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Texas Conference for Women Donates \$177,500 to Women-Owned Restaurants in Initiative with Texas Restaurant Association

71 eateries from across Texas receive grants as industry suffers from COVID-19's economic fallout

In an effort to help those impacted by a pandemic-battered economy, the [Texas Conference for Women](#) has donated \$177,500 to women-owned restaurants across the state in an initiative with the [Texas Restaurant Association](#).

As a result, 71 women-owned restaurants from all corners of Texas – from Amarillo to Laredo – received \$2,500 each to help pay employees and defray other costs. The Texas Conference for Women provided the funds to the Texas Restaurant Association's Texas Restaurant Relief Fund, which dispersed the grants. A list of the grant recipients can be found [here](#).

“The Texas Conference for Women strives to help women in the workplace and all areas of their lives,” said Carla Piñeyro Sublett, Texas Conference for Women Board President. “This year, women business owners are facing unprecedented challenges, and we truly wanted give back and show the power that comes from women helping women.”

The non-partisan, nonprofit Texas Conference for Women – whose 21st annual conference will be held virtually on October 1st – is committed to promoting gender equality and to amplifying the influence of women in the workplace.

This year women are shouldering a disproportionate burden due to the impact of Covid-19. The pandemic has resulted in mass layoffs in many industries that employ women, such as hospitality and retail; has increased caregiving responsibilities; and has had a devastating impact on women-owned small businesses.

Texas restaurants have lost more than 700,000 jobs due to the pandemic, and restaurants have been forced to lay off hundreds of thousands of employees.

“We are thrilled that the partnership between TRA and the Texas Conference for Women will provide financial support for so many women-owned restaurant businesses around the state,” said Dr. Emily Williams Knight, President and CEO of the Texas Restaurant Association. “This will allow their doors to stay open, keep their staff employed, and provide food and commerce in their communities.”

The upcoming Texas Conference for Women will feature speakers including global philanthropist Melinda Gates, actor and producer Issa Rae, and author and poet Elizabeth Acevedo. The interactive Conference also will feature topical breakout sessions and will give attendees opportunities to network, support women-owned businesses in a virtual exhibit hall, and participate in career coaching and resume reviews.

The Texas Conference for Women is part of the [nation's largest network of women's conferences](#), with events in California, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Texas, as well as year-round programming.

Tickets are available at www.txconferenceforwomen.org. To apply for media credentials to cover the 2020 Texas Conference for Women, please complete [this form](#).