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Charitable Bingo Receipts Over \$155 Million; Prizes Top \$117 Million For 2005 2nd Quarter

(AUSTIN, August 17) - The non-profit organizations in Texas that conduct bingo games and the players who love yelling "BINGO" had a big second quarter this year, as gross receipts were tallied at \$155.3 million and prizes awarded totaled \$117.1 million.

"The gross receipts and the prizes awarded are more than numbers; these figures reveal how popular bingo really is," said Texas Lottery Commission Charitable Bingo Director Billy Atkins. "Charitable Bingo isn't just the life-blood of many charities across the state, it's also a social life-line for veteran players who enjoy the camaraderie of playing and the friendships they've formed with like-minded individuals. The significant hike in gross receipts of \$7.3 million and \$7.2 million in prizes awarded from the same quarter last truly demonstrates how charitable bingo games are a workhorse for Texas charities."

There are 1,293 non-profit organizations that conduct bingo games in Texas.

Charitable Bingo was legalized in 1982. Since then, charities have tallied more than \$11.9 billion in gross receipts. Players have won more than \$8.7 billion in prizes.

For more information about Charitable Bingo, visit <http://www.txbingo.org>.