

Austin / Travis County

Health & Human Services Department

Annual Report 2012
Strategic Goals 2013



Our job is to work with our partners,
use our resources wisely and create
a positive environment so that the
healthy choice is the easy choice.

Vision

Our community will be the healthiest in the nation.

Mission

To promote and protect the health of our community through the use of best practices and community collaborations.



Scan to view
Community
Health Plan

Core purpose

- ▶ Promote community-wide wellness, preparedness & self-sufficiency
- ▶ Prevent illness, injury & disease
- ▶ Protect the community from infectious diseases, environmental hazards & epidemics



Scan to view 2012
Critical Health
Indicators Report

Message from the Director

It is my pleasure to present you with our first Annual Report for Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (A/TCHHSD). Public health is a framework of relevant resources, safeguards and protections ensuring that all Austin and Travis County residents have a safe community and the freedom to make choices that allow them to live a long, healthy life. From prenatal care to immunizations, to the water we drink, to the parks we play in, to the restaurants we eat at, to infant seats and bike helmets--public health protects us every day.

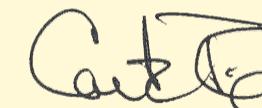
A/TCHHSD enjoyed a successful and eventful year that included organizational change to better address public health priorities. Additionally, we published our first Critical Health Indicators Report which provides an overview on the well-being of more than 1 million residents.

The department is also moving aggressively to be among the first in the nation to receive accreditation as a local public health entity. Demonstrating through qualitative and quantitative tools, community health assessments, strategic planning and implementation, we are committed to reaching this goal.



As a recent recipient of a federally funded grant, Communities Putting Prevention to Work, our department joined by community partners, focused on reducing the burden of chronic disease by supporting tobacco-free policies. Within one year of implementation, those policies adopted by worksites, universities, parks, transit lines and mental health and substance abuse facilities will help to make long-lasting healthy changes.

I hope you enjoy this annual report, which includes an overview of our department and programs. Our successes reflect the dedication and excellence of our staff and our many partners. It has been a remarkable year and I look forward to even greater accomplishments in the year ahead.



Department Director
Carlos Rivera



Scan to watch
Department
Overview Video



Goal for 2013

Promote a healthy community by addressing the needs of vulnerable households.

“ I live on a fixed income and have to support my two grandchildren. This helps me out and I like to help others too. ”

-Irma D., Client and volunteer for Fresh Food for Families, a partnership program with the Capital Area Food Bank that distributes food monthly to those in need through the department's Neighborhood Centers

Did you know?

Travis County remains one of the healthiest counties in the state of Texas according to the third annual County Health Rankings, released by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Goal for 2013

Achieve public health accreditation: a process to improve service, value and accountability to stakeholders.





“ I don't have a job, no money and four are in my family. My husband works but it's not enough. We need lots of services. I come to WIC to get help with feeding my baby. I even came here to find out if I was pregnant. I get fresh foods every month. The social worker tells me about other services to help us. ”

-Evelyn G., Client of South Austin Neighborhood Center

Goal for 2013

Improve maternal, child and adolescent health outcomes from preconception through adulthood.

Austin/Travis County Health & Human Services Department



Goal for 2013

Minimize the public's exposure to health and environmental hazards.

Did you know?

Your local health department annually inspects and permits more than 4000 food establishments in Austin as well as rural Travis County.

Annual Report 2012 & Strategic Goals 2013



“ I bring my family for flu shots so we don’t get sick and don’t get other people sick. The clinics are a great service to the community. ”

-Miguel V., with his wife and two children at an A/TCHHSD flu clinic which provides annual free flu shots to uninsured and underinsured Travis County residents.

Did you know?

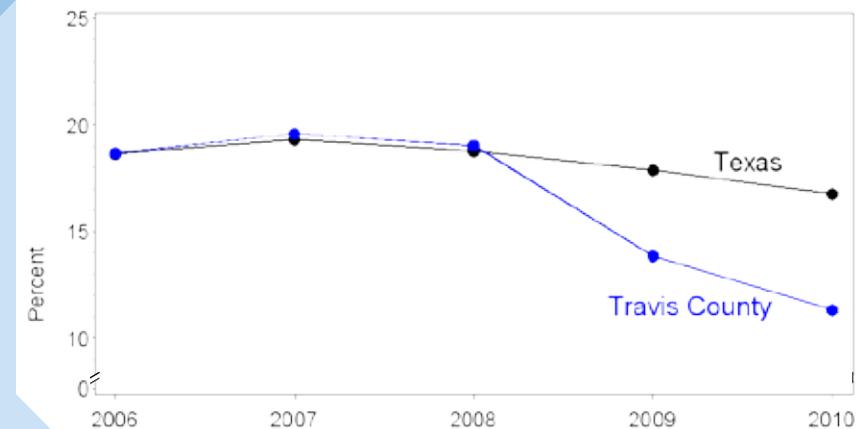
20,759 immunizations were provided at our Shots for Tots clinics.

Did you know?

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in Austin and Travis County. In 2008, almost 600 deaths in Travis County were caused by cigarettes and other tobacco products. Within the last two years, 40 tobacco-free policies were implemented throughout the Austin and Travis County impacting 1,716,289 people.

Current Smoking Status among Adults in Texas and Travis County

Texas BRFSS 2006-2010





“ I came here to check my health issues. The service is great. My needs were met in a short period of time. I got input of what I need to take care of, like my blood pressure, quit smoking and cut back on salt. They told me I need to see my doctor more and get regular checkups. ”

-Darling I., At Take a Loved One for a Checkup Health Fair, sponsored by A/TCHHSD’s African American Quality of Life Unit

Goal for 2013

Reduce the years of potential life lost due to preventable conditions.

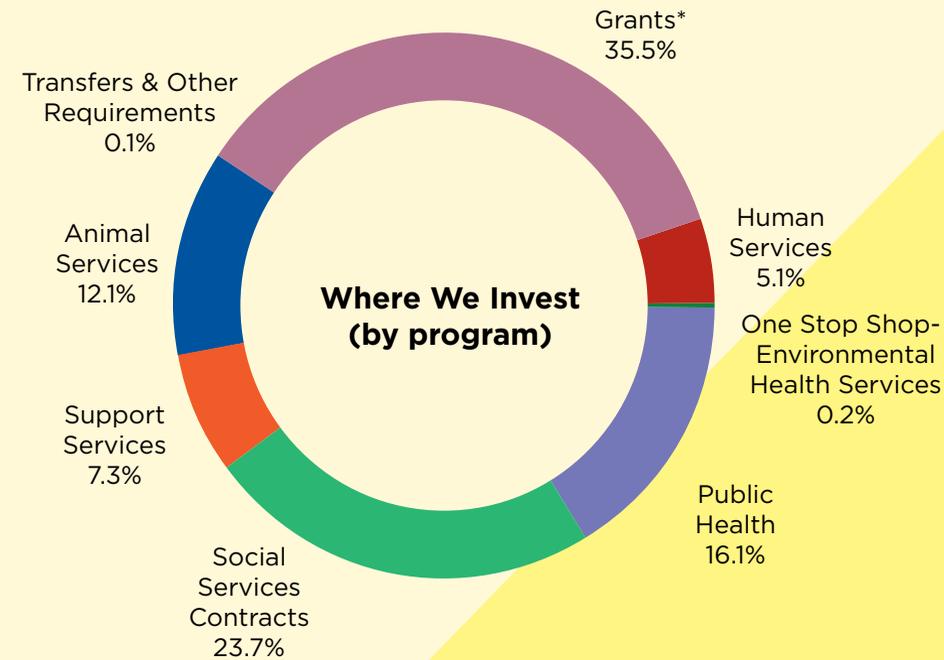
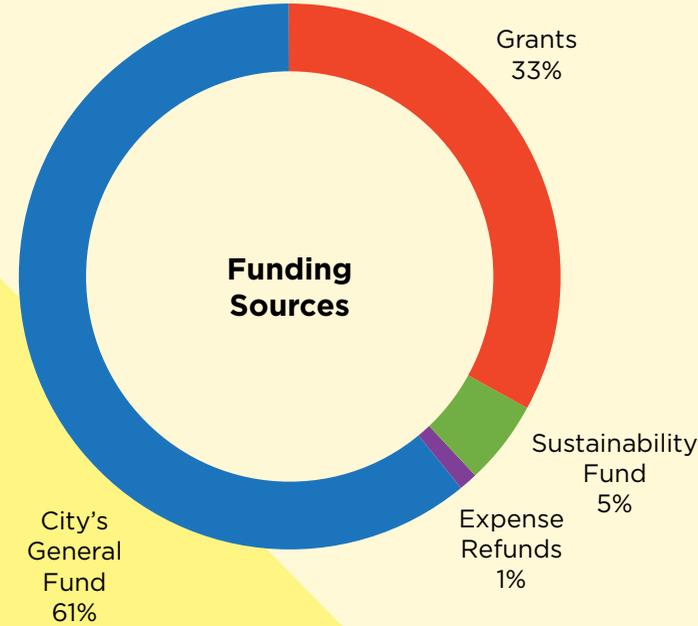
“ My baby has spina bifida. I left the hospital and didn’t know what to expect. I was very confused. I never breastfed before. WIC sent me to Mom’s Place and I began pumping my milk to make sure Carla got enough. Without WIC, I’d be lost. It’s like I have a personal guide and friend. ”

-Gilda G., Client of WIC, a supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children.

Did you know?

WIC sites provided 414,135 food benefit packages this past year





Financial Overview

2011-12 Budget & Expenditures		
	Budget	Expenditures
Grants*	22,930,631	23,471,909
Social Services Contracts	15,656,087	15,651,092
Public Health	10,810,327	10,643,270
Animal Services	7,519,871	7,982,668
Human Services	3,141,735	3,392,035
One Stop Shop - Environmental Health	172,310	120,785
Transfers & Other Requirements	96,863	92,664
Total	65,514,614	66,168,135

*HHS grant expenditures cross fiscal years and are not reflected in the grant budget for Fiscal Year 2012.



[AustinTexas.gov/Health](https://www.austintexas.gov/Health)
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