**2020 Bluebonnet Retreat, April 24-26, is Canceled**

**Announcement by Lisa Fletcher, 2020 Bluebonnet Chair**

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the cancellation of the Bluebonnet Retreat, April 24-26.  
  
We know that this is a disappointment to our Fellowship, as every year we look forward to celebrating sobriety, the Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon programs of hope and recovery, and meeting dear friends, old and new, from all over Texas and beyond.  
  
This is not a decision that is taken lightly. For many weeks, the BBR Board has been monitoring the public health announcements in real time as daily life continues to change for every citizen across the globe. Prior to the forced closing of the Camp Tejas facility by Governor Abbott, we discussed numerous concerns related to the health and safety of our attendees, the impact on travel possibilities of our guests and speakers, the Board’s responsibility to be good stewards of our prudent reserve, and the CDC’s recommendations on restricting large mass gatherings. For all of us, the health and well-being of our community members (many of them among the higher risk population) comes first.  
  
Our theme “Love and Tolerance is our Code” has never felt truer, nor more important in these times of uncertainty. We remain grateful for your love and support.

**Regarding registration refunds:**

Please note that Camp Tejas has chosen not to refund our deposit of nearly $5,000, but they are allowing us to apply 50% of it to next year’s fees, leaving us with nearly $2,500 coming out of our prudent reserve.

* If you are not in immediate financial need, we would like to request that you consider donating part or all of your registration fee to support the Bluebonnet Retreat.
  + If you mailed a check and it has not yet been cashed, it will be voided and destroyed unless you email Bea P to request that it be donated to BBR.
  + If you do not request a refund by April 30th, 2020, the board will consider it as a donation and thanks you greatly! 😊
* You may instead request that your fee be applied to next year’s registration. Please send your preference to Bea P via email at retreatbluebonnet@gmail.com
* If you are in financial need of a refund, please send requests to Bea P via email at retreatbluebonnet@gmail.com and a refund will be issued to you.

NOTE: if your registration fees were paid via scholarship or another party, funds will be directed to the appropriate source.

While the decision to cancel the Bluebonnet Retreat is a difficult one, it is important to remember that Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon are not a place or an event; they exist in the hearts, minds and help freely offered. Our members across the globe continue to focus on our primary purpose of carrying a message of hope and recovery; and with our shared code of love and tolerance, may we continue for so long as we are needed. We look forward to a large and happy gathering of our Fellowship at the *new* 34th annual Bluebonnet Retreat in April 2021.  
  
Yours in service,



Lisa Fletcher, 2020 Bluebonnet Retreat Chair – [lisafrommn@gmail.com](mailto:lisafrommn@gmail.com) – 281-738-0848

Bluebonnet Retreat Board: Bea P, Connie L, Donovan P, Jennifer I, Jimmy L, Kate P, Katy E, Marcia C, Mark G, Meagan R, Sean G, Viraj P, Willie VB