

For immediate release

Contacts:

Cassandra Melger-C'De Baca
CEO
F7 Group
(214) 926-8918

J.R. Gonzales
Executive Director
Buda Area Chamber of Commerce
(512) 289-3857

***Mission Buda Cares* launches to support the people and businesses of Hays County**

(Buda, TX) -- As the COVID-19 pandemic continues across Texas, residents endured an unprecedented weather-related event over the past week-and-a-half, with many losing power as well as water.

Even though electricity and water has been restored, the effect of the past several days has yet to be fully realized.

Enter the "Mission Buda Cares" campaign, led by the F7 Group, Texas Firewalkers and the Buda Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC), with added assistance through Operation BBQ Relief, CenTex Veteran's Service Organization (VSO) and the City of Buda.

In support of all residents in Hays County, including first responders, hospital/medical workers, grocery employees and area business workers, who may need meals during this difficult time, lunch and dinner will be available. Beginning the evening of Thursday, Feb. 25, the organizations will serve dinner and then, beginning Friday, Feb. 26 through Sunday, Feb. 28, both lunch and dinner will be available.

"The BACC understands the hardships faced by the local business community within Buda – and beyond – but also the needs of area residents," explains Cassandra Melger-C'De Baca, CEO, F7 Group. "This campaign is designed for anyone needing assistance. It isn't about a hand-out; it's about helping our neighbors in need."

"We are excited to partner with such wonderful organizations in a county-wide effort to provide meals to those in need," says J.R. Gonzales, Executive Director, BACC. "Our recovery is going to take time and we want to be there to support our community in any way that we can."

As part of the campaign, individuals and businesses are asked to login to order meals. For individuals in the community who would like to receive a meal (s), log on to F7Group.com/Buda. Once ordered, you will be able to pick up your meal(s) at the Central Texas Veterans' Center, 100 Houston Street, in Buda between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. (for lunch) and 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. (for dinner).

For any businesses/organizations who want to put in bulk orders (i.e. for 50+ meals), F7Group.com/Buda is also the link to visit. Once confirmed, those orders can be picked up at City Park, 204 San Antonio Street in Buda, behind the Amphitheater, at the same time frames listed above.

An estimated 6,000 meals are anticipated to be distributed every full day (starting Friday, Feb. 26) during the "Mission Buda Cares" campaign.

This campaign is being done in addition to the effort embarked over the past weekend, where, working with Buda's local VFW, the BACC served more than 5,000 meals.

Information about participating organizations

The F7 group partners with local organizations, like the Buda Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC), to meet unspoken needs within the community. The group focuses on recreational and alternative therapy programs and is dedicated to bridging the gap between veteran/military and the Private Sector.

Texas Firewalkers is a non-profit, 501©(3) charitable organization that aids families displaced by residential fires, First Responder line of duty death and providing hot meals to communities effected by natural disasters across Texas.

Operation BBQ Relief is a 501©(3) non-profit organization that provides hot meals to communities impacted by disasters and the first responders that are on the group helping. After disaster strikes, it can take larger organizations, local civic groups and church groups longer to get set up to feed the community. Operation BBQ Relief, with a network of volunteers and equipment across the country, can respond immediately and be serving hot meals sometimes within hours of the disaster. To date, we have served in over 30 different states and have provided over 8 million meals.

CenTex Veteran's Service Organizations (VSO) is an alliance of Central Texas Veterans' organizations.