

**Community Services Block Grant
2025 Contract
Programmatic/Financial Report
February 10, 2026**

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 12/31/25	% of Total
Personnel		\$707,910.25	
Fringe Benefits		\$381,594.69	
Other		\$135	
Total	\$1,140,731.00	\$1,089,639.94	96%

Transition Out of Poverty Goal		Goal	Achieved		Success Rate%
TOP	Individuals who transitioned out of poverty	41	49		120%

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: December

FNPI	Outcome Description	Target	#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
4	Housing				
4E	Households who avoided eviction	1000	604	604	60%
5	Health and Social/Behavioral Development		#Enrolled	#Achieved	Success Rate %
5B	Individuals who demonstrated improved physical health and well being	20	47	21	105%
5D	Individuals who improved skills related to the adult role of parents/caregivers	50	129	118	92%
SRV	Service Description	Number Served		A Year Ago	
4C	Rent Payments	604			
4I	Utility Payments	182		204	
5A	Immunizations (Flu)	517		338	
5J	Food Distribution	82,847		92,638	
7A	Case Management	193			
7B	Eligibility Determinations	848			
7D	Transportation	25			
7N	Emergency Clothing	810		1,158	
3A.1	Total number of volunteer hours donated to the Agency	1,938			

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 and Fans.

** 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: May 2026. The Rosewood Zaragosa Neighborhood Center is set to reopen mid-February.

- 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 – December we assisted 604 people in 265 households avoid eviction using these funds. The total amount of rent assistance payments was \$778,407.33.
- 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.
- 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 193 individuals this year. We exceeded TDHCA's CSBG 2025 goal of 41 Transitions Out of Poverty (TOP). The NSU had 49 TOPs.
- 7. CSBG Funding Update** - The House passed a spending package to end a short-term partial government shutdown and fund most federal agencies through the end of the fiscal year. The spending deal, which includes a two-week continuing resolution for the Department of Homeland Security, was passed by the Senate. President Trump signed the spending package into law on Tuesday, February 3rd.
- 8. Success Stories** – See below.

In Social Worker's own words:

I first met this client at a local job fair, and they reached out a few days later to enroll in our program. At the time, they were rebuilding their life after fleeing a domestic violence relationship. They had recently become a new parent and had to stop working during that transition. When we met, their main goals were to find stable childcare and get back on their feet.

With guidance and support, they were able to secure childcare for their son and soon after landed a position as an administrative assistant. Over the following months, they continued to make incredible progress, eventually moving into their own apartment and continuing to advocate for themselves and their future.

Today, the client feels they are more stable and able to pay their rent and provide for their family without assistance. They shared that they are very thankful for the support and guidance they received along the way.