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WellMed Charitable Foundation Donates \$10,000 To 'Project Cool' For Box Fans For Seniors More Than 20 Local WellMed Clinics to Serve As Fan Drop-off Sites

San Antonio, TX – The WellMed Charitable Foundation is the newest partner in a collaborative to reduce heat-related health risks to seniors by giving them free box fans.

The non-profit WellMed Charitable Foundation donated \$10,000 to *Project Cool*, which provides free box fans to anyone age 60 or older. The effort, spearheaded by the San Antonio Department of Community Initiatives and the San Antonio Fire Department, has provided more than 52,000 fans to seniors in San Antonio and Bexar County.

“As the largest physician-owned medical practice group in South Texas dedicated to changing the face of healthcare delivery for seniors, we recognize the importance of Project Cool,” said George M. Rapier III, M.D., Chairman and CEO of WellMed Medical Management, Inc. “A representative from the Environmental Protection Agency recently reminded us that more seniors die from heat-related problems than all natural disasters – such as tornadoes, earthquakes and floods – combined.”

“At WellMed, we focus on prevention. Project Cool is preventing heat-related deaths by implementing this life-saving program.”

In addition to the donation, WellMed clinics will serve as drop-off sites for box fan donations. WellMed operates more than 20 clinics in the Greater San Antonio area, which has experienced temperatures crossing the 100-degree mark in recent days.

Eligible seniors interested in receiving a box fan may call the United Way help line at **(210) 227-4357** or **dial 211** from a home phone. The help line is active weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WellMed Medical Management is a diversified healthcare company and insurance provider serving more than 80,000 patients and insured members, mostly Medicare-eligible seniors in Texas, Florida, Arkansas and New Mexico. WellMed is an industry leader in medical risk management, highly effective disease management and chronic care programs, healthcare delivery services, and more.

WellMed is South Texas' largest physician-owned practice management company, specializing in senior health care since 1990. With more than 30 medical clinics in Texas and Florida, the vision of the healthcare company and insurance provider is to change the face of healthcare delivery for seniors.

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