



**Community  
Health Development, Inc.**  
*The Heart of the Community*

# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Rachel A. Gonzales-Hanson  
(830) 278-5604, extension 3100

## **AEP FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTES \$50,000 TO HELP FUND EXERCISE AND FITNESS CENTER AT COMMUNITY HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, INC. IN UVALDE**

UVALDE, TEXAS – The American Electric Power (AEP) Foundation on Thursday announced a \$50,000 contribution to Community Health Development, Inc. (CHDI) to help fund the construction of the new exercise and fitness center located at their Center for Community Wellness Campus at 908 South Evans Street in Uvalde.

The 4,200 square foot exercise and fitness center will assist with the management and prevention of chronic illnesses as well the promotion of overall physical health of CHDI's patients. Individuals who take advantage of the exercise and fitness center will have opportunities to engage and enroll in educational/fitness classes that will promote healthy eating habits. Hands-on cooking classes targeted for all ages and lifestyles also will be offered free of charge.

Julio Reyes, AEP Texas vice president of External Affairs, presented an enlarged version of the check on behalf of the AEP Foundation. Reyes noted that American Electric Power, parent company of AEP Texas, created the AEP Foundation in 2005 to enhance the tradition of corporate philanthropy of AEP and its regional utilities and to support AEP's goal of playing an active, positive role in the communities where it lives and works.

"CHDI clearly meets those criteria," said Reyes. "CHDI's mission is to continuously improve the *Nuestro Bienestar*, or Health and Well Being, of the community it serves. Its pursuit of this mission centers on providing quality, affordable primary health care services to all persons,

regardless of age, social status or ability to pay. That's why it gives me great pleasure to announce today's contributions on behalf of the AEP Foundation."

"The Capital Campaign Committee is happy to have partnered with AEP during expansion fundraising for CHDI." stated Jan Elliot, CHDI's Capital Campaign chair. "Tony Arce, the AEP Texas Community Affairs manager, was a source of encouragement and innovation as our committee sought ways to involve the community in our efforts. We shall be forever grateful to Tony and AEP for their support and benevolence."

"It is clear that AEP has a strong culture of giving back to the community, from the local office to its corporate offices, and of course the AEP Foundation." stated Ms. Rachel Gonzales-Hanson, CEO of Community Health Development, Inc. "On behalf of its 11,000 patients, its board members and staff, CHDI is humbled and honored to accept this generous donation. There is no doubt it will positively impact on so many families and future generations."

AEP Texas serves nearly one million electric consumers in the deregulated Texas marketplace. As an energy delivery (wires) company, AEP Texas delivers electricity safely and reliably to homes, businesses and industry across its nearly 100,000 square mile service territory in south and west Texas. AEP Texas also builds new power lines, restores service following outages and reads the meters for retail electric providers (REPs) throughout its service territory. The company also connects or disconnects service upon the orders of the REPs.

AEP Texas is part of the American Electric Power (AEP) system. AEP is one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity to more than 5 million customers in 11 states. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning nearly 38,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP also owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a nearly 39,000-mile network that includes more than 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined.

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