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For online releases: [www.boldfuturecoastalbend.org](http://www.boldfuturecoastalbend.org)

### **BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend Vision Summit Scheduled at American Bank Center for Saturday, Feb. 28**

*Ideas and issues garnered from throughout community will be used to shape vision statement; Coastal Bend community invited to participate at no charge, but reservations required*

BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend, a community visioning initiative, will host a **Vision Summit on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the American Bank Center. Advance registration is required to attend the Vision Summit--call 825-2621.**

The Vision Summit is the pinnacle event for Phase II of the initiative, designed to address the question "Where do we want to be?" Vision Summit participants will refine and prioritize the ideas submitted from almost 1,900 residents during a series of more than 60 community meetings and through the BoldFuture Web site.

Vision Summit participants will share their boldest vision for the Coastal Bend and recognize the winners of the Youth Essay Contest, through which more than 800 residents, preschool-age through college, shared their ideas for improving the Coastal Bend.

"I encourage residents to clear their calendars for this Saturday and be a participant in helping define a unified vision for the Coastal Bend," said Flavius Killebrew, president of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and an initiative co-chair. "This is an important step for our community, and we are committed to hearing from as broad a spectrum of our residents as possible."

Dr. Mark Escamilla, president of Del Mar College and an initiative co-chair, adds, "The BoldFuture for the Coastal Bend vision initiative embraces a true regional perspective. BoldFuture is poised to impact the economic, employment, educational and quality of life factors throughout the Coastal Bend."

The Coastal Bend Community Foundation awarded a \$3,500 grant to support the BoldFuture Vision Summit and its mission to shape a vision for Corpus Christi, Nueces and San Patricio Counties. The grant allows organizers to hold the Vision Summit at no charge to participants.

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Phase I of the BoldFuture initiative addressed the question, “Where are we now?” over the past nine months. The initiative partners the City of Corpus Christi, Nueces and San Patricio Counties, the San Patricio Economic Development Corporation, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and Del Mar College, along with numerous community organizations that endorse the initiative, to chart the future of the Coastal Bend.

Launched last May, the BoldFuture initiative has engaged over 3,000 Nueces and San Patricio County residents in the first of a four-phase process to chart a unified vision and implementation plan. A Community Profile outlining 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. The Community Profile and other reports are available at [www.boldfuturecoastalbend.org](http://www.boldfuturecoastalbend.org).

As part of Phase II, participants attending the BoldFuture Vision Summit will provide input for development of the core Vision Statement. This phase will culminate with finalizing and validating that Vision Statement later this spring.

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, which addresses the question “How are we doing?,” will remain ongoing as ideas are implemented with A&M-Corpus Christi and Del Mar College committed to sponsoring an annual check-up on progress toward the vision.

**Advance registration is required to attend the Vision Summit.** For more information, call 825-2621.

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