



**CENTRAL
TEXAS
FOOD
BANK**



The mission of the Central Texas Food Bank is to nourish hungry people and lead the community in the fight against hunger.



**EXPANDING FOOD ACCESS:
CONNECTING YOUR COMMUNITY TO SNAP**

SNAP

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP” – food stamps): entitlement program that provides a monthly benefit to households to purchase food.

- Loaded on Lone Star Card (EBT)
- Used at groceries, convenience stores, farmers markets
- Cannot buy alcohol, tobacco, “hot foods,” vitamins, or medicine
- Unemployed can get benefits only 3 months in a 3-yr period
- Those with felony drug convictions can now get benefits.



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SNAP

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP” – food stamps)

Limitations:

- Amount received is small for some populations—elderly—offset by SS payments; avg payment/HH (can be more than one person) is \$274/mo
- Application is long—although now electronic
- Can purchase any type of food



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SNAP in Texas

- Income limits (gross monthly income):
 - 1 person - \$1,287
 - 2 people - \$1,736
 - 3 people - \$2,184
 - Goes up by about \$451 for each additional household member.



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Benefit Amount and Time Limit

- Most individuals or households receive benefits for a three month time period. After three months they must renew their application and resubmit proof of employment, household income, etc.
 - Individuals who are elderly or disabled can sometimes receive benefits from 6 months to a year without having to renew their case.
 - The minimum amount a person can receive is \$16 per month. The maximum amount is \$194 per month.
 - The amount a household receives is based on family size and income. It varies case by case.



SNAP Statistics

- According to United States Department of Agriculture, 83% of eligible individuals in the U.S. participate in SNAP
- 56% of eligible Travis County residents participate in SNAP



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SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Team

- Our team assists potentially eligible individuals to access the benefits they need through education and application assistance.
- We can help to remove barriers to empower individuals to receive necessary services in the community.
- We do not determine eligibility and we do not currently provide case management.



Social Service Coordinators

Apply for SNAP
food benefits.
And more.
Now online.



As Certified Community Partners we assist potentially eligible applicants in applying for benefits such as SNAP, Medicaid, TANF, Medicare Savings, Women's Health Program, and CHIP Perinatal.

We complete applications primarily online through the website:

YourTexasBenefits.com

We still do have access to, and can complete, paper applications as needed.



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Partnership with Health and Human Services

- HHSC is the governmental organization that distributes SNAP as well as other state and federal benefits such as TANF, Medicaid, CHIP, etc
- HHSC determines eligibility for benefits on a case by case basis
- After an application is submitted to HHSC by the Social Services coordinator, HHSC has 30-45 days to contact the individual and conduct an in-person or phone interview
- The interview usually determines validity of documents uploaded with the application as well as work history and to establish the need of all members on the case

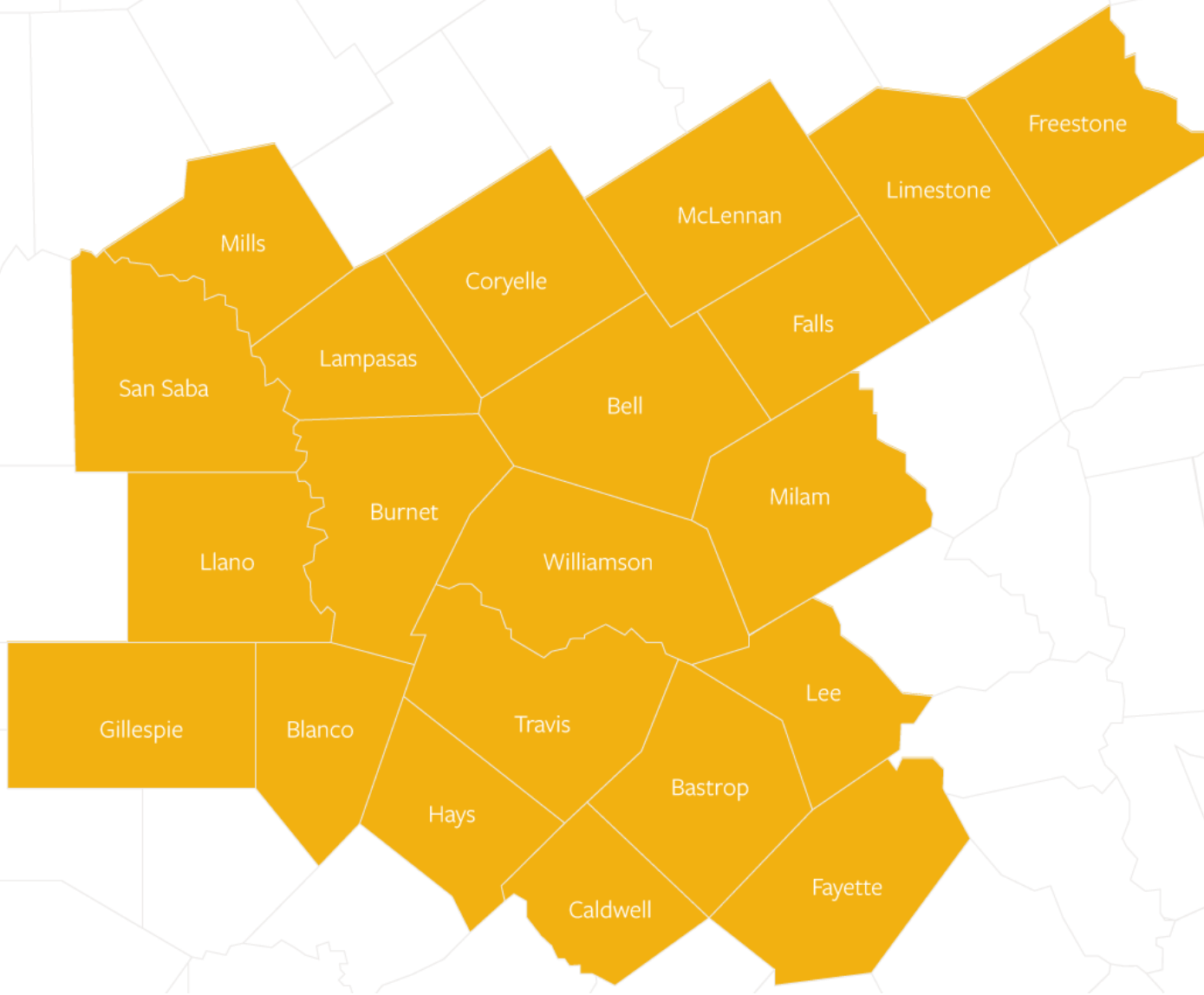


Social Service Coordinators

- Coordinators are available to come to many locations with their Wi-Fi hotspot, laptop, and scanner
- We provide marketing materials and information on the benefit programs
- We work with a variety of community organizations to reach eligible families



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Impact FY 2016

Social Services Team completed 2,149 SNAP applications which equates to:

- \$5,033,064 in estimated benefits
- \$9,009,184 in local economic impact
- 2,054,312 meals to hungry families in Central Texas



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Partnership Roles

- **Ambassadors** - Refer people to us for application assistance, host outreaches, and distribute materials
- **Referral Partners** - Refer people to us for application assistance and distribute materials
- **Hosts** - Let us use some of their space for outreaches and distribute materials
- **Advocates** – Distribute materials about SNAP and the SSO program



Panel Discussion



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Questions?



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Resources

- <http://www.centraltexasfoodbank.org/get-help>
- <https://www.feedingtexas.org>
- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>



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Contact Information

Mindy Vasquez

Social Services Team Lead

mvasquez@centraltexasfoodbank.org

512-684-2119

Ailsa Bennett

Social Services Coordinator

512-684-2524

abennett@centraltexasfoodbank.org



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