



# Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

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## PRESS RELEASE – MAY 5, 2014

### LRGVDC Achieves Another First in the State of Texas

**Weslaco, TX** – The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) as the sub-recipient of HUD Hurricane Dolly Disaster Recovery Funds, announces the first Disaster Recovery Home Closing (*May 5, 2014*) in Texas through the Homeowner Opportunity Program (HOP). HOP is a newly instituted program in Texas through which income-qualified applicants who live in FEMA-designated "High Risk" areas or areas of high minority and/or poverty concentration may elect to relocate to a safer and higher opportunity area rather than reconstruct their existing Hurricane Dolly damaged home. This program involves counseling by trained Mobility Counselors, and the utilization of local professional services by real estate experts, title companies and the LRGVDC. This and the other HUD Hurricane Dolly Disaster Recovery Funding Programs are administered by the Texas General Land Office (GLO).

"The closing of the first HOP home marks a pivotal point in our state's hurricane recovery efforts. I am glad that progress is being made and that victims of Hurricane Dolly are getting needed assistance. I, along with those in the affected region, hope that we can build on this critical point and look forward to increased disaster recovery efforts in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Region," said Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr., (D-Brownsville).

The LRGVDC is the Regional Council of Governments serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties. For more details, contact LRGVDC Executive Director Ken Jones at 956-682-3481 / [knjones@lrgvdc.org](mailto:knjones@lrgvdc.org). Additional information is also available at website [www.lrgvdc.org](http://www.lrgvdc.org)