

**Community Services Block Grant
Programmatic/Financial Report
February 8, 2022**

The Community Services Block Grant funds the delivery of services to low income Texas residents in all 254 counties. These funds support a variety of direct services in addition to helping maintain the core administrative elements of community action agencies.

For the City of Austin, the grant provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health and employment support services through the City’s six (6) Neighborhood Centers and the three (3) Outreach Sites.

Mission: *The Neighborhood Services Unit improves the lives and health of people experiencing poverty by providing public health and social services and connecting residents of Austin and Travis County to community resources.*

- **Basic Needs** (food, clothing, information and referral, notary services, transportation, car safety education and car seats, tax preparation, Blue Santa applications, fans, Thanksgiving food baskets and other seasonal activities);
- **Preventive Health** (screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar including a1C, and cholesterol; pregnancy testing; health promotion presentations, coordination and participation in health fairs, immunizations, coordination of wellness activities, linkages to medical home providers and diabetes case management);
- **Case Management** (individual/family support counseling, advocacy, self-sufficiency case management, crisis intervention, linkages with employers, educational opportunities and training, and working with individuals on quality of life issues);
- **Employment Support** (intake, assessment and goal setting, job readiness training, job placement assistance, and job retention services)

Expenditures Categories	2021 Contract Budget	Cumulative Expenditures as of 12/31/21	% of Total
Personnel	\$704,239.27	\$630,466.73	90%
Fringe Benefits	\$387,277.37	\$291,329.04	75%
Other	\$10,589.36	\$0	0%
Total	\$1,102,106	\$921,795.77	84%

Transition Out of Poverty Goal		Goal	Achieved		Success Rate%
TOP	Individuals who transitioned out of poverty	43	28		65%

Austin Public Health Report on PY21 Community Action Plan

MISSION: To prevent disease, promote health, and protect the well-being of our community.

TOP 5 NEEDS: Housing; Health; Employment; Basic Needs; Education

Report Date December 2021

FNPI	Outcome Description	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
4	Housing				
4E	Households who avoided eviction	225	225	225	100%
4E	Households who avoided eviction (CARES ACT)	1200	1,458	1,458	122%
5	Health and Social/Behavioral Development		#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
5B	Individuals who demonstrated improved physical health and well being	50	0	0	On hold due to COVID-19
5D	Individuals who improved skills related to the adult role of parents/caregivers	50	37	20	40%
SRV	Service Description	Number Served			
3O	Tax Preparation Programs	111			
4C	Rent Payments	249			
4C	Rent Payments (Cares Act)	1,451			
4I	Utility Payments	502			
5A	Immunizations	182			
5J	Food Distribution	31,847			
7A	Case Management	68			
7B	Eligibility Determinations	1,885			
7D	Transportation	25			
7N	Emergency Clothing				
3A.1	Total number of volunteer hours donated to the Agency	858			

Programmatic/Administrative Updates

- 1. Neighborhood Services Unit Vacancies** – Program Manager at the South Austin Neighborhood Center retired. Working with HR to fill the position.
- 2. CDC Nomination/Selection (Elections) 2022** – Commissioner Hawthorne has resigned from the CDC. We will begin working on the process to fill her seat. Cindy Jaso was nominated and selected as the new commissioner for the Dove Springs geographic area. She is working with the City Clerk’s office on the onboarding process.
- 3. Neighborhood Services** – Due to the City of Austin’s COVID-19 response and safety measures our Neighborhood Centers were closed to the public at 6pm on March 16, 2020. We continue to offer Food Pantry Curbside & HOPE Program by appt. only, Home Delivery Program, Emergency Rental assistance in collaboration with Catholic Charities of Central Texas, Self-Sufficiency case management services and utility assistance through the Austin Energy Plus 1 program.
- 4. Fresh Foods For Families (FFFF)** – The Neighborhood Centers in collaboration with the Central Texas Food Bank holds Fresh Food For Families events that provide free monthly distributions of fruits, vegetables and other fresh foods to low-income families. These distributions supplement existing grocery budgets with much-needed nutritious foods. The events are drive-thru.
- 5. Home Delivery Program** – In collaboration with the Central Texas Food Bank and Amazon, the NSU launched a home delivery program. Eligible individuals (Travis County Resident, “Low Income” and Target Population (Household with children 0-18 or Senior 60+) have begun signing up for monthly deliveries of pre-packed food boxes. **Expanded eligibility in August to include individuals with a disability, Veterans and Active Military members.** In December, 875 Households/2,627 Individuals had food boxes delivered to their doorstep.
- 6. COA Financial Stability Funding** - Through we helped a total of 225 people avoid eviction with \$111,089.76 with COA Financial Stability funds. This is in collaboration with Catholic Charities of Central Texas (who process the financial assistance payments for eligible clients).
- 7. Austin Energy Plus 1 Program** – Serious illness, a recent job loss, or a pandemic can make it difficult for some customers to pay their utility bills. The Plus 1 fund helps by providing emergency financial aid to customers who are having a temporary problem paying their utility bills. Through December we helped a total of 502 people keep their lights on using Plus 1 program funds. total amount of funds expended was \$79,444.89.

Success Story

Home Delivery Program



- The Central Texas Food Bank, in partnership with the Austin Public Health Neighborhood
- Services Unit and Amazon, launched a home delivery program in **June 2021**.
- Participants enrolled in the program receive a monthly box of shelf stable groceries, delivered in a contactless method directly to their home.
- All groceries and delivery are free of charge.

Home Delivery Program

From June - December 2021 Staff
enrolled

2,627 people
in **875** households.

Home Delivery Program

That is a total of **3,978** deliveries!!!!

