

Community Stakeholders in Support:

- One Voice Central Texas
- ECHO
- Caritas
- Goodwill Central Texas
- Front Steps
- SafeHorns
- Downtown Austin Alliance
- The Salvation Army

Community Stakeholder Statements of Support:

"Employment restores dignity and helps people access and maintain housing. Currently over 60% of people experiencing homelessness lack access to jobs. This program addresses that gap."- **Ann Howard, ECHO**

"Building self-esteem through employment opens our eyes to new possibilities, pathways and opportunities. With open eyes, we can see the road ahead and we can take the steps that make our lives productive while strengthening our community."- **Mitchell Gibbs, Front Steps Executive Director**

"Panhandling in West Campus has become more and more aggressive, we need solutions that help everyone. This program will allow Austinites experiencing homelessness a hand up, provide job opportunities and services that they may not otherwise have access to. We believe this is a dignified, sustainable opportunity for positive change."- **Joell S McNew, SafeHorns**

"We believe our community is strongest when all people have a stable place to call home and the opportunity to realize their full potential. Employment which pays a living wage is a cornerstone for people to build the life they want. All human beings need support, and by building well-being and maximizing the talents and contributions of all individuals , we create a thriving community and more vibrant Austin for all."- **Jo Kathryn Quinn, Caritas of Austin**

"Goodwill Central Texas believes in 'the dignity of work' because we know that each person has something to contribute to our community. We partner with organizations such as ARCH and FrontSteps to lift individuals out of homelessness, into housing, and onto a career path. As part of our vision of *empowering 100,000 Central Texans to transform their lives through work*, we are committed to people who are experiencing homelessness by connecting them to case managers, support services, job training, and job placement services. We support Council Member Troxclair's initiative to create more opportunities for this vulnerable population and urge other Council Members to support this forward-thinking program. Together, we can create jobs and career paths for homeless individuals. We are excited to partner with the City of Austin and local nonprofits, and we applaud efforts to strengthen our community." - **Traci Berry, Sr. VP, Community Engagement and Education Goodwill Central Texas**