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## **THCA Praises Distribution of Hazard Alert Radios to Vulnerable Coastal Nursing Homes**

**Austin, TX (January 28, 2008)** – The Texas Health Care Association (THCA) today praised the distribution of Hazard Alert Radios to vulnerable coastal nursing homes and schools in Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties, and said the effort, made possible by funds administered from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission, and the State of Texas, is an intelligent investment in better protecting the state’s most vulnerable citizens.

“The safety and well being of our oldest, most vulnerable seniors and disabled citizens is integral to the provision of quality care in Texas nursing homes, and we applaud this effort to equip nursing homes and schools in vulnerable coastal areas with the equipment needed to better anticipate potential problems before they become a crisis,” said Tim Graves, President of THCA.

The radios, said state officials, are not just for weather emergencies, but also for other disasters, and noted that if there is a pipeline leak or oil spill, this information will be sent straight to these nursing homes to ensure they will have information as soon as it becomes available.

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*Founded in 1950, the Texas Health Care Association (THCA) is the largest long term care association in Texas. THCA represents a broad spectrum of long term care providers and professionals offering long term, rehabilitative and specialized health care services. Member facilities, owned by both for-profit and non-profit entities, include nursing facilities, specialized rehabilitation facilities, and assisted living facilities.*