

**Community Services Block Grant  
Programmatic/Financial Report  
November 12, 2019**

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.

- **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 Categories</b> | <b>2018 Contract Budget</b> | <b>Cumulative Expenditures as of 7/31/19</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Personnel                      | \$702,685.00                | \$460,008.18                                 | 65.5%             |
| Fringe Benefits                | \$386,878                   | \$270,396.47                                 | 70%               |
| Other                          | \$12,543.00                 | \$5,000                                      | 40%               |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$1,102,106</b>          | <b>\$735,404.65</b>                          | <b>66.7%</b>      |

## Austin Public Health Report on PY19 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 September 30, 2019

| FNPI       | Outcome Description   | Target               | #Enrolled        | #Achieved        | Success Rate %                         |
|------------|---|----------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
| <b>1</b>   | <b>Employment</b>   |                      |                  |                  |  |
| <b>1B</b>  | Unemployed adults who obtained a job up to a living wage  | 55                   | 74               | 39               | 71%<br><b>Efficacy Rate:</b><br>53%    |
| <b>1C</b>  | Unemployed adults obtained and maintained a job for at least 90 days (up to a living wage)  | 20                   | 76               | 8                | 40%                                    |
| <b>1E</b>  | Unemployed adults who obtained a job with a living wage   | 10                   | 68               | 15               | 150%<br><b>Efficacy Rate:</b><br>22%   |
| <b>1H</b>  | Employed participants in a career-advancement related program who entered or transitioned into a position with increased income and/or benefits | 55                   | 82               | 31               | 56.4%<br><b>Efficacy Rate:</b><br>38%  |
| <b>2</b>   | <b>Education and Cognitive Development</b>  | <b>Target</b>        | <b>#Enrolled</b> | <b>#Achieved</b> | <b>Success Rate %</b>                  |
| <b>2F</b>  | Adults who demonstrated improved basic education  | 5                    | 34               | 12               | 240%                                   |
| <b>2H</b>  | Individuals who obtained a recognized credential, certificate or degree relating to the achievement of educational or vocational skills         | 5                    | 14               | 4                | 80%                                    |
| <b>4</b>   | <b>Housing</b>  |                      |                  |                  |  |
| <b>4B</b>  | Households who obtained safe and affordable housing   | 25                   | 25               | 10               | 40%<br><b>Efficacy Rate:</b><br>40%    |
| <b>4E</b>  | Households who avoided eviction   | 375                  | 635              | 421              | 112%<br><b>Efficacy Rate:</b><br>66.3% |
| <b>5</b>   | <b>Health and Social/Behavioral Development</b>   |                      | <b>#Enrolled</b> | <b>#Achieved</b> | <b>Success Rate %</b>                  |
| <b>5B</b>  | Individuals who demonstrated improved physical health and well being  | 10                   | 14               | 8                | 80%                                    |
| <b>5D</b>  | Individuals who improved skills related to the adult role of parents/caregivers   | 50                   | 55               | 40               | 80%                                    |
| <b>SRV</b> | <b>Service Description</b>  | <b>Number Served</b> |                  |                  |  |
| <b>3O</b>  | Tax Preparation Programs  | 516                  |                  |                  |  |
| <b>4C</b>  | Rent Payments   | 262                  |                  |                  |  |
| <b>4D</b>  | Deposit Payments  | 0                    |                  |                  |  |
| <b>4I</b>  | Utility Payments  | 277                  |                  |                  |  |
| <b>5A</b>  | Immunizations   | 0                    |                  |                  |  |
| <b>5J</b>  | Food Distribution   | 19,897               |                  |                  |  |
| <b>7A</b>  | Case Management   | 104                  |                  |                  |  |
| <b>7B</b>  | Eligibility Determinations  | 1,574                |                  |                  |  |

|    |                    |       |  |  |
|----|--------------------|-------|--|--|
| 7D | Transportation     | 205   |  |  |
| 7N | Emergency Clothing | 1,414 |  |  |

| Transition Out of Poverty Goal |   | Goal | Achieved |  | Success Rate% |
|--------------------------------|---|------|----------|--|---------------|
| TOP                            | Individuals who transitioned out of poverty | 43   | 42       |  | 98%           |

***Programmatic/Administrative Updates***

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1. **Neighborhood Services Unit Vacancies** – One Community Worker vacancy at the East Austin Neighborhood Center. Top candidate for the Crisis Intervention Team Social Worker position accepted job offer. Top candidate for the St. John Center Community Worker position accepted job offer.
  
2. **Austin Energy Plus 1 Program** – Serious illness, a recent job loss, or other emergencies 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. FY20 funds have been released by Austin Energy and are available to be expended.
  
3. **Census 2020** – The Neighborhood Services Unit plans to help raise awareness about the Census. Why is the Census important? The Census helps the community get its fair share of federal and state resources, especially for children. For every person not counted, it is estimated our communities could lose an average of \$2,000 per person of funding for each of the next ten years. It is estimated that in the 2020 Census more than 600,000 children under the age of 5 in Texas are at high risk of not being counted. If this happens, Texas could miss out on millions of dollars in federal funding for public programs such as the Children’s Health Insurance Program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Head Start.
  
4. **Neighborhood Center Improvements** – New roof being installed at the **East Austin Neighborhood Center** and request to paint the Neighborhood Center has been approved.

The construction of the new **Montopolis Recreation and Community Center** continues to make progress. Highlights in October include roofing and waterproofing, installation of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing system, and interior/exterior wall framing. The goal is to align these projects with the Strategic Direction 2023 of improving the condition of city owned facilities and supporting customer satisfaction with City services. Anticipated Grand Opening – **Summer 2020**.



*Interior shot of south building. Overhead mechanical, electrical, and plumbing installed*

The City of Austin voters approved a proposition by Austin Public Health (APH) as part of the 2018 Bond Election to build a new neighborhood center with public health services. The **Dove Springs Public Health Facility** will house a fully staffed Neighborhood Center. The NC will be operated by APH staff including a program manager, community workers, social worker, and a full time nurse. Services will include self-sufficiency case management, food pantry and other food distributions, assistance applying for benefits, health screenings, flu shots, clothes closet, referrals to other services, and baskets for special events like Thanksgiving and Christmas.

It is a goal of the project team to incorporate as many green features as possible including solar panels, rainwater collection, pervious parking and sidewalks, grass-pave

pervious fire lane, rain gardens and collection of condensate water. Council approved a resolution requiring that LEED-Silver certification is achieved using the latest applicable version of LEED.

## **Success Story**

Client is a single, 24 y.o. individual with no dependents. They moved to Austin to “strike out” on their own, go to school, and become more independent. Client had no family connections in Austin. They moved here because they had a great job offer and they could take classes at ACC simultaneously. Within 2 months of moving here, the private practice clinic doctor they were working for passed away. As a result, the clinic closed and all employees were let go.

Client came to one of our Neighborhood Centers and was assisted with food pantry services and rental assistance. Client was offered Self-Sufficiency Case Management (SSCM) services and accepted. Shortly after securing another job client was hospitalized for more than a week (due to a chronic illness). They lost that job due to absences but they continued to work with Neighborhood Center social worker. Client secured another job and has been working there for several months.

Through Self-Sufficiency Case Management assistance with rent, the client was able to catch up on other bills (e.g. electric bill, car note). Recently, CSBG discretionary funds were available and the Neighborhood Center was able to provide additional rental assistance. With those additional funds, this client fully caught up with past due rent, car payments, and is current on all of their other bills. Client continues their education at ACC to become a dental hygienist. Client reports feeling “very confident” that they will still be self-sufficient in 6 months.

Through case management the client was informed of their rights as a tenant, how to access resources like the Austin Tenants Council, Texas Workforce Commission, SNAP and other food resources to fit their dietary restrictions. This client received supportive counseling, advocacy and a place they felt safe and respected. They expressed gratitude that the Neighborhood Center was part of her new network of support in a brand new city.