



## HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120  
Houston, TX 77027  
h-gac.com | @HouGalvAreaCog

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### H-GAC OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM PARTNERS WITH FIREHOUSE SUBS FOR ANNUAL SILVER SANTA HOLIDAY DRIVE FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

**HOUSTON, TX** – The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) ombudsman group has partnered with Firehouse Subs for its 10th annual Silver Santa holiday gift drive benefiting nursing home residents in the region.

Collection boxes have been set up at Firehouse Subs locations throughout the Greater Houston Area. Participants can donate blankets, socks, slippers, face masks, books, music CDs, coloring or activity books, crosswords and jigsaw puzzles, and arts and crafts materials at any of these locations now until Dec. 19. Online gift registries are also available at Amazon.com, Target, and Walmart for those who would like to purchase a gift to donate online. All donated gifts will be stored at a secure facility through the end of the drive to be dropped off at area nursing home facilities in time for the Christmas holiday.

“The pandemic has been tough on so many, but it has especially impacted nursing home residents who are high-risk and have been social distancing in their rooms and away from many of their family members since March,” said Lisa Hayes, managing local ombudsman at the Houston-Galveston Area Agency on Aging. “It’s more important than ever that we do what we can to bring holiday cheer to their lives and help reassure them that we care and they’re not alone.”

Collection boxes are available at the following Firehouse Subs locations:

- 3021 IH-45 S, Conroe, TX 77304
- 1640 Lake Woodlands Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77380
- 235 I-45 S, Huntsville, TX 77340
- 7036 FM1960 Road East, Unit A-2, Humble, TX 77346
- 9473 FM 1960 Bypass Road W, Humble, TX 77338
- 22556 Tomball Parkway, Houston, TX 77070
- 12149 FM 1960 W, Houston, TX 77065
- 10916 Westheimer Road, Houston, TX 77042



### Houston-Galveston Area Council

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials from the 13-county Gulf Coast planning region, which includes an area of 12,500 square miles and more than 7 million people. H-GAC works to promote efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars; serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local governments; and helps analyze trends and conditions affecting the region. For more information, visit [h-gac.com](http://h-gac.com).



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- 9359 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77024
  - 25551 Kingsland Blvd., Katy, TX 77494
  - 20900 Katy Freeway, Katy, TX 77449
  - 170 Meyerland Plaza Mall, Houston, TX 77096
  - 7505 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77074
  - 3924 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77025

Those who wish to purchase a gift from one of the online registries may do so at:

- Amazon.com: <https://www.amazon.com/wedding/silver-santa-2020-wish-list--december-2020/registry/30H8JZZ9AB6F2>
- Target: [https://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=58355dec3c9a40ec9aac7e006683a0df&lnk=registry\\_custom\\_url](https://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=58355dec3c9a40ec9aac7e006683a0df&lnk=registry_custom_url)
- Walmart: <https://www.walmart.com/lists/view-events-registry-items?id=292d6d11-0d93-48b7-bcaa-77ce32e3a2fc>

“Firehouse Subs has always been dedicated to our mission of giving back, thanks to our founders’ background as a firefighting family,” said Mike McCown, Firehouse Subs area representative. “During a holiday season where many can’t celebrate with family, especially the elderly, we’re honored to help bring some holiday cheer to some of our community’s most vulnerable.”

Long-term care ombudsmen advocate for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. They provide information and education to residents and families about resident rights, nursing home compliance, how to select a nursing home, and eligibility criteria. They also investigate and work to resolve complaints by or on behalf of long-term care facility residents, and they conduct regular site visits to talk with residents and ensure facilities are providing adequate care and complying with rules and regulations.

The Houston-Galveston Area Agency on Aging ombudsman program can be contacted at 713-495-4507. Residents living in Harris County can contact the Harris County ombudsman program for assistance at 713-500-9930.

For more information about the Houston-Galveston Area Agency on Aging, visit [h-gac.com/area-agency-on-aging/](http://h-gac.com/area-agency-on-aging/).

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