

PROJECT BRAVO
EL PASO COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Helping People, Changing Lives



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

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Fred Perea, Vice Chair

Marla Jo St. Leon, Secretary

Laurencio Bosquez, Treasurer

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Laurencio Bosquez, District III: Lower Valley & Far Eastside

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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.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF EL PASO, TX

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

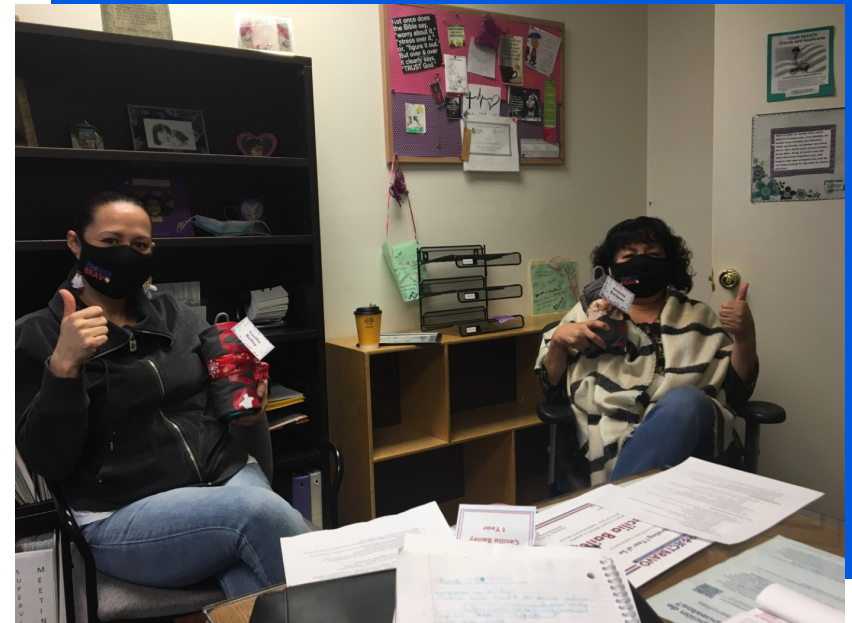
STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GED CLASSES

10

STUDENTS RECEIVED THEIR GED

\$3,080

TESTING SCHOLARSHIPS



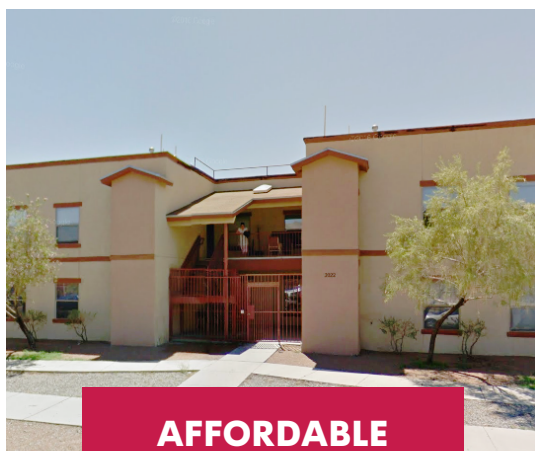
*Value of CARE clients assisted with rental payments.

Rental assistance outcomes for COVID affected family are on page 10.

HOUSING SERVICES

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.



AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS

36 Units

Affordable Apartment Units

42 Families / 118 Tenants

Obtained Affordable Housing

\$223,604

Rental Savings for Tenants



HOMEBUYER EDUCATION & COUNSELING

104 Clients

Received Homebuyer Education

1,781 Hours

Of Homebuyer Education & Counseling

3 Families

Purchased Their First Home



FORECLOSURE PREVENTION

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



FINANCIAL REPORT

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



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