

**Community Services Block Grant
Programmatic/Financial Report
December 15, 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)

Expenditures Categories	2022 Contract Budget	Cumulative Expenditures as of 10/31/22	% of Total
Personnel		\$462,010.68	
Fringe Benefits		\$207,084.90	
Total	\$1,106,822	\$669,095.58	60.5%

Transition Out of Poverty Goal		Goal	Achieved		Success Rate%
TOP	Individuals who transitioned out of poverty	43	34		79%

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 October 2022

FNPI	Outcome Description	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
4	Housing				
4E	Households who avoided eviction	400	1,051	1,051	263%
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	377			
4c	Rent Payments (ERA) Non-CSBG Funds	674			
4I	Utility Payments	298			
5A	Immunizations	118			
5J	Food Distribution	26,694			
7A	Case Management	40			
7B	Eligibility Determinations	1,466			
7D	Transportation	44			
7N	Emergency Clothing	125			
3A.1	Total number of volunteer hours donated to the Agency	1,228			

Programmatic/Administrative Updates

- 1. 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.

- 2. CDC Nomination/Selection (Elections)** - A Nomination/Selection meeting for the Rosewood Zaragosa-Blackland Seat on the Community Development Commission was held on December 6th. An individual was nominated and selected to fill this seat. The City Clerk's office has been notified to begin the onboarding process.
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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 October 1,952 Households/5,776 Individuals had food boxes delivered to their doorstep. Started with deliveries 1 day a week, now 5 days a week, 4 weeks of the month. Since the start of this program, 18,076 deliveries have been made.
- 5. 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 1st – October 31st 2022 we assisted 377 people.
- 6. 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. From August 15th – October 31st we assisted 674 people in 247 households avoid eviction using these funds. The total amount of rent assistance payments was **\$703,640.97**.
- 7. 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.
- 8. NSU Public Health Nursing** - Between January and October, the NSU nurses and the Vaccine Group provided 6,521 doses of COVID-19 vaccines. In November, after 1,000

days, the NSU nurses were demobilized from the COVID-19 and MPX response operations. They are now back at their respective Neighborhood Centers providing Public Health Nursing services to our clients.