



# Caring Times

A Publication for the Friends and Supporters of the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas

Summer 2011



The mission of the Caring for Children Foundation of Texas' Care Van Program is to immunize uninsured and medically underserved Texas children, and provide health, nutrition and exercise education, as well as other health-related services.

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 carevan.org

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 children have received  
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 immunizations from  
 June 1997 through April 30, 2011.

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**Celebrating 20 Years**

More Than 500,000 Children Immunized

1991

2011

## Care Van Surpasses 500,000 Children Served

**W**e are pleased to report that the Caring for Children Foundation's Care Van® Program has provided more than 500,000 uninsured children with immunization services through its fleet of Care Vans (mobile outreach units). We are deeply grateful to the many supporters who have enabled us to reach this milestone in serving uninsured and medically underserved children throughout Texas.

Between June 1997 and April 30, 2011, the Care Van Program has provided 515,790 children access to 858,386 immunizations or immunization screenings. Care Vans currently operate in eight regions of the state, serving over 30 counties:

- Abilene/San Angelo
- Amarillo/Upper Panhandle
- Austin/Central Texas
- Dallas/Fort Worth
- El Paso
- Houston
- San Antonio
- Wichita Falls/North Texas



*Children who recently received immunizations pose with their mother and the Care Van.*

Thank you for your support! If you would like more information about the Care Van Program in your area, or to make a donation to help support our mission, please visit us at [carevan.org](http://carevan.org). ❤️



**Follow Us on Twitter!**

Stay connected to Care Van through Twitter. Follow us today at [twitter.com/carevantexas](https://twitter.com/carevantexas)

For more information on the Care Van® Program or to schedule an appearance, visit [carevan.org](http://carevan.org), or call 800-258-5437, option #8.

# Communities Foundation of Texas Grant to Aid Care Van Program

The Caring for Children Foundation was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Communities Foundation of Texas (CFT) to support the Care Van Program. CFT is one of the largest community foundations in the nation, providing more than \$1 billion in grants since its 1953 founding. The foundation seeks to “enhance the experience and impact of giving” by serving as a hub of collaboration between donors, nonprofits, and other funders.

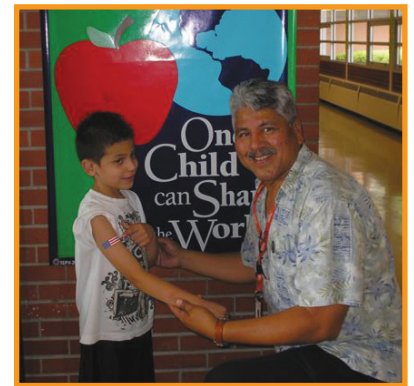
“CFT is so pleased to be able to support the Care Van Program,” said Monica Egert Smith, Community Philanthropy Director. “Through the Care Van clinics, hundreds of children in the Dallas/Fort Worth area will be able to receive the immunizations they need to be healthy, and their parents will be able to access valuable health information.”

This grant will allow the Care Van Program to serve more children at its Dallas/Fort Worth neighborhood clinics and Back-to-School clinics hosted by area schools, as well as other outreach sites in Collin, Denton and Tarrant counties. The Care Van Program is honored to be selected as a grant recipient of the Communities Foundation of Texas. ❤️

## Corporate Donations Help Support Austin and Dallas Care Van Programs

For the second consecutive year, the Caring for Children Foundation’s Austin Care Van Program has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the **3M Corporation** to administer immunizations. 3M in Austin has a long-standing affiliation with Wooten Elementary School to help positively impact the youth in this low-income area. In support of that collaboration, the Austin Care Van Program offered outreach immunization clinics specifically for the students in this community. The new grant funds will support expanding outreach efforts to middle school students to receive immunizations/updates.

Additionally, the Caring for Children Foundation’s DFW Care Van Program was awarded a \$2,500 grant from **Pier 1 Imports** to administer immunizations in Tarrant County. Pier 1 Imports is committed to supporting programs that directly impact Fort Worth communities. The DFW Care Van Program is fortunate to have their support! ❤️



*A child proudly shows his patriotic bandage to Bernardo Martinez, parent support specialist at Wooten Elementary School in Austin. The Care Van visits this school several times a year, thanks to a grant from 3M Company.*



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Linda & Chuck Holland

*Linda and Chuck Holland enjoy volunteering for Care Van Program clinics held in Forney.*

It’s the people that draw Linda and Chuck Holland to volunteer with the Care Van Program. The couple enjoys meeting and helping the families who visit the immunization clinics and visiting with the people of First United Methodist Church, Forney, near Dallas, which regularly hosts the events.

“When the parents who bring their children to the clinic say, ‘Thank you so much,’ you know they really mean

it,” Linda said. “Immunizations can be expensive and you can tell they really appreciate it.”

If a clinic is scheduled at the Forney church, the Hollands are there. “The church is so gracious and open to helping the community, the people there are so nice,” Linda said. Church and Care Van Program volunteers and staff regularly share a meal. After each clinic, church volunteers supply a meal for the Care Van staff and volunteers.

Linda, a registered nurse, has worked for 10 years in quality improvement programs at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas. Chuck has a chance to practice his photography hobby at the clinics, when he’s not helping the lines to move smoothly and talking to the waiting children.

“It’s a lot of fun visiting with the children and their parents. They’re very nice people and I would recommend volunteering to everyone. It’s fantastic,” Linda said. ❤️

## Care Vans Ready for Summer Rush

The Care Vans will gear up to immunize kids in time to start classes in August. The program expects to immunize more than 15,000 children during this time. In Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Houston and Wichita Falls, the Care Van teams will participate in various Back-to-School initiatives, providing immunization schedules, teaching nutrition facts and promoting healthy living. Look for the Care Van during the following events:

- Mayor's Back-to-School Event - Dallas
- Back-to-School Citywide Event - Houston
- CT Church Annual Health Fair - Houston
- Bee Wise Back-to-School Event - Wichita Falls
- KidsFest - Amarillo ❤️



Many children are served during Back-to-School events.



## Barbara Adamson Honored

Care Van Program Manager Barbara Adamson recently received a proclamation from the City of Houston in honor of her dedicated work to help immunize more than 100,000 children in the Greater Houston area. Feb. 1 was proclaimed Barbara Adamson Day in Houston.

*Pictured left to right: Houston Fire Dept. Deputy Chief Fernando Herrera, Honoree Barbara Adamson, Houston Mayor Annise Parker and Houston Care Van Lead Nurse Alejandra Leal.*



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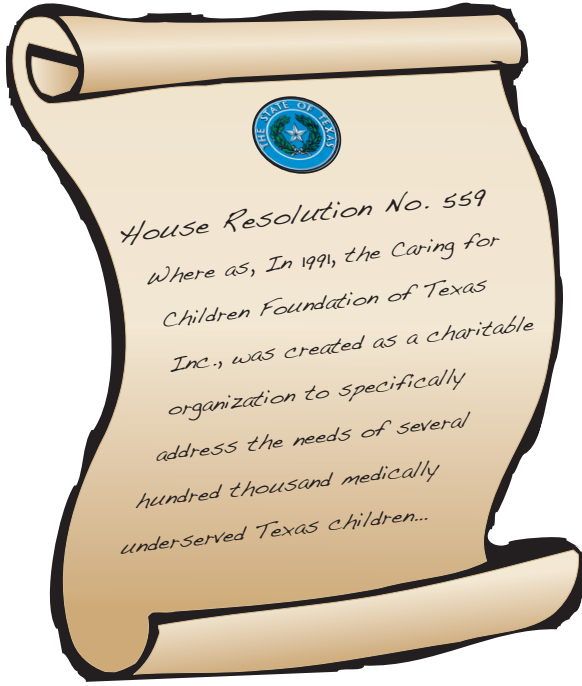
## Tune-Ups for a Cause

This summer Comfort Experts (currently serving the greater DFW area only) is offering a special tune-up of your heating and cooling system for only \$39 (it's normally \$79). The best part is you will write the check for \$39 directly to us! 100 percent of the initial tune up cost goes to our charity.

This year you can help us raise money and take care of your air! Please visit [acgenius.com/tuneupsforacause/caringforchildren](http://acgenius.com/tuneupsforacause/caringforchildren) or call 214-557-8091 to schedule your tune up today. Be sure to mention that you're supporting Caring for Children Foundation/Care Van Program when you register or call. We hope that you will take this opportunity to help us and take care of your central air! ❤️

*Caring for Children Foundation of Texas is very pleased to have the support of Comfort Experts through its Tune-Ups for a Cause Program. NOTE: Your participation in the Tune-Ups for a Cause program is voluntary. Caring for Children Foundation of Texas does not in any way guarantee, warranty or endorse any services or products provided by Comfort Experts.*

# Caring Foundation Receives Proclamation Honoring 20 Years of Service to Texas Communities



The Caring Foundation was recognized on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives on April 21. Gathered for the proclamation are, from left, Speaker Pro Tem State Rep. Beverly Woolley (R-Houston); Darren Rodgers, president of the Caring Foundation and president of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas; Craig Jeffery, executive director of the Caring Foundation; and Texas House Speaker Joe Straus (R-San Antonio), resolution sponsor.

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**Contact Us:**

**RESOURCES:** *Many suggested immunization schedules exist online, including:*

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cdc.gov

Department of State Health Services, dshs.state.tx.us

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