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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ahmad Goree ahmadg@txpif.org

## **Texas Pride Impact Funds Announces New Program Director!**

DALLAS-Texas Pride Impact Funds ("TPIF" and "Foundation") has named Robert Salcido, Jr., Program Director for the Foundation. TPIF exists to propel the LGBTQ+ movement in Texas by supporting nonprofits that help thousands of our citizens across the state every day. TPIF's work strengthens community organizations and their leaders, mobilizes donors and funders, inspires giving, and actively secures LGBTQ+ Texans' future for generations to come.

"We are excited to have Robert join our organization as our Program Director and second full time staff member. His background and expertise will help grow the Foundation and play a key role in achieving our short and long-term goals" said Ron Guillard, TPIF's Executive Director. "As the Foundation's Program Director, he will lead TPIF's reachTXGR, made possible by the ViiV Healthcare's Positive Action AMP Grant received last fall. TPIF's reachTXGR will fuel and incubate grassroots initiatives serving transgender women and MSM, primarily Black and Latinx populations highly vulnerable to HIV and facing the steepest barriers to obtaining treatment.

Prior to joining TPIF, Robert supported policy efforts across the state with Equality Texas for almost 8 years and has served on the local level as part of the leadership team with Pride Center San Antonio since 2011. He has extensive experience working with issues of equity, diversity and inclusion, LGBTQ+ education, and matters of discrimination, making him a sought-after consultant, speaker, and facilitator. He has committed his life to civic engagement and social justice for underrepresented and historically excluded communities.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to work with grassroots organizations across Texas that are collectively impacting LGBTQ+ people. The extensive networks that I've built across the State through advocacy and community organizing paired with my years of experience aimed at reducing the stigma of HIV will be a great fit with TPIF's commitment to support and build capacity in communities that have been historically excluded", said Robert Salcido, Jr., Program Director at TPIF. "This new endeavor will allow me to work closely and with intention to execute TPIF's strategic plan to further impact communities of color, people of Transgender experience, and those living with HIV through funding and philanthropy."

Robert is co-director of the community-based project, Strengthening Colors of Pride that resulted from his past fellowship with the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program at the University of Minnesota. He also serves on the board of directors for Planned Parenthood San Antonio and Planned Parenthood South Texas Surgical Centers and is an active member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committees for the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program at the University of Minnesota and the Boys & Girls Club of San Antonio. He is a founding member and past president of Orgullo de San Antonio LGBTQ League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Council 22198. Under his leadership the council achieved District, State, and National Council of the Year in 2016. Robert was named Most Influential by Out In SA Magazine and 20 Most Captivating by the San Antonio Current in 2015. He was awarded the Alamo Area Region and the Texas State Public Citizen of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers of Texas in 2016, honored for his leadership by the National Diversity Council in 2018 and named 'Best Community Activist' by the San Antonio Current in 2019. Salcido is a 2020 inductee into 'The Honor 41 List', honoring Latino/a role models across the globe. Most recently, he was listed as one of 20 Influential Latinos in San Antonio by KSAT TV for 2021 National Latino Heritage Month.

Robert was raised in Amarillo and attended West Texas A&M University; San Antonio has been his home since 2001. Robert and his husband, Mike, enjoy traveling and playing co-ed softball. They have one furbaby, a Pitbull/Catahoula mix named Cyxx.

NOTE TO JOURNALISTS: To schedule an interview or request comment, please contact Ron Guillard, rong@txpif.org

## About Texas Pride Impact Funds

The Mission of TPIF is to inspire giving and investment to secure equitable opportunities that serve and enrich the lives of LGBTQ+ Texans for generations to come. TPIF was chartered in 2015 as the first LGBTQ+ statewide foundation for Texas. The organization operates under fiscal sponsorship of the Dallas Foundation, a 501(c)(3), publicly supported charity, Federal Tax ID 75-2890371. The Dallas Foundation provides TPIF investment management and other administrative services, helping TPIF leaders and volunteers focus on community and donor engagement.

In November 2018, TPIF launched its annual Community Grants program, awarding \$120,000 to sixteen LGBTQ+ supportive organizations across Texas; to date a total of \$800,000 grants have been awarded (through December 2021). TPIF prioritizes organizations and projects that address the current and direct needs of LGBTQ+ communities while also seeking to correct the systemic injustices that unfairly burden people living within these identities and at their intersections. TPIF is supported by a growing donor community of individuals and families, corporations, and institutional donors.

For more information, to donate or volunteer, visit Texas Pride Impact Funds online (<u>www.txpif.org</u>) or email <u>info@txpif.org</u>.

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