

**Community Services Block Grant  
Programmatic/Financial Report  
September 13, 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)

| <b>Expenditures<br/>Categories</b> | <b>2022 Contract<br/>Budget</b> | <b>Cumulative<br/>Expenditures as of<br/>7/31/22</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Personnel                          |                                 | \$296,983.01   |                   |
| Fringe Benefits                    |                                 | \$129,138.00   |                   |
| <b>Total</b>                       | \$1,106,822                     | \$426,121.01   | 39%               |

| Transition Out of Poverty Goal |   | Goal | Achieved |  | Success Rate% |
|--------------------------------|---|------|----------|--|---------------|
| TOP                            | Individuals who transitioned out of poverty | 43   | 13       |  | 30%           |

## Austin Public Health Report on PY22 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 July 2022

| FNPI | Outcome Description   | Target        | #Enrolled | #Achieved | Success Rate %          |
|------|---|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 4    | Housing   |               |           |           |                         |
| 4E   | Households who avoided eviction   | 400           | 354       | 354       | 89%                     |
| 4E   | Households who avoided eviction (CARES ACT) *2021                               | 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 | 25            | 28        | 15        | 54%                     |
| SRV  | Service Description   | Number Served |           |           |                         |
| 3O   | Tax Preparation Programs  | 768           |           |           |                         |
| 4C   | Rent Payments   | 354           |           |           |                         |
| 4C   | Rent Payments (Cares Act) *2021   | 1,451         |           |           |                         |
| 4I   | Utility Payments  | 190           |           |           |                         |
| 5A   | Immunizations   |               |           |           |                         |
| 5JJ  | Food Distribution   | 18,079        |           |           |                         |
| 7A   | Case Management   | 31            |           |           |                         |
| 7B   | Eligibility Determinations  | 686           |           |           |                         |
| 7D   | Transportation  | 18            |           |           |                         |
| 7N   | Emergency Clothing  | 124           |           |           |                         |
| 3A.1 | Total number of volunteer hours donated to the Agency                           | 818           |           |           |                         |

### *Programmatic/Administrative Updates*

- 1. Neighborhood Services Unit Vacancies** – Working with HR to fill vacancies.

- 2. Neighborhood Services** – Reopened our Neighborhood Centers to the public on Monday, May 2, 2022. We offer Food Pantry Curbside & HOPE services, 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.
- 3. CDC Nomination/Selection (Elections)** - Working with the Blackland Neighborhood Association to facilitate a Nomination/Selection meeting for the Rosewood Zaragosa-Blackland Seat on the Community Development Commission.
- 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 2021 to include individuals with a disability, Veterans and Active Military members. In July 1,448 Households/3,704 Individuals had food boxes delivered to their doorstep. We continue our efforts to expand the number of deliveries per day from 90 to 120 (Monday – Thursdays).
- 6. COA Financial Stability Funding** – In partnership with Catholic Charities of Central Texas, the Neighborhood Services Unit provides rental assistance to clients facing a crisis that puts their housing at risk. January – July 2022 we assisted 354 people in 103 households avoid eviction using these funds.
- 7. Emergency Rental Assistance Funding** – Austin Public Health has accepted funds from the United States Department of the Treasury, Emergency Rental Assistance Program to provide rental assistance to households that are unable to pay rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In August we began working with the Austin Area Urban League to begin processing financial assistance payments for eligible clients.
- 8. Austin Energy Plus 1 Program** – Serious illness, a recent job loss, or the 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. We received an extra \$20,000 from Austin Energy to expend by mid-September.

9. **NSU Client Satisfaction Survey** – A customer satisfaction survey was completed in August. The results were overwhelmingly positive. Please see PPT in back-up docs for more details.