

## Sample Donation Letter

In many households across Bexar County, Grandparents age 55 and older and other senior relatives are the primary caregivers for children whose biological parents are unable or unwilling to care for them. Many of the children that the grandparents are raising are school aged children, and each school year these caregivers struggle to find the financial resources to purchase back to school clothing and supplies.

Bexar County is home to over 25,000 Grand-Families, where over 44,000 children are cared for their Grandparents, some quite elderly. Grandparents reflect family and community life at its best: An enduring love and commitment to the wellbeing of children.

For the past five years, the Bexar Area Agency on Aging (BAAA) of the Alamo Area Council of Governments has been providing financial assistance to Bexar's Grand-Families through the Family Caregiver Support program: In partnership with Fallas Paredes retail store, the Grandparents receive a tax-exempt \$75.00 voucher for each of the school-aged children they are raising. For the 2009-2010 school year, we provided assistance to 200 children for a total expenditure of \$15,000. Unfortunately, the number of Grandparents seeking help was greater than the funding that was available. We estimate that this next school year, with the current economic conditions, even more Grandparents will need assistance.

In anticipation of that need, we are reaching out to our community for additional support. BAAA will provide \$15,000 to this campaign, with a goal to raise an additional \$25,000 to provide assistance to 525 school-aged children. Your tax-deductible donation will help us reach this goal: Just \$75 helps assure that a child can go back to school ready to learn, and an aging Grandparent has one less challenge to deal with in her labor of love for this child.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you require additional information about Bexar AAA, Family Caregiving or Grand-Families, please contact Nellie Garay, BAAA's Caregiver Support Specialist, at (210) 362-5271 or [ngaray@aacog.com](mailto:ngaray@aacog.com). You may also visit [www.bexaraging.org](http://www.bexaraging.org) or [www.alamoserviceconnection.org](http://www.alamoserviceconnection.org).

P.S.: Please note on your check that the funds are for Alamo Area Development Corporation, (AADC), which is the 501(c)(3) arm of our agency, through which we receive donations. On the "For" line at the bottom of the check, write "Bexar Area Agency on Aging-Grand-Families," so that our accounting office will record the donation appropriately.