Letter from the
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am incredibly honored by the continued dedication of our board members, team members, and volunteers at Project BRAVO throughout these uncertain times. As the designated Community Action Agency for El Paso County, Project BRAVO is entrusted with ensuring economically struggling families receive support and services tailored to the community's changing needs.

For 57 years, we have been tireless advocates for our county's most vulnerable members and supporting individuals to end the cycle of poverty. Going into the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, our priorities in 2021 were to fully spend our federally designated funds and to connect struggling families with social services to stabilize households.

Project BRAVO successfully spent 100% of all federal funds received to help low-income families, especially those affected by the COVID pandemic. Meeting this goal was especially challenging because our budget increased by 33% from the previous year and federal funds highly restrict administrative expenditures. Our organization's ability to adapt to the pandemic environment and provide vital utility, rent, and mortgage assistance is something we are extremely proud of.

Project BRAVO found innovative and impactful adjustments to internal procedures in order to make navigating services easier for all of our clients. This included the launch of our online application portal, which made applying for services even more convenient for families.

In 2021, we continued establishing valuable relationships with community partners that helped identify households that could benefit from our services and guided them to us. Without the help of these partners, families would have a harder time keeping the lights on, having a roof over their heads, or connecting individuals to education and training that lead to living wage jobs. Project BRAVO is grateful to all who helped spread the word about what Project BRAVO could do for our community.

This report will highlight the organization's achievements, the families whose lives we changed for the better, and the amazing Project BRAVO team that made it all possible.

Laura Ponce
Executive Director
2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers
Gabriella M. Reed, Chair
Fred Perea, Vice Chair
Marla Jo St. Leon, Secretary
Laurencio Bosquez, Treasurer

Low-Income Sector Representatives
Paulina Lopez, District I: Westside
Sylvia Carreon, District II: Central & Eastside
Laurencio Bosquez, District III: Lower Valley & Far Eastside
Marla Jo St. Leon, District IV: Northeast

Private Sector Representatives
Loren Cartagena, Socorro ISD
Fernando Escobedo, Jr., Prudential Financial
Alberto Mesta, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid
Fred Perea, Helen of Troy

Public Sector Representatives
State Senator César Blanco, Texas Senate District 29
Gabriella M. Reed, Office of County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal
Judge Enedina Serna, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 6, Pl. 2
Commissioner David Stout, Commissioner's Court, Pct. 2
OUR MISSION

Project BRAVO builds bridges to opportunities that help individuals and families thrive in our Borderland community.

OUR VISION

To bridge access to opportunities for residents of El Paso County to achieve equity and elevate our quality of life through education and social services that lead to self-sufficiency.
As the designated Community Action Agency for the County of El Paso, Project BRAVO is required to conduct a Community Assessment of the needs of El Paso County, TX every three years.

The Top 5 Needs listed on this page were identified in the 2021 Community Assessment.

The Community Assessment includes data gathered from stakeholders such as community partners, clients, and a relevant sample of El Paso residents. The report also includes an analysis of data gathered from public and private sources. The full report is available on our website.

### Top 5 Needs

01. Households need to meet basic living expenses

02. Individuals and families need safe and affordable housing

03. Adults need education and employment development

04. Advocacy, infrastructure, and community engagement

05. Individuals and families need free or low-cost mental health and medical health care
WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Weatherization is a service that makes homes more energy efficient, reduces energy consumption, and saves money spent on energy. Energy efficiency measures are installed such as attic and wall insulation and weatherstripping around doors and windows. A "whole house" approach is used to determine the measures that will be installed. The department also repairs furnaces, air conditioners, and provides HVAC startups for vulnerable households.

169
HOMES WEATHERIZED

$1,162,672
WEATHERIZATION LABOR & MATERIALS

948
HOMES RECEIVED HVAC SERVICES

$2,351,285
HVAC SERVICES LABOR & MATERIALS
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Project BRAVO's Community Services Program aims to empower families by helping them overcome economic hardships so they can transition out of poverty. The Community Services Program provides utility assistance, case management, adult basic education, and patient assistance.

UTILITY ASSISTANCE
8,516
FAMILIES ASSISTED
4,948
FAMILIES ASSISTED WITH COVID IMPACT
$9,947,767
PROVIDED IN UTILITY ASSISTANCE

WATER ASSISTANCE
1,138
FAMILIES ASSISTED
$402,149
PROVIDED IN WATER ASSISTANCE

PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
87
MEDICATION PRESCRIPTIONS
329
FREE EYE EXAMS
334
FREE EYEGlasses
$100,726
ESTIMATED AGGREGATE SAVINGS TO CLIENTS
COMMUNITY SERVICES

CAREER & ACADEMIC READINESS (CARE) PROGRAM

38 CLIENTS TRANSITIONED OUT OF POVERTY

$2,980 RENTAL ASSISTANCE*

$7,026 SUPPORT SERVICES

$1,800 TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT

$92,618 TUITION ASSISTANCE

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM (GED)

23 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GED CLASSES

10 STUDENTS RECEIVED THEIR GED

$3,080 TESTING SCHOLARSHIPS

*Value of CARE clients assisted with rental payments.
Rental assistance outcomes for COVID affected family are on page 10.
Our Housing Services assist families needing access to stable and affordable housing. Project BRAVO offers affordable apartment units, rental and housing counseling, and financial empowerment services.

Project BRAVO's Housing Department continues to be one of two HUD Certified Programs in El Paso. Housing counselors are dedicated to assisting homebuyers navigating the fluctuating housing market as they purchased their first home, as well as families at risk of foreclosure.

- **36 Units**
  Affordable Apartment Units
- **42 Families / 118 Tenants**
  Obtained Affordable Housing
- **$223,604**
  Rental Savings for Tenants
- **104 Clients**
  Received Homebuyer Education
- **1,781 Hours**
  Of Homebuyer Education & Counseling
- **3 Families**
  Purchased Their First Home
- **70 Families**
  Assisted in Foreclosure Prevention
- **$368,868**
  Aggregate Savings for Homeowners
COVID RELIEF PROGRAMS

CARES federal funds received in 2020 for rental and mortgage assistance extended to 2021. Project BRAVO fully expended all CARES funds to provide a vital lifeline for households affected by COVID.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

392 FAMILIES RECEIVED RENTAL ASSISTANCE
942 MONTHS OF RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED
$657,756 TOTAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE PAID TO LANDLORDS

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

158 FAMILIES RECEIVED MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE
638 MONTHS OF MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED
$589,467 TOTAL MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PAID TO LENDERS
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
### DECEMBER 31, 2021

### ASSETS
- **Current Assets:**
  - Cash $1,382,121
  - Grants and Other Receivables $66,763
  - Prepaid Expenses $22,109
  - Total Current Assets $1,470,993
- **Non-Current Assets**
  - Property and Equipment-net $988,589

**Total Assets** $2,459,582

### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS
- **Current Liabilities:**
  - Accounts Payable $680,729
  - Current Portion of Notes Payable $21,833
  - Current Portion of Forgivable Notes $32,742
  - Accrued Expenses $101,259
  - Deferred Revenue $162,453
  - Total Current Liabilities $999,017
- **Long Term Liabilities:**
  - Long Term Notes Payable $56,778
  - Forgivable Notes $89,038
  - Tenant Deposits $13,209

**Total Long Term Liabilities** $159,025

**Total Liabilities** $1,158,042

**Net Assets:**
- Unrestricted $1,301,540

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** $2,459,582

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
### FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

### PROGRAM REVENUES
- Federal Grants $16,230,226
- Other Grant Revenue $41,495
- Rent Revenue $224,007
- Interest Income $8
- Debt Forgiveness $32,742
- Donations $87,343
- Other Income $91,784

**Total Revenue and Income** $16,707,606

### EXPENSES
- Utility Assistance $8,004,824
- Weatherization $3,213,523
- GED and Transition Out of Poverty $121,509
- Mortgage & Rental Assistance Direct $1,780,209
- Program Support $2,457,071
- General and Administrative $1,018,327

**Total Expenses** $16,595,464

**Change in Net Assets** $112,142

**Net Assets, Beginning** $1,189,398

**Net Assets, Ending** $1,301,540
THANK YOU, PROJECT BRAVO TEAM!

In 2021 and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our staff mobilized and served on the frontlines providing essential and urgent social services for our most vulnerable populations. Thank you for all that you have done to enable our organization to reach this mark. We commend your hard work and resilience, your patience and flexibility, your care and empathy for others, and your unyielding commitment to carry out Project BRAVO's mission.
STAY CONNECTED:

Administrative Office
2000 Texas Ave. El Paso TX 79901

Community Centers
Central | 2000 Texas Ave. El Paso TX 79901
Westside | 7000 5th St. Canutillo TX 79835
Northeast | 8815 Dyer St. Suite 300, El Paso TX 79904
Eastside | 14901 Whitetail Deer Dr. El Paso TX 79938
Ysleta | 8908 Old County Rd. El Paso TX 79907
Lower Valley | 13680 Socorro Rd. San Elizario TX 79849

www.projectbravo.org
projectbravoep
projectbravoinc
projectbravoinc