FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Cassandra Hinojosa 361.825.2337

Coastal Bend Community Foundation Grant Will Foster Future of Corpus Christi, Nueces and San Patricio Counties

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – The Coastal Bend Community Foundation awarded BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend a $3,500 grant to help its initiative dedicated to shaping a vision for the future of Corpus Christi and Nueces and San Patricio counties.

The grant will allow the BoldFuture Vision Summit, planned for Saturday, Feb. 28, 2009, to be held at no charge to participants. It had been previously announced that the cost would be $10 or $5 for students and senior citizens.

“BoldFuture is committed to hearing from as broad a spectrum of our residents as possible about their desires and ideas for our common future,” said Dr. Flavius Killebrew, president and CEO of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and a co-chair for the initiative. “We are honored to receive this funding from the Coastal Bend Community Foundation to help make that possible.”

Participants at the Vision Summit will refine and prioritize the ideas submitted from almost 1,900 residents this fall through the BoldFuture Web site and a series of more than 60 community meetings.

Dr. Mark Escamilla, president of Del Mar College and an initiative co-chair, said, “Receiving funding from the Coastal Bend Community Foundation to continue the momentum of the BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend initiative speaks to the true regional scope of this project. BoldFuture is poised to impact the economic, employment, educational and quality of life factors of the Coastal Bend.”

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Del Mar College are partners with the City of Corpus Christi, Nueces County, San Patricio County and the San Patricio Economic

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Development Corporation in the initiative, which has also received numerous endorsements from community organizations.

Launched in May 2008, BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend is engaging Nueces and San Patricio county residents in a four-phase process to chart a unified vision and implementation plan for the vision.

Phase I of BoldFuture, completed in August 2008, helped answer the question, “Where are we now?” An informative report profiling the Coastal Bend’s economy, education, employment, infrastructure and quality of life as well as a telephone survey detailing what residents value about the community and their concerns were produced. These are available at www.BoldFutureCoastalBend.org.

The initiative is currently in Phase II, which is designed to answer the question, “Where do we want to be?” It will culminate with release of the vision in early summer 2009.

Phase III, expected to begin next fall, will involve development of an implementation plan and answer the question, “How will we get there?”

Phase IV will be ongoing as the ideas are implemented, and will answer the question, “How are we doing?” A&M-Corpus Christi and Del Mar College have committed to sponsor an annual check-up on progress toward the vision.

Advance registration will be required for the Vision Summit, which is planned Saturday, Feb. 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the American Bank Center. For more information about attending the Summit, please call 361.825.2621 or visit the Web site at www.BoldFutureCoastalBend.org.

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