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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FARM BUREAU BANK DONATES \$100,000 TO ACCION TEXAS INC.
GIFT WILL CREATE “EDIBLE CLASSROOM” AT NEW LENDING AND LEARNING CENTER
CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON SAN ANTONIO’S WEST SIDE**

SAN ANTONIO – The Farm Bureau Bank – a financial services company designed to meet the unique needs of state farm bureau members throughout the nation – has donated \$100,000 to Accion Texas Inc.’s capital campaign.

Accion Texas – the nation’s largest nonprofit microlender – will use the funds to create the Farm Bureau Bank Edible Classroom – an innovative feature of the new Accion Texas Lending and Learning Center currently under construction at 2015 W. Martin Street in the historic Prospect Hill area of San Antonio’s West Side.

The edible classroom will be used by neighborhood schoolchildren who will grow their own food and sell their produce onsite.

“We are very excited and pleased to be a partner in the campaign,” said John E. Poe, senior vice president and chief risk officer of the Farm Bureau Bank, in his letter announcing the donation.

“We are so grateful to the Farm Bureau Bank for its generous donation toward this community garden,” said Accion Texas President and CEO Janie Barrera. “The vision is to provide children in the neighborhood an opportunity to learn how to grow healthy foods while giving them early exposure to entrepreneurship. It will be a great learning experience in many ways.”

The Lending and Learning Center will house Accion Texas’s headquarters, but will also feature several unique, new assets for the community. These will include the Greehey Family Community Center, where Accion Texas will conduct its small business training sessions and provide meeting space for local organizations, and the Wells Fargo Small Business Incubator, where entrepreneurs can start and develop their new enterprises.



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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