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**SAN ANTONIO OFFICE OF ACCION TEXAS BREAKS MONTHLY
RECORD FOR MICROLOANS TO SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS
*JUNE LOAN VOLUME WAS HIGHEST IN FIVE YEARS***

SAN ANTONIO – The San Antonio office of Accion Texas Inc. – the nation’s largest nonprofit microlender – had a record-breaking month in June with \$420,000 in microloans disbursed to a variety of small businesses. This is the highest dollar amount ever disbursed in one month by the organization.

“Microloans of \$500 and up to \$100,000 are the lifeblood that can make the difference in whether a business succeeds or fails,” said Accion Texas President and CEO Janie Barrera. “These loans are also a way for business owners who have limited access to capital from traditional sources to build their credit and become part of the financial mainstream. So, the fact that we’re reaching more microentrepreneurs means more people will be able to realize their dreams and contribute to the local economy.”

The June 2014 record surpasses the previous record set in April 2009. At that time, banks were tightening credit because of the recession and the credit crunch, and small business owners seeking loans to start or expand their businesses had fewer options. Today, banks and other partners are more aware of the fact that Accion Texas is available to serve small business owners with limited credit, and are referring more clients to Accion Texas.

“I think the record numbers for the month of June reflect the fact that more banks and business owners in San Antonio are aware of what Accion Texas can do to help entrepreneurs get started or to grow their business,” said Accion Texas Chief Lending Officer Dan Lawless. “It also could reflect the fact that the economy is improving and more small business owners are feeling confident enough to invest in their businesses.”

Lawless said with a total of 68 small business loans totaling more than \$910,000 in San Antonio so far this year, Accion Texas is well on its way to meeting or exceeding the goal of \$1.68 million for 2014.

Since Accion Texas opened in San Antonio 20 years ago, the San Antonio office has disbursed 3,690 loans totaling more than \$40 million to small business owners.



ABOUT ACCION TEXAS

Accion Texas Inc. is a nonprofit, multi-state microlending company and small business lender that helps new and existing entrepreneurs successfully grow their businesses. Through affordable lending and business development services, Accion Texas is committed to empowering diverse individuals and small businesses that have limited access to traditional sources of capital. Since its founding in San Antonio in 1994, Accion has made nearly 15,000 loans totaling more than \$165 million. Accion now operates in eight states: Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. To learn more about Accion's lending options, call 888-215-2373 or visit www.acciontexas.org.

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