



NEWS RELEASE: **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

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El Paso County Migrant Support Services Center Assists 100,000th Asylum Seeker

EL PASO, TX — El Paso County’s Migrant Support Services Center (MSSC) reached a significant milestone on Sunday April 7th, 2024, as it marked the successful assistance of 100,000 asylum seekers since its inception. This achievement underscores the critical role the MSSC has played in the lives of tens of thousands, highlighting its pivotal position in the ongoing effort to humanely welcome and support those in desperate need.

Opened in October 2022, the MSSC was established by El Paso County to provide crucial support to individuals seeking asylum in the United States. Directly released by the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the center facilitates travel coordination for asylum seekers, offering a vital lifeline during their journey.

Operating as a 365-day service from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., including holidays, the MSSC was initially designed to aid single adults released by DHS. However, it has expanded its services to include family units when local non-governmental organizations reach capacity, ensuring that no asylum seeker is left without assistance or released to the streets. Crucially, the MSSC's operations are fully funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and will remain so until September 2025.

Looking ahead, El Paso County remains committed to fostering collaboration and coordination with community partners to address the needs of asylum seekers effectively. As the MSSC celebrates this milestone, it reaffirms its dedication to providing compassionate assistance to those seeking refuge and a better life.

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