



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Rebecca Martinez  
Vice President of Communications  
(210) 201-8511  
rmartinez@liftfund.com

**THE CITY OF MCALLEN AND LIFTFUND OFFER 0% INTEREST BUSINESS LOANS**

**McAllen** – The City of McAllen and LiftFund, the nation’s largest nonprofit small business lender, are offering small business owners in McAllen loans up to \$250,000 at a zero percent interest rate for the third consecutive year. Loans can be used to expand a business or to startup a new business.

“We are pleased to partner with LiftFund to bring a remarkable opportunity to the residents of McAllen. Equipped with financial backing and the education to grow a successful business, local entrepreneurs will be given the chance to fulfill a dream,” said Mayor Jim Darling.

Aurelio and Mareli Flores opened Framboyant Learning Center in McAllen nearly 20 years ago. Over the years they have obtained several loans through LiftFund to grow and expand their business. Through the buy down program with the City of McAllen they were able to obtain their last loan at a zero percent interest. This loan not only helped Aurelio and Mareli make necessary upgrades to their facility and education programs, it also allowed them to create three additional jobs.

“Through our partnership with the City of McAllen, we will continue to make a positive impact on the local community by offering affordable loans, as well as education, training and other essential resources to help small business owners thrive,” LiftFund Senior Business Development Officer Marlene Rodriguez said. “Our ultimate goal is to enable deserving entrepreneurs to create and sustain jobs.”

LiftFund not only provides the necessary capital to start or grow a business but also the critical business education that fosters financial inclusion and levels the playing field for minorities and women in business. Since the opening of the first office in the Rio Grande Valley in 1998, LiftFund has made over 2,600 loans totaling more than \$25 million.

To learn more or to apply for a loan, call 888-215-2373 or visit [LiftFund.com](http://LiftFund.com).

**About LiftFund**

Established in 1994 in San Antonio, Texas, LiftFund is a financial and business-support service organization that helps entrepreneurs strengthen their businesses, stabilize and increase their incomes, create employment and contribute to the economic revitalization of their communities. LiftFund has the nation’s largest microlender portfolio and is committed to providing capital to entrepreneurs who do not have access to loans from commercial sources. Since its inception, LiftFund has made over 17,400 loans totaling more than \$210 million throughout its 13 state footprint.