

**Community Services Block Grant
Programmatic/Financial Report
March 10, 2020**

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	2018 Contract Budget	Cumulative Expenditures as of 01/31/20	% of Total
Personnel	\$702,685.00	\$703,332.24	100%
Fringe Benefits	\$386,878	\$387,162.08	100%
Other	\$12,543.00	\$6,000	48%
Total	\$1,102,106	\$1,096,494.32	99.5%

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 January 31, 2020

FNPI	Outcome Description	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
1	Employment				
1B	Unemployed adults who obtained a job up to a living wage	45	11	2	4.4% Efficacy Rate: 18.2%
1C	Unemployed adults obtained and maintained a job for at least 90 days (up to a living wage)	15	11	0	0%
1E	Unemployed adults who obtained a job with a living wage	20	11	2	4.4% Efficacy Rate: 18.2%
1H	Employed participants in a career-advancement related program who entered or transitioned into a position with increased income and/or benefits	70	12	4	5.7% Efficacy Rate: 33.3%
2	Education and Cognitive Development	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
2F	Adults who demonstrated improved basic education	12	0	0	0%
2H	Individuals who obtained a recognized credential, certificate or degree relating to the achievement of educational or vocational skills	7	1	0	0%
4	Housing				
4E	Households who avoided eviction	500	0	0	0% Efficacy Rate: 0%
5	Health and Social/Behavioral Development		#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
5B	Individuals who demonstrated improved physical health and well being	15	42	29	69%
5D	Individuals who improved skills related to the adult role of parents/caregivers	50	0	0	0%
SRV	Service Description	Number Served			
3O	Tax Preparation Programs	0			
4C	Rent Payments	0			
4I	Utility Payments	52			
5A	Immunizations	0			
5J	Food Distribution	4,335			
7A	Case Management	0			
7B	Eligibility Determinations	145			
7D	Transportation	23			
7N	Emergency Clothing	87			

Transition Out of Poverty Goal		Goal	Achieved		Success Rate%
TOP	Individuals who transitioned out of poverty	43	11		26%

Programmatic/Administrative Updates

- 1. Neighborhood Services Unit Vacancies** – Working on postings for the new Montopolis Neighborhood Center (Montopolis Recreation & Community Center). 7 positions.

- 2. Community Development Commission (CDC) Vacancy** – Austin Public Health is working with the City Clerk, the Blackland Advisory Board, and Neighborhood Center staff to facilitate the nomination/selection meeting on March 24, 2020 for the Blackland/Rosewood Zaragosa CDC vacancy. See back-up document for details.

- 3. Neighborhood Services Satellite Location/s** – Neighborhood residents can access bus passes, rent & utility assistance, and social work and nursing services at the **YMCA North Austin** (1000 W Rundberg Ln, Austin, TX 78758) on Mondays, 8:30am to 12:30pm. The Neighborhood Services Unit is working on opening another satellite location at the **YMCA East Austin** (5315 Ed Bluestein Blvd, Austin, TX 78723). Tabling has begun to educate the public. Grand opening on March 12th. Hours of operation will be 8:30am – 12:00pm on Thursdays.

- 4. 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. Funding will be available again starting March 1, 2020.

- 5. Neighborhood Center Improvements** –

The construction of the new **Montopolis Recreation and Community Center** continues to make progress. Highlights in **February** include interior door frames, doors, and hardware, carpet flooring and base and light fixtures. 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**.



Art in Public Places artist Agustina Rodriguez's rendering of her design to be installed in the southeast corner of the new building. She draws her inspiration from the Montopolis Bridge's circular design. The intent is to "bridge Montopolis to the rest of Austin." - AR

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.

DSPHF Update:

Great news! Austin City Council has approved the firm that will provide design and construction services for the community's Dove Springs Public Health Facility. **SpawGlass Construction** was chosen for this project. It will take up to six weeks to finalize the contract with SpawGlass Construction in order to begin designing.

To kick-off the design phase, we want the new contactor to meet the community and hear from you. The next community meeting will be in late Spring 2020 -- we will send details soon. Thank you for the input and participation thus far and there will be more engagement to come! Use and follow [#PublicHealthFacility44](#) on Twitter.

Success Story

From Neighborhood Services Unit Social Worker's own words:

This client is a female single parent with a 16 yr old son. She came to the center in August 2019 unemployed, recovering from a knee injury and requesting rent assistance. Her son was receiving SSI (\$771.00/mo.) and she was trying to pay (subsidized) rent and bills with that income. During the weeks that she was recovering from her injury she decided to enroll in a CNA training. In September she completed her training and was quickly hired at a nursing home where she began working full time caring for 15 patients and earning \$14/hr. At the end of October her rent through Sect 8 was increased to \$685/month. She paid half of her rent and received assistance again. After two months of working the client was able to purchase a used vehicle and no longer had to depend on her adult daughter for transportation. In December the client decided to accept a new job in a nursing care facility much closer to her home. That employer offered her a \$2,000 sign-on bonus. During the five months that the client was in case management she received a total of \$2,000 in rent assistance, food pantry assistance and \$150 in Walmart gift cards. When discussing her job as a CNA she consistently reported that it brought her great satisfaction working with elderly patients. She felt as though she was making progress in her life and career. The client also shared that with her employment income she was learning how to budget her money and set goals for herself.

