

# TEXAS REPORT

on the

## Community Services Block Grant

under the

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act



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### The Promise of Community Action

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*Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live.*

*We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*



## Introduction

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In February 2009, in response to the nation's economic crisis, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) with the goals of creating and saving jobs, spurring economic activity, and fostering transparency in government. One piece of the legislation provided federal funding for contracts, grants and loans. For Federal Fiscal Year 2010, Texas received \$48,148,071 in Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding under ARRA. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs allocated \$47,666,590 to 48 CSBG eligible entities in the state. Of this amount, the Texas CSBG network expended 99.96% of the funds on a variety of projects to help the most vulnerable populations in their communities. Many of the projects concentrated on training and education in an effort to employ people or help to find them better jobs.

## Community Services Block Grant

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The federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides funds to a network of local agencies that combat poverty. This network consists of about 1,100 agencies nationwide that create, coordinate, and deliver programs and services to low-income Americans throughout the country to help individuals and families achieve financial self-sufficiency. Most agencies in the CSBG network are Community Action Agencies created through the Economic Opportunity Act, a predecessor of the CSBG Act.

At the federal level, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Administration for Children and Families - Office of Community Services oversees the CSBG program. In Texas, CSBG funds are administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Texas CSBG entities serve communities in all 254 counties in the state.

Community representation and accountability are hallmarks of the CSBG network, where agencies are governed by a tripartite community board of directors. Because the CSBG funds the central management and core activities of these agencies, the CSBG network is able to leverage additional resources to combat the central causes of poverty.

## History of Community Action

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With the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson solidified his commitment to forging new opportunities for the poor in the United States by mobilizing financial and human resources to eliminate poverty. To assist in fighting LBJ's "War on Poverty," local Community Action Agencies were created to provide a wide range of human services at the community level to help individuals build self-sufficiency and rise out of poverty.

## What is a Community Action Agency?

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Community Action Agencies are private nonprofit or public organizations that were created by the federal government in 1964 to combat poverty in geographically designated areas. Status as a Community Action Agency is the result of an explicit designation by local or state



government. Community Action Agencies seek to involve the community, including elected public officials, private sector representatives, and low-income residents, in assessing local needs and attacking the causes and conditions of poverty.

A Community Action Agency is locally governed by a tripartite board of directors that fully participates in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs serving low-income communities. For private nonprofit entities, at least one-third of tripartite board membership must be democratically selected representatives of the low-income community. One-third must be elected officials, holding office at their time of selection, or their representatives. The remaining board members are drawn from leaders in the private sector – businesses, faith-based groups, charities and civic organizations. The result of this unconventional board brings differing perspectives together to solve local problems.

For public organizations, such as city, county, or town governments, the law also requires that a minimum of one-third of tripartite board membership be comprised of representatives of low-income individuals and families who reside in neighborhoods served. The statute allows public organizations to utilize state-specified mechanisms other than tripartite boards to allow participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementation and evaluation of programs serving low-income communities.

In order to reduce poverty in its community, a Community Action Agency works to better focus available local, state, private, and federal resources to assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, gain access to new opportunities and achieve economic self-sufficiency. Though each agency is unique, core programs usually include employment, education, financial management, housing, nutrition and emergency services.

## Mode of Operation

A Community Action Agency carries out its mission through a variety of means including: a community-wide assessment of needs and strengths, comprehensive anti-poverty plans and strategies, provision of a broad range of direct services, mobilization of financial and non-financial resources, advocacy on behalf of low-income people, and partnerships with other organizations to eliminate poverty or address specific needs of the community.

## National Goals of Community Action

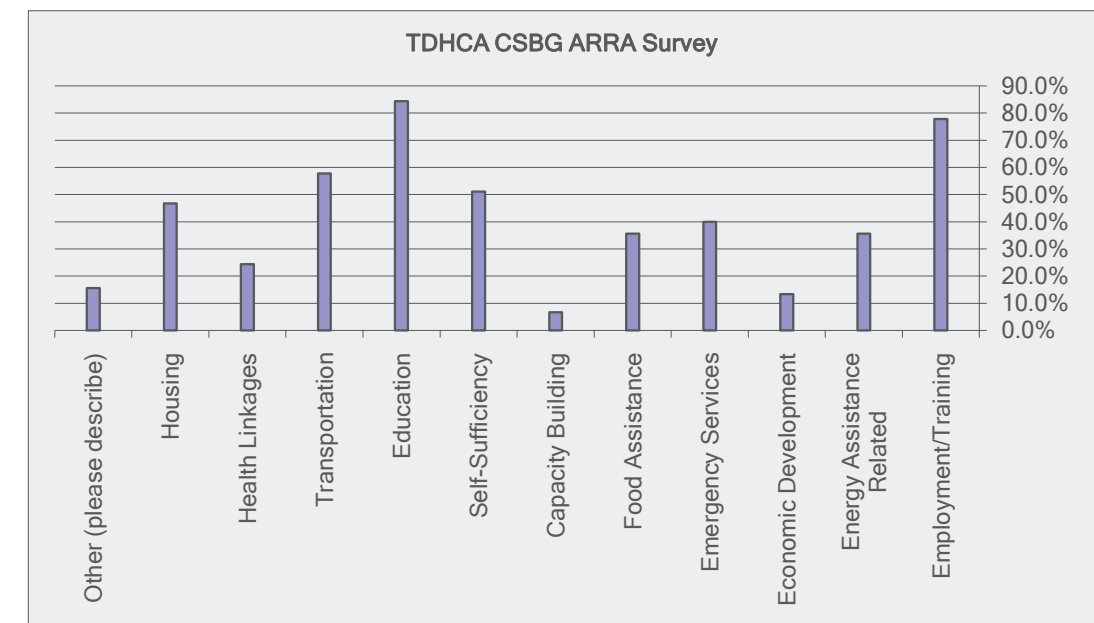
- 1) Low-income people become more self-sufficient.
- 2) The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.
- 3) Low-income people own a stake in their community.
- 4) Partnerships among supporters and providers of service to low-income people are achieved.
- 5) Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.
- 6) Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems.

## Use of CSBG ARRA Funds in Texas

To be eligible for services under CSBG, a household income may not be over 125% of the federal poverty level. During the CSBG ARRA program period, the eligibility limit was raised to 200% of the federal poverty level in an effort to help more people. See the table below:

Federal Poverty Level 2009-2010			
Family Size	100%	125%	200%
1	\$10,830	\$13,538	\$21,660
2	\$14,570	\$18,218	\$29,140
3	\$18,310	\$22,888	\$36,620
4	\$22,050	\$27,563	\$44,100
5	\$25,790	\$32,238	\$51,580
6	\$29,530	\$36,913	\$59,060
7	\$33,270	\$41,588	\$66,540
8	\$37,010	\$46,263	\$74,020
<i>For more than 8, add \$3,740 for each additional person.</i>			

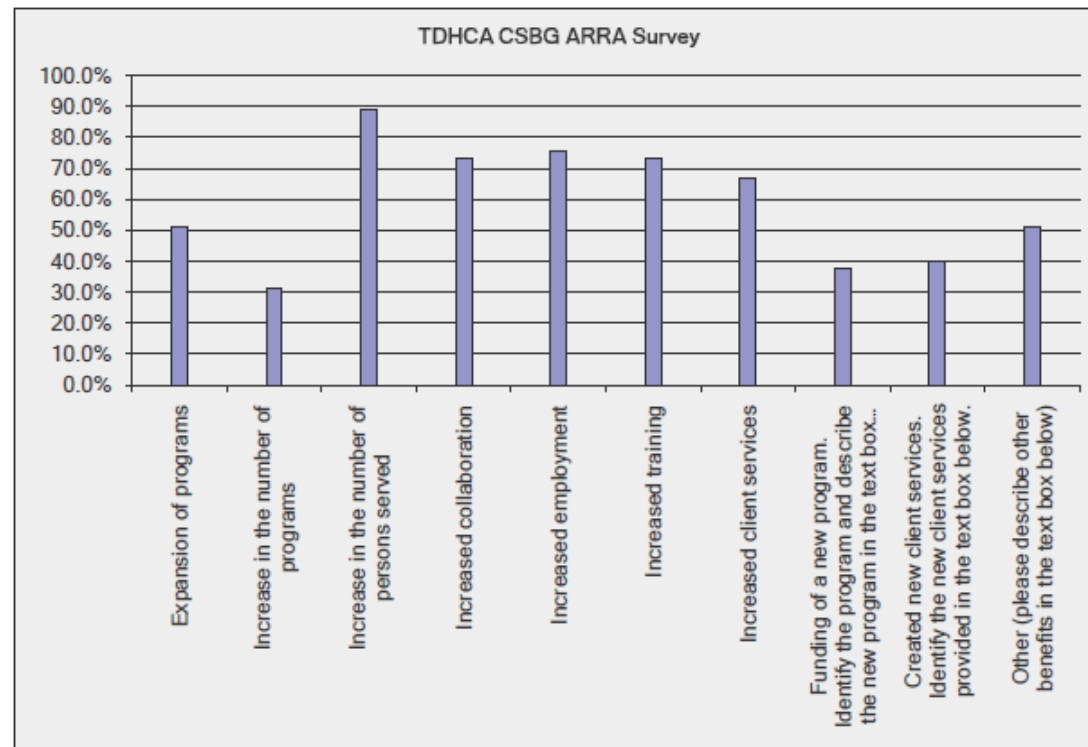
CSBG ARRA funds were available to CSBG entities to use between August 2009 and September 2010. According to a survey conducted by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the majority of CSBG entities used CSBG ARRA funds on the following measures: Education (84% of agencies), Employment/Training (78% of agencies), Transportation (58% of agencies), and Self-Sufficiency (51% of agencies). Other uses of the funds included Housing (47% of agencies), Emergency Services (40% of agencies), Energy Assistance Related (36% of agencies), Food Assistance (36% of agencies), and Health Linkages (24% of agencies).



Throughout this period, over 80,000 people received CSBG ARRA services in Texas, including:

- Nearly 11,000 enrolled in on-the-job training
- Over 4,100 placed in permanent employment
- And about 15,000 trained in a new skill

The survey further indicates that, among other uses, 88.9% of the CSBG entities utilized the ARRA funds to increase the number of people served, 75.6% used funds to increase employment, 73.3% increased training programs, 73.3% increased collaborations with other organizations, and 66.7% increased services to their clients.



With this new influx of funds, agencies expanded services and provided people with training and/or education to substantially increase their income. For many clients, these programs dramatically changed their economic situations and their lives.

## Success Stories\*

One of the key services a Community Action Agency or CSBG entity provides is referrals. For example, when a client comes to an agency for help to pay their utility bill, staff will review the application for the reason. Is the household's energy usage unusually high? Perhaps they need the services of the Weatherization Assistance Program. Are there adult household members that could be working? The client could be referred to a job placement or vocational training program. Even affordable child care may resolve the employment issue. Although a client comes to an agency for one service, because of the breadth of the programs provided by the Community Action Agency or CSBG entity, the underlying reason for a person or household needing help can often be addressed. The ultimate goal for clients is economic self-sufficiency. And, if an agency doesn't offer a particular service, referrals can be made to other organizations in the community.

### David

*With a high school diploma, David could only find work in the fast food industry. With a child to care for, the meager pay was not much to live on. David applied for help through a CSBG agency and received vocational training in health care, earning four certificates and receiving a license in phlebotomy. Along the way, he also received help with child care and car repair, as well as rent and utility assistance. His income nearly doubled from his fast food days and he's now able to pay for child care, has a permanent job, and has become a positive role model for his child.*



### The Garcia Family

*Parents of three growing children, Mr. Garcia's paycheck just barely made ends meet. Mrs. Garcia turned to Project BRAVO in El Paso, TX, for tuition assistance to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. After earning her diploma, she returned to the agency for help with her employment search, attending the agency's employment orientation. She was referred to a home health care agency where she found employment, increasing the household's income, and ultimately improving the Garcia family's quality of life.*

\*Names have been changed to protect clients' identity.

## Paula

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Paula decided she needed to change her life, and education was the ticket. After attending two years of community college, Paula transferred to a state university to complete her bachelor's degree in education. She soon found herself struggling to keep up with the financial demands of everyday life on a student's budget. A friend recommended Paula apply for help at Combined Community Action in Giddings, TX. With funding from ARRA, Combined Community Action started the Empowering Clients to Help Oneself (ECHO) program, which Paula participated in. The program focuses on long-term solutions to transition people out of poverty. Paula qualified for tuition and utility assistance. She recalls, "when they told me I was going to be a participant, it felt like winning the lottery." Now, debt free, Paula should receive her bachelor's degree in December 2011 and plans to apply as a teacher in the school where she currently volunteers. She believes that Combined Community Action has helped her to be a better provider for her son, which has changed the lives of future generations.

## Olivia

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A single mother of two children under six years came to the agency homeless. Staff was able to find temporary housing for the family. One of the children was enrolled in the agency's Head Start program. After two months, Olivia's situation was somewhat stabilized and she completed training in the Head Start Child Care program. After completing the training, she found full-time employment as an assistant teacher with Head Start and has even enrolled in some online classes to further her education.



## Dan

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Supporting a family of four was difficult when Dan couldn't work for several months due to a physical injury. Ineligible for unemployment benefits, Dan sought other forms of income, but none met his family's financial needs. The family had to move into a travel trailer as Dan sought better options. Funded through ARRA, the Employment Assistance Program at the Greater East Texas Community Action Program in Nacogdoches, TX, became the life changing opportunity for Dan and his family. Dan enrolled in the educational component, and trained as a Drilling Fluid Engineering Technician. The agency assisted Dan with tuition as well as fuel costs to get to his classes for eight weeks. Dan excelled in his courses and graduated in May 2010. Earning \$550.00 per day in an oil field, Dan slept in his car waiting on his first paycheck. When the agency staff discovered this during a follow-up, they put Dan up in a motel room until he received his paycheck. Dan has since moved to another company that provides him and his family with full benefits. The job keeps him near his family and provides advanced training. Dan's family is now financially secure and purchasing a home.

## Carlton

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Carlton was raising his six-year-old daughter alone. Knowing the unemployment checks would end in a few months, Carlton applied for help at Community Services, Inc. in Corsicana, TX. Carlton had a high school diploma, but no real job skills. Community Services enrolled him into a refrigeration training school and covered his rent while in the program. After graduating and landing a job, the agency helped him purchase the required tools and paid his rent until his first paycheck came. Carlton showed up at the agency's Board of Directors meeting a few months later to thank the board and staff for helping him become self-sufficient and "setting his life on a new path."

## Kelly

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Going through a divorce is never easy. Kelly was struggling to get by raising two children under three and trying to complete her internship in a dental program, without which she would not graduate. Facing the threat of a utility disconnection and eviction from her home, she turned to Community Action. She received emergency assistance to keep her family in their home and their

lights turned on. Before long, she finished the internship and graduated at the top of her class. The agency didn't stop there. Staff helped her create a resume and coached her on interviewing skills. They even helped her write and practice her valedictorian speech. Soon after graduation, Kelly found employment as a dental assistant and within months, received a raise. "I'm working, I'm making enough money to pay my bills and to do extra things

with the kids . . . I am working for an employer that really appreciates the work that I do and encourages my skills. That's not something I could have ever gotten from just a job. I have a career now; that's the difference."



## CSBG ARRA: Community Impact

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The preceding stories are but a few in the thousands of lives affected by Community Action and the opportunities CSBG ARRA afforded them. For every client mentioned, these projects opened doors for scores of families at a time when the economy looked bleak and prospects were few and far between. Some of the CSBG ARRA projects touched more than individual clients and families – some projects impacted communities.

### Brownwood Community Garden

Central Texas Opportunities in Coleman, TX, used CSBG ARRA funds to start an organic community garden which provides training, education, volunteer opportunities and fresh produce. The food grown supplies two local nonprofit food assistance agencies with fresh vegetables for their clients. In addition to this new source of healthy food for the community, Central Texas Opportunities also paid for meat processing fees for deer donated locally through the Hunters for the Hungry program – providing a low fat protein source for food assistance organizations in the area.

### Summer Youth Program

Community Services of Northeast Texas in Linden, TX, launched an innovative summer program for some of the area's teens. Working with one of the area high schools to identify at risk youth, Community Services staff selected ten students to participate in landscaping and beautification projects in public parks. The students learned a variety of job skills as well as qualities employers look for in good employees. Executive Director Dan Boyd recalls, "Nobody had every trusted them before nor held them to a level of responsibility." During the ten-week program, staff mentored the youth, teaching not only the skills needed to perform the tasks of the job, but also basic life skills like balancing a checkbook, acceptance of workplace diversity, project management, and preparation for employment. The superintendent of the school district acknowledged the difference the program made for the students as they returned to class in the fall.

### Step Up To Leadership

Combined Community Action in Giddings, TX, initiated the Step Up To Leadership program. Participants are enrolled in a 12-week leadership course, learning the importance of community involvement and how to

advocate for themselves and others. Training included public speaking, conflict resolution, diversity, and legalities of boards of directors. Encouraged to actively engage in their communities, graduates have started their own community projects, such as a “Coats for Kids” drive, a mentoring program, and a school supply collection. Others volunteer in their communities and even serve as board members with local organizations.

### **Tip Top ARRA Employment Program**

The City of Fort Worth - Community Action Partners initiated the Tip Top ARRA Employment Program to prepare Tarrant County residents for employment. The program provides training and job placement services, as well as addressing barriers to employment such as transportation and



child care. Tip Top’s goal is to stimulate the economy by successfully transitioning participants to employment. Community Action Partners partnered with universities and other programs to offer job seekers services such as resume writing, interviewing, and vocational training. These services provided participants with the skill sets to be competitive job candidates. In 2010, Community Action Partners helped to employ 194 individuals. Once the CSBG ARRA projects concluded, the remaining Tip Top participants were transferred to CSBG case management services to continue their pursuit of employment and self-sufficiency.

### **Emergency Services**

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Mills County relies on volunteers to assist in medical emergencies for their rural population. For years, Mills County lacked EMS volunteers – a problem since the closest medical facility is 40 minutes away. According to Kendra Major, volunteer paramedic and EMS instructor, a major factor was the high cost of the training. With ARRA funding, Hill Country Community Action Association in San Saba, TX, stepped in. The agency purchased a training mannequin and worked with EMS volunteers to provide training to 15 participants, which prepared them to take the state test. Major noted that these trainings are usually only offered in colleges, not easily accessible for most residents. The EMS training offered

by Hill Country Community Action Association resulted in four participants gaining EMS employment, some continuing their education, and others becoming EMS volunteers. Mills County now has several knowledgeable residents that know what to do in case of an emergency. Major says that the classes and the mannequin provided by Hill Country Community Action Association opened up a door for training and continuing education and fulfilled the need for EMS services in Mills County.



### **Citizens Relocated**

When the Commerce City Community Development Office notified an agency that utilities had been disconnected to an entire apartment complex with primarily low-income families, Community Services, Inc. in Corsicana, TX, stepped in and made arrangements to relocate the residents. The utilities had been cut off because the owner failed to pay the bills. Using their mobile intake office to complete on-site applications for new rental units in a nearby apartment complex, CSBG-ARRA funds were used to pay rent and deposit for the 14 eligible families (out of 20) displaced by this event. In addition, the agency helped most of the relocated families with utility assistance benefits for their new apartments.

### **Houston ARRA Coalition**

With CSBG ARRA, Gulf Coast Community Services Association in Houston, TX, developed the Houston ARRA Coalition, a group of 70 non-profits serving the Houston area. The coalition worked on developing an alternative approach to providing services. Instead of duplicating services at multiple agencies, organizations took the lead to offer programs according to their expertise. The coalition served over 25,000 individuals with a variety of

programs. In his assessment of the coalition, Gulf Coast Director of Client Services Jeff Wallace stated, "CSBG was the cornerstone in bringing these diverse entities together . . . these collaborations would not have existed without it." A true reflection of what happens when grassroots organizations come together, the Houston ARRA Coalition used their combined strengths for the community's greater good.



## Outcomes

The CSBG ARRA project period only lasted a short time, but the impact it made in the lives of Texans throughout the state will endure. And in many instances, the CSBG ARRA projects established new relationships with other community organizations and institutions that will persist long after CSBG ARRA has been forgotten. Local workforce agencies, faith-based groups, vocational schools, and community colleges have new or strengthened partnerships with Community Action. CSBG entities gained visibility in their communities and fortified outreach methods. Organizations became stronger, improving internal processes to respond to the greater need for services during the down economy.

Although the Recovery Act programs received criticism from some, the Americans whose lives were touched by CSBG ARRA programs – to improve their earning capability and have a shot at a better life – ARRA saved the day.

## Directory of CSBG Entities in Texas

Rafael Trevino, Jr., Executive Director  
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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Jim Wells, Brooks, Duval, San Patricio

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Potter, Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Wheeler

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Stonewall, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Throckmorton

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Bee, Aransas, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, Refugio

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Shelby, Harrison, Jasper, Newton, Panola, Sabine, San Augustine, Tyler, Upshur

## Directory of CSBG Entities in Texas

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Coleman, Brown, Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, McCulloch, Runnels

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Brazos, Burleson, Chambers, Grimes, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Montgomery, Robertson, Waller, Walker, Washington

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Navarro, Anderson, Collin, Denton, Ellis, Henderson, Hunt, Kaufman, Rockwall, Van Zandt

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Galveston, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Wharton

## Directory of CSBG Entities in Texas

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Williamson, Burnet

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Lee, Austin, Bastrop, Colorado, Fayette

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Dawson, Andrews, Borden, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Upton

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*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Webb

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Levelland, TX 79336  
Phone: (806) 894-6104  
Fax: (806) 894-5349  
Email: bill.powell@spcaa.org  
Website: www.spcaa.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Hockley, Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, King, Lamb, Lynn, Motley, Terry, Yoakum

Dan Boyd, Executive Director  
**Community Services of Northeast Texas, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 427  
Linden, TX 75563  
*Physical Address:*  
304 East Houston St.  
Linden, TX 75563  
Phone: (903) 756-5596 Ext. 11  
Fax: (903) 756-7294  
Email: dan.boyd@csntexas.org  
Website: www.csntexas.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Cass, Bowie, Camp, Marion, Morris

Bill Howerton, Director  
**City of Lubbock, Community Development Department**  
P.O. Box 2000  
Lubbock, TX 79457  
*Physical Address:*  
1625 13th St.  
Lubbock, TX 79401  
Phone: (806) 775-2301  
Fax: (806) 775-3917  
Email: bhowerton@mylubbock.us  
Website: http://comdev.ci.lubbock.tx.us

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Lubbock

Emma Vasquez, Executive Director  
**Big Bend Community Action Committee, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 265  
Marfa, TX 79843  
*Physical Address:*  
1412 W. Berlin  
Marfa, TX 79843  
Phone: (432) 729-4908  
Fax: (432) 729-3435  
Email: evbbcac@sbcglobal.net

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Presidio, Brewster, Culberson, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis

## Directory of CSBG Entities in Texas

Beverly Logan, Executive Director  
**Northeast Texas Opportunities, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 478  
Mount Vernon, TX 75457

*Physical Address:*  
208 Taylor St.  
Mount Vernon, TX 75457  
Phone: (903) 537-2256 Ext. 29  
Fax: (903) 537-2187  
Email: netobev@suddenlinkmail.com  
Website: www.netoinc.com

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Franklin, Delta, Hopkins, Lamar, Rains, Red River, Titus

Karen Swenson, Executive Director  
**Greater East Texas Community Action Program**  
P.O. Drawer 631938  
Nacogdoches, TX 75963-1938

*Physical Address:*  
114 W. Hospital  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961  
Phone: (936) 564-2491 Ext. 103  
Fax: (936) 564-6212  
Email: kswenson@sbcglobal.net  
Website: www.get-cap.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Nacogdoches, Angelina, Cherokee, Gregg, Houston, Polk, Rusk, San Jacinto, Smith, Trinity, Wood

Mark Bethune, Executive Director  
**Concho Valley Community Action Agency**  
P.O. Box 671  
San Angelo, TX 76902

*Physical Address:*  
36 E. Twohig, Suite B-2  
San Angelo, TX 76903  
Phone: (325) 653-2411  
Fax: (325) 658-3147  
Email: mbethune@cvcaa.org  
Website: www.cvcaa.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Tom Green, Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton

Gloria Hurtado, Director, Dept. of Community Initiatives  
**City of San Antonio, Dept. of Community Initiatives**  
P.O. Box 839966  
San Antonio, TX 78283-3966

*Physical Address:*  
115 Plaza de Armas, Suite 210  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Phone: (210) 207-8141  
Fax: (210) 207-4254  
Email: gloria.hurtado@sanantonio.gov  
Website: www.sanantonio.gov/communit/cad/cadcommserv.asp

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Bexar

Carole Belver, Executive Director  
**Community Action, Inc. of Hays, Caldwell and Blanco Counties**  
P.O. Box 748  
San Marcos, TX 78667-0748

*Physical Address:*  
101 Uhland Road, Suite 107  
San Marcos, TX 78666  
Phone: (512) 392-1161 Ext. 328  
Fax: (512) 396-4255  
Email: cbelver@communityaction.com  
Website: www.communityaction.com

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Hays, Blanco, Caldwell

Tama Shaw, Executive Director  
**Hill Country Community Action Association, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 846  
San Saba, TX 76877

*Physical Address:*  
2905 W. Wallace St.  
San Saba, TX 76877  
Phone: (325) 372-5167 Ext. 236  
Fax: (325) 372-3526  
Email: tshaw@hccaa.com  
Website: www.hccaa.com

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* San Saba, Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Llano, Mason, Milam, Mills

Robert Lucio, Executive Director  
**Community Council of South Central Texas**  
205A East Court  
Seguin, TX 78155

Phone: (830) 303-4376 Ext. 235  
Fax: (830) 372-5354  
Email: rlucio@ccsct.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Guadalupe, Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina, Wilson

Richard Juarez, Executive Director  
**Community Council of Southwest Texas**  
P.O. Drawer 1709  
Uvalde, TX 78802

*Physical Address:*  
713 East Main Street  
Uvalde, TX 78801  
Phone: (830) 278-6268 Ext. 3016  
Fax: (830) 278-4281  
Email: rjuarez@ccswt.org  
Website: www.ccswt.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Uvalde, Edwards, Kinney, Real, Val Verde, Zavala

## Directory of CSBG Entities in Texas

Vicki Smith, Executive Director  
**Community Action Committee of Victoria, Texas**  
P.O. Box 3607  
Victoria, TX 77903-3607

*Physical Address:*  
4007 Halsey  
Victoria, TX 77901-3607  
Phone: (361) 578-2989  
Fax: (361) 578-0062  
Email: vickismith@cacv.us

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Victoria, Calhoun, De Witt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca

Johnette Hicks, Executive Director  
**EOAC of Planning Region XI**  
500 Franklin Ave.  
Waco, TX 76701-2111

Phone: (254) 753-0331 Ext. 220  
Fax: (254) 754-0046  
Email: jhicks@centexbiz.rr.com

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* McLennan, Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone

Brad Manning, Executive Director  
**Texas Neighborhood Services, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 1045  
Weatherford, TX 76086-1045

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522 Palo Pinto Street  
Weatherford, TX 76086  
Phone: (817) 598-5700 Ext. 2009  
Fax: (817) 598-5777  
Email: bmanning@txns.org  
Website: www.txns.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Palo Pinto, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Somervell, Wise

## Other CSBG Eligible Entities

Shaun Davis, Executive Director  
**Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission**  
2210 Eastex Freeway  
Beaumont, TX 77703

Phone: (409) 899-8444 Ext. 101  
Fax: (409) 347-0138  
Email: sblum@setrpc.org  
Website: www.setrpc.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Hardin, Jefferson, Orange

Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Ph.D, President/ CEO  
**Urban League of Greater Dallas & North Central Texas**  
4315 South Lancaster Road  
Dallas, TX 75216

Phone: (214) 915-4600  
Fax: (214) 915-4601  
Email: bmb@ulgdncctx.org  
Website: www.ulgdncctx.org

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Dallas

Bobby Rankin, Executive Director  
**Community Action Social Services & Education, Inc.**  
PO Box 268  
Eagle Pass, TX 78853

*Physical Address:*  
1609 Del Rio Blvd.  
Eagle Pass, TX 78852  
Phone: (830) 773-7274  
Fax: (830) 773-7271  
Email: casseinc@stx.rr.com

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Maverick

Armando Garza, Jr., Executive Director  
**South Texas Development Council**  
P.O. Box 2187  
Laredo, TX 78044-2187

*Physical Address:*  
1002 Dickey Lane  
Laredo, TX 78044-2187  
Phone: (956) 722-3995  
Fax: (956) 722-2670  
Email: agarzajr@stdc.cog.tx.us  
Website: www.stdc.cog.tx.us

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Jim Hogg, Starr, Zapata

Susan B. Thomas, Executive Director  
**Texoma Council of Governments**  
1117 Gallagher Dr., Suite 100  
Sherman, TX 75090

Phone: (903) 813-3512  
Fax: (903) 813-3511  
Email: sthomas@texoma.cog.tx.us  
Website: www.texoma.cog.tx.us

*CSBG Counties\* Served:* Cooke, Fannin, Grayson

\*The counties listed as served by each agency refer to those designated for Community Services Block Grant funding only.

## About this Report

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The Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc. produced this report in 2011 with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families - Office of Community Services. Much of the information included in this report comes from a Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs' survey of CSBG agencies in Texas and interviews with CSBG agencies and clients.

## About the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc.

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The Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc. formed in 1968 to represent the network of CSBG agencies in Texas. The organization is governed by a board of directors made up of Executive Directors from each member Community Action Agency, six officers, four regional representatives, and three program conveners.

## Mission Statement

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The Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc. is a private nonprofit corporation created to provide a unified voice for Community Action Agencies in advocacy, policy, programmatic, legislative issues and innovative hunger relief programs affecting families and communities of the State of Texas.

## Key Functions

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- \* Advocates on behalf of Community Action Agencies and the clients they serve to ensure their needs are met;
- \* Provides training and technical assistance to staff of Community Action Agencies through an annual conference, workshops, and other avenues;
- \* Promotes Community Action Agency programs;
- \* Organizes and provides administrative support for TACAA Board and committee meetings;
- \* Monitors rulemaking that affects Community Action Agency programs; and
- \* Disseminates information relevant to Community Action Agencies, the programs they operate, and the clients they serve.

