

**Community Services Block Grant
Programmatic/Financial Report
January 12, 2021**

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)

Expenditures Categories	2020 Contract Budget	Cumulative Expenditures as of 11/30/20	% of Total
Personnel	\$693,764.20	\$626,911.86	90.4%
Fringe Benefits	\$394,116.34	\$294,451.43	75%
Other	\$14,225.46	\$5,357	38%
Total	\$1,102,106	\$926,720.29	84%

Austin Public Health Report on PY19 Community Action Plan

Transition Out of Poverty Goal		Goal	Achieved		Success Rate%
TOP	Individuals who transitioned out of poverty	43	25		58%

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 November 2020

FNPI	Outcome Description	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
4	Housing				
4E	Households who avoided eviction	500	915	915	183%
4E	Households who avoided eviction (Revised Target)	1200	915	915	76.3%
5	Health and Social/Behavioral Development		#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
5B	Individuals who demonstrated improved physical health and well being	15	103	81	79%
5D	Individuals who improved skills related to the adult role of parents/caregivers	50	7	5	71%
SRV	Service Description	Number Served			
3O	Tax Preparation Programs	339			
4C	Rent Payments	915			
4I	Utility Payments	271			
5A	Immunizations	366			
5JJ	Food Distribution	23,860			
7A	Case Management	52			
7B	Eligibility Determinations	1,454			
7D	Transportation	78			
7N	Emergency Clothing	87			
3A.1	Total number of volunteer hours donated to the Agency	1,524			

Programmatic/Administrative Updates

- 1. Neighborhood Services Unit Vacancies** – In the process of hiring 1 Community Worker (SANC).

- 2. CDC Nomination/Selection (St John)** – Coordinating with NHCD and the Blackland Advisory Board to hold selection/nomination meeting for the Rosewood Zaragosa/Blackland CDC Seat.
- 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 are now offering Food Pantry Curbside by appt. only services. We continue to process Emergency Rental & Utilities Assistance applications in collaboration with the Austin Area Urban League.
- 4. CARES ACT CSBG Funding** - The Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs TDHCA) has awarded the Neighborhood Services Unit CARES ACT CSBG funds with the purpose of assisting eligible clients with COVID-19 related needs such as rental assistance through July 31, 2021. In November we began working with the Austin Area Urban League to begin processing financial assistance payments for eligible clients.
- 5. 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. We continue to assist clients with utility assistance using these funds.

Success Story

COVID-19 has impacted our Public Health Nursing Services at the Neighborhood Centers, but the Nurses continue to assist our clients in other ways. In mid-March the Neighborhood Center closed to the public. The Public Health Nurses were reassigned to provided coverage at the **Disaster Operations Center (DOC)** for the City of Austin and at the **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)** for the City of Austin and Travis County. They were assigned to answer calls provide health screenings and make referrals, if needed, at the **COVID-19 Medical Hotline/Call Center** based out of the DOC, to provide assistance at the Point of Testing sites and Contact Tracing Operations. These activities continue due to the severity of this Pandemic. Nurses have continued to follow-up with a few of their case management clients, as needed.

Our Nurses have worked tirelessly, to answer all kinds of questions related to this pandemic. **18,597** calls were received/answered by public health nurses at the COVID-19 Medical Hotline/Call Center between **9/1/20 -11/30/20**.