

The Bandera PROPHET

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Donation drive begun for senior citizens without water

By Jessica Nohealapa'ahi Goode
The Bandera Prophet

The arctic event is over at last, but the problems it caused continue to create hardships for many families. To help some of the most vulnerable in our community, Art Crawford - Silver Sage executive director and guardian of Bandera County's senior citizens - has launched a donation drive to help restore water to those most in need.

"By this weekend I will, and for most of us by early next week, we will have most of our plumbing issues fixed. But not so for the 91-year-old lady in the Wharton's Dock area living on \$941 a month. Not so for the couple in their 80s in Lakehills. Not so for the veteran right here in Bandera. The not so list could go on forever," Crawford wrote in a social media post.

Concentrating on senior citizens 60 years old and older, who live on fixed incomes and lack adequate home insurance, Crawford said all money collected will pay for supplies and materials to fix pipes that froze and broke during the storm. He said volunteer plumbers and electricians have stepped up to help make the repairs.

As of Friday afternoon, \$6,563 had been donated. His goal is \$10,000. "I think the Lake Medina Shores area will be hardest hit," Crawford said. "Their water is just now coming back online. We'll hear of a lot of broken pipes once the water pressure returns."

Donations may be made at www.silversage.org; click the donate button. "Please use the comments section on the donation form to write plumbing or storm or anything that would indicate that your donation will be used for this purpose," Crawford said.

Donations may also be mailed to P.O. Box 1416 Bandera, Tx 78003, or delivered in person to the center, 803 Buck Creek Drive, Bandera. For more information, or to report a problem or someone in need, please call the Silver Sage at 830-796-4969, or call Crawford directly at 830-456-4083.

“We may not be in office, so they can reach me out in the field,” Crawford said.