# Capacity Building At A Glance

## Rural VFD Assistance Program (HB 2604)
- **Launched in 2001 by House Bill 2604**
- Provides grants to rural VFDs for firefighting vehicles, fire/rescue equipment, protective clothing, computer systems, dry hydrants, and firefighter training
- Currently funded at $16,799,313 million per year

## Volunteer Fire Assistance Funds: Federal funds used by RVFDAP
- **FY 2023:** $1,203,482.62
- **Inception through FY23:** $12,094,161.85

### Emergency Grants (through RVFDAP): Available for states of disaster (replacement/repair of damaged or lost equipment) and catastrophic losses (cost-share apparatus or other HB 2604 program elements, or repair/replacement of essential equipment)
- **FY 2023:** $163 State of Disaster Grants
- **Inception through FY23:** 470 State of Disaster Grants

### DoD Firefighter Property (FFP) Program
- **Launched in 2010**
- Provides excess Department of Defense military property to VFDs.
- Ownership of the equipment is passed from the federal government to the fire department.

## Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) Program
- **Established in 1949, launched in Texas in 1975**
- Provides excess federal property on loan at no cost to VFDs

### Helping Hands Program
- **Launched in 1997 by House Bill 680**
- Allows donations of used fire/rescue equipment, fire trucks, and other items to be made available to VFDs while relieving donors of liability

## Rural VFD Insurance Program (HB 3667)
- **Launched in 2001 by House Bill 3667**
- Reimburses eligible VFDs for insurance (workers' comp., death/disability, accident/sickness, etc.) from private Texas insurance companies
- Reimburses 100% of the actual cost, up to a maximum of $185 per fire department member
- Funded by a 2% sales tax on the sale of fireworks
- Application period: November 1 - July 31

## Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) Grants Program
- **Launched in 2009**
- Provides grants to career fire departments and non-2604 eligible VFDs for firefighting vehicles and training tuitions
- Currently funded at $1 million per year from insurance maintenance taxes/fees

## VFD Motor Vehicle Self Insurance Program (Risk Pool)
- **Launched in 1995 by Senate Bill 1232**
- Provides low cost vehicle liability insurance, $75/vehicle/year
- Coverage levels: $100k per person for bodily injury, max $300k per occurrence; $100k for property damage, max $100k per occurrence

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