jurisdictions to allow them the flexibility to prioritize and address their local needs.
- Provided technical assistance to Sabine County in a $12.7 grant application to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for a fiber-to-the-premises broadband project. Kinetic by Windstream will provide $4.7 million in matching funds for a total $17.1 million project to serve 5,000 homes and businesses with high-speed fiber broadband service.
- Provided information and technical assistance to local governments and Stephen F. Austin State University for EDA grant applications.
- Continued administering EDA grants which were previously awarded to Newton County, San Jacinto County, and the City of Crockett to support job creation and retention.
- Participated in an EDA pilot program that placed an AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer at DETCOG to increase economic development capacity in rural counties.
- Provided technical assistance to cities and counties for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications.
- Assisted the Texas General Land Office (GLO) with planning, outreach, and support for long-term disaster recovery and mitigation programs in our region.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Environmental review and final engineering work commenced for a $9 million fixed wireless broadband network to serve North Newton County.
- $42 million in additional funding was secured for a regional fixed wireless broadband network in Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Tyler, and Jasper counties.
- Seven counties, 14 cities, and the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas secured a total of $105,542,000 in disaster mitigation funding, with the flexibility to address their local needs.
- Sabine County was awarded $12.7 million in federal funding, to be matched by $4.7 million from private partner Kinetic by Windstream, for a $17.1 million high-speed fiber broadband project that will serve 5,000 homes and business in the rural county.
- Stephen F. Austin State University's new Center for Applied Research and Rural Innovation has become a reality, supporting economic development throughout the region
- Our communities are making continued progress in the economic recovery from natural disasters such as Hurricanes Harvey and Laura and the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Communities in Deep East Texas are more aware of opportunities for funding and the process to apply for funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture's TxCDBG program and other programs.
- Organization and planning are underway, and regional priorities have been established, for the next cycle of TxCDBG grant applications.
- More federal funding is flowing into Deep East Texas to assist local jurisdictions and citizens to recover from the impact of disasters and become more resilient to deal with future disasters.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Complete update to five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Deep East Texas Region.
- Complete environmental review and engineering, and begin construction of the $9 million North Newton County fixed wireless broadband network.
- Finalize project plan and complete environmental review and engineering for the $42 million regional fixed wireless broadband network in Newton, Polk, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Tyler, and Jasper counties.
- Continue project management/consulting services for Sabine County in support of their $17 million fiber-to-the-premises project funded by NTIA and Kinetic by Windstream.
- Continue planning and seek funding to expand regional fixed wireless broadband network to cover additional unserved and underserved households in the region.
- Provide technical assistance to local governments applying for funding to support job creation from expansion of existing businesses and recruitment of new businesses.
- Develop and submit at least one new EDA grant application for local jurisdictions.
- Host meetings and workshops for local governments and provide technical support to assist with applications for the TxCDBG grant program and other funding opportunities to support economic development and recovery.
- Support and work cooperatively with other local and regional economic development organizations to create and retain quality jobs in Deep East Texas.
- Develop an amendment to the Method of Distribution (MOD) for the Hurricane Harvey Local Infrastructure Program to reallocate $100,000 in de-obligated funds in the region.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- New jobs will be created and sustained, and existing jobs will be retained, improving the economy and quality of life within our region.
- Local entities will receive financial support from EDA, GLO, TDA and other federal and state resources to promote community and economic development and create/retain jobs.
- Infrastructure throughout the region will improve, including broadband infrastructure.
- Communities affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic, Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Harvey, the 2016 Floods, and other disasters will recover from the impact of the disasters more quickly and robustly and become more resilient to future disasters.
- The value of regional cooperation to improve the economy and standard of living in all communities of the region will be advanced.
- Significant progress will be made toward the goal of ensuring reliable and affordable broadband service for every household and business in Deep East Texas.

DETCOG Regional Solid Waste Grant Program

2022 Outputs Achieved
- With input from regional partners, completed and submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a new 20-Year Regional Solid Waste Plan.
- Provided technical assistance training sessions to local governments and organizations.
- Coordinated outreach, education and training programs promoting a clean environment.
- Updated regional solid waste grant application forms to expedite approval process.
- Coordinated the application and selection process for regional solid waste grants.
- Awarded three (3) solid waste grants to cities and counties totaling $36.305.62.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Increased public awareness of the importance of solid waste reduction and recycling.
- The regional solid waste grant application process was streamlined and improved.
- Three communities received funding to implement projects to improve the environment.
- Trinity County continues to report a reduction in illegal dumping, and hosted an event that resulted in the disposal of 4,640 pounds of large items.
- Angelina County/Angelina Beautiful Clean collected over 16,549 pounds of hazardous waste and 15,291 pounds of non-hazardous waste during collection drives.
- San Jacinto County collected 6,400 pounds of Hazardous Waste during their HHW event.
- City of Crockett collected 60,600 pounds of tires during a Litter & Illegal Dumping event.
- Newton County collected 7,060 pounds of tires during a Litter & Illegal Dumping event.
- Polk County collected 69,340 pounds of mixed items (paper, cardboard, plastic, aluminum and steel) during their Source Reduction event.
- City of San Augustine collected 58,000 pounds of Litter & materials from Illegal Dumping.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Submit six (6) Solid Waste Grant applications by Cities, Counties and Municipal Utility Districts in the DETCOG Region to TCEQ for funding approval.
- Conduct outreach, education, and training programs throughout the region.
- Provide at least two technical assistance training sessions to local governments and organizations applying for regional solid waste grants, plus individual assistance as needed.
- Working with the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee, coordinate the application and selection process for regional solid waste grants.
- Execute, fund, and monitor seven or more contracts for Solid Waste Planning and Implementation projects with local governments.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- DETCOG will receive final TCEQ approval of its 20-Year Solid Waste Plan. Deep East Texas will have an updated Regional Solid Waste Plan that is forward-looking for the next 20 years and lead to more effective and better coordinated programs.
- Deep East Texans will benefit from a cleaner, healthier, and more beautiful environment.
- A reduction in waste materials going to landfills, thereby extending the life of landfills and saving taxpayer and consumer dollars.
- Increased collection of hazardous waste will lead to a safer region and better health outcomes.

DETCOG Transportation/Transit Planning

2022 Outputs Achieved
- Finalized a Regional Five-Year Transit Plan and submitted it to Texas Department of Transportation for approval.
- Continued collaboration with East Texas Council of Governments and Ark-Tex Council of Governments in a tri-region transportation alliance to facilitate better transportation planning and more effective advocacy for transportation needs in all three regions.
- Ongoing collaboration with the Deep East Texas Area Agency on Aging for continued operation of the pilot rural transportation voucher program.

2022 Outcomes Achieved
- Received approval of the DETCOG Region 5-Year Transit Plan from the Texas Department of Transportation.
- Public transportation needs in the region are better documented.
- More awareness of available public transportation options where they exist in our region.
- Persons aged 60 and older in five rural counties which have no public transportation systems continue to have an option for limited rural public transportation.
- Better collaboration in regional transportation planning throughout much of East Texas.

2023 Expected Outputs
- Work with non-profit agencies in the DETCOG Region to raise awareness of Texas Department of Transportation vehicle grants for handicapped & social-services client transport vehicles.
- Coordinate meetings of the Deep East Texas Rural Transportation Planning Organization and facilitate engagement with TxDOT for regional transportation planning.
- Continue to work with the DETCOG Area Agency on Aging to seek new funding to further develop and expand the rural transportation voucher program.
- Search for grant funding to provide DETCOG with services of a professional transportation planner to be shared with neighboring East Texas Regions.

2023 Expected Outcomes
- Increased rural transportation and transit services for unserved and underserved areas.
- Increased ridership in existing rural transportation and transit services.
- More rural transportation projects in the region are being addressed through cooperation with the TxDOT regional offices in Lufkin and Beaumont.
- Effective planning and prioritization of transportation projects to provide better access and improve safety throughout the region.
- Deep East Texas will receive a fairer share of state and federal funding for transportation projects.