

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 10 – 16, 2016 AS
VOLUNTEER SOUTH TEXAS WEEK**

WHEREAS, over the past several years, the citizens of Hidalgo County and its many individual communities have joined together with area non-profit agencies, hospitals, and governmental institutions to meet overwhelming humanitarian needs that have arisen due to the surge of Central American immigrants arriving in South Texas; and

WHEREAS, many of these volunteers and other community and governmental groups across Hidalgo County regularly work together to deal with devastating wind storms, flooding and other natural disasters that affect our South Texas region; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County reached an important milestone with the establishment of a South Texas-wide volunteer program, Volunteer South Texas, launched by the United Way of South Texas; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer South Texas (www.volunteersotx.org) is a free internet platform that connects thousands of individuals and groups to meaningful service projects, with over 21,000 “hits” to the website since its launch last fall and almost 100 non-profits and governmental institutions having already signed up and begun posting needs for volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County wants to celebrate volunteers and volunteerism and to encourage its citizens to volunteer to serve in an area non-profit during the week of April 10 through April 16, 2016, by signing up for service projects on Volunteer South Texas, and to serve in area non-profits on a regular basis going forward.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims this week, April 10 through April 16, 2016, as Volunteer South Texas Week 2016, and we encourage everyone celebrate volunteers and volunteerism in South Texas.

Dated this 12th day of April, 2016.

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

A.C. CUELLAR, JR.
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO “EDDIE” CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk