

Igniting Hope: The Power of the HOPES Grant

Imagine a Texas family navigating the joys and challenges of early parenthood. From sleepless nights to important developmental milestones, families can be in constant need of support. The HOPES grant supports communities to provide these families with the resources they need to thrive.

What is HOPES?

Established in 2004 by the Texas Legislature, the Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Support (HOPES) grant stands out for its unique approach. Unlike many grant programs that dictate specific outcomes and methodologies, **HOPES empowers communities to take the lead.**

Recognizing that every community faces distinct challenges and possesses unique strengths, HOPES **encourages local organizations to analyze their specific needs and develop tailored solutions.** By examining local data and identifying critical areas for improvement, communities can apply for **funding to implement evidence-based strategies and programs that directly address their most pressing concerns.** This community-driven approach ensures that resources are allocated effectively and efficiently, resulting in more impactful and sustainable outcomes for children and families.

HOPES AT A GLANCE

\$31,218,813 ANNUAL BUDGET IN FY2024

AVG. NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED PER MONTH: 3,440

33 COUNTIES SERVED

FUNDED 28 GRANTEES & 25 SUBGRANTEES

\$1,114,958 AVG. GRANTEE BUDGET

FY2023/2024 data provided by Texas Health and Human Services' Family Support Services.

How does HOPES benefit Texas families?

HOPES funding impacts four key areas that ultimately benefit Texas families:

- **Empowers Communities**
- **Promotes Self-Sufficiency**
- **Strengthens Partnerships**
- **Improves Outcomes**

EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES

Serving families with children ages 0-5 years old considered at risk for abuse and neglect, the HOPES grant enables organizations to expand their reach by funding innovative programs that directly address the challenges faced by families in their local community. This increases access to vital services like home visiting, parent education, and mental health support, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

The program is so important because it helps parents develop stronger skills in playtime, safety, and health—especially for first-time moms. This program is beneficial for everyone!

Shambri, Texas Parent

PROMOTES SELF-SUFFICIENCY

HOPES fosters self-sufficiency by equipping parents with the tools and knowledge to navigate challenges independently. Through skill-building, resource connection, and ongoing support, families gain the confidence and capacity to create stable, nurturing environments for their children, leading to long-term well-being

We see families devastated by poverty, generational abuse, neglect, untreated mental illness, and a general lack of hope...We offer resources, help with basic needs, and provide sound, proven methods backed by research and positive results—along with perhaps the most important asset, hope.

Texas Home Visitor

We anticipate that our partnership [with Perinatal Centers] will make a huge impact in our shared vision of driving down maternal mortality and morbidity and promoting healthy Texas families! Our partnership has been a great breakthrough for our patients and their families!

Rebekah Butles, Lake Grandbury Medical Center

STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIPS

The HOPES grant uniquely values and funds community collaboratives. This is a rare opportunity, recognizing that addressing complex challenges like child abuse and neglect requires a coordinated effort. By bringing together diverse stakeholders – non-profits, healthcare providers, educators, local agencies, and more – HOPES enables communities to build and strengthen collaboratives and leverage collective expertise.

IMPROVES OUTCOMES

The HOPES grant funds the implementation of evidence-based models and programs that contribute to positive outcomes for children, including improved school readiness, reduced child abuse and neglect, and enhanced family well-being. HOPES not only strengthens partnerships but also provides a framework for tracking progress and quantifying the collective impact of these efforts.

We had a family referred by FBSS (Family-Based Safety Services). The worker said it was a repeat client and didn't expect the family to do well with parenting, as they had struggled in a previous CPS case. We got involved, started walking alongside the family, and soon they began using the skills we taught. ... The family stuck with the program and graduated with no further CPS involvement. Home visiting programs are changing lives and improving outcomes for families across the state.

Texas Home Visitor