

**Community Services Block Grant
2025 Contract
Programmatic/Financial Report
December 9, 2025**

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 seven (7) Neighborhood Centers.

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, 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	2025 Contract Budget	Cumulative Expenditures as of 10/31/25	% of Total
Personnel		\$560,528.83	
Fringe Benefits		\$306,877.12	
Other		\$135	
Total	\$1,140,731.00	\$867,540.95	76%

Transition Out of Poverty Goal		Goal	Achieved		Success Rate%
TOP	Individuals who transitioned out of poverty	41	24		58%

Austin Public Health Report on PY24 Community Action Plan

MISSION: To prevent disease, promote health, and protect the well-being of our community.

TOP 5 NEEDS: Housing; Basic Needs; Employment; Health; Income

Report Date: October

FNPI	Outcome Description	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
4	Housing				
4E	Households who avoided eviction	1000	533	533	53%
5	Health and Social/Behavioral Development		#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
5B	Individuals who demonstrated improved physical health and well being	20	37	19	95%
5D	Individuals who improved skills related to the adult role of parents/caregivers	50	99	91	92%
SRV	Service Description	Number Served		A Year Ago	
4C	Rent Payments	533			
4I	Utility Payments	158		198	
5A	Immunizations (Flu)	400		265	
5J	Food Distribution	69,559		82,980	
7A	Case Management	172			
7B	Eligibility Determinations	784			
7D	Transportation	23			
7N	Emergency Clothing	774		1,103	
3A.1	Total number of volunteer hours donated to the Agency	1,723			

Programmatic/Administrative Updates

- 1. Neighborhood Services** – We offer Basic Needs including Food Help, Emergency Rental assistance, Utility Assistance, Self-Sufficiency Case Management services, Bus Passes, Health Screenings, Information & Referrals, and Seasonal Services* at our seven Neighborhood Centers.**

*Child Safety Seats, Fans, and Income Tax filing.

** The South Austin Neighborhood Center is currently closed for major HVAC renovations. The public is being directed to the other Neighborhood Centers for services. Expected reopening: TBD.

- 2. Food Help** – The Neighborhood Centers in collaboration with the Central Texas Food Bank offers food distribution events that provide a variety of shelf-stable goods, fruits, vegetables and other fresh foods to low-income families. These distributions supplement existing grocery budgets with much-needed nutritious foods.
- 3. Financial Stability Rental Assistance Funding** – From January – November we assisted 564 people in 245 households avoid eviction using these funds. The total amount of rent assistance payments was \$715,847.46.
- 4. 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 have a temporary problem paying their utility bills.
- 5. NSU Public Health Nursing** - The Neighborhood Services nurses are offering free health screenings at the Neighborhood Centers. Services included: blood pressure screenings, blood sugar screenings, cholesterol screenings, health education, hemoglobin A1c, pregnancy tests, and general health information & resources. The NSU nurses also offer services at events at the Consulate of Mexico, Gus Garcia Recreation Center, Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center (CGSAC), and the Baptist Community Center Mission. Through October, the NSU nurses administered 400 Flu Vaccine at the Neighborhood Centers to underinsured and uninsured people.
- 6. Self-Sufficiency Case Management Services** – The Neighborhood Services Unit social workers help clients reenter the world of work, connecting them with resources, agencies, and training opportunities; including assistance with housing stability, basic needs, and public transportation. They have provided case management services to 172 individuals this year. We are on calendar year target to reach our grantor’s Transition Out of Poverty (TOP) goal of 41.
- 7. Success Stories** – See below.

In the Social Worker’s own words:

When this client first enrolled in the program, they were juggling classes at culinary school, caring for their children, and holding tight to the hope that life could look different. Just a few years earlier, they and their kids had been staying at a homeless shelter, unsure of what the next day would bring.

This year, everything came full circle. After graduating from culinary school, they were offered a job as a cook at that very same shelter. The place that once gave their family a safe space during their hardest times. Now, instead of arriving as a resident, they will walk through those doors as part of the team, serving meals and hope to others who are where they once were.

They shared how proud and grateful they feel to be working and able to give their kids the Christmas they deserve this year. "It feels good to go back," they said. "I know what it's like to be on the other side of that line and now I get to help."