Impact in Austin

Glimmer | Austin

2018 Impact Report
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Glimmer Austin’s Approach

Glimmer Austin has a deep desire and renewed focus on improving the lives of those impacted by the severe challenges of living in poverty.

OUR MISSION

To empower and invest in local nonprofits and organizations that:

Care for those in Austin who suffer from hunger, homelessness, and lack basic needs.

Work to break the cycle of poverty for the next generation through education, mentorship, and income.

OUR MODEL

Glimmer Austin seeks to partner with nonprofit organizations that are specifically addressing issues and opportunities relating to poverty in the greater Austin area. Grants awarded are considered to be social seed capital for small, innovative programs and growth capital for more established organizations focused on alleviating poverty.

NEW VISION

In 2019, after an extensive review, we chose to focus our efforts going forward on the impact of poverty in Austin and Travis County. Target populations include:

1. Youth & young adults, including foster children
2. Single mothers & children who lack basic needs
3. Populations suffering from hunger & chronic homelessness
Over the past 15 years, Glimmer Austin has invested $7.2 million into 170 local non-profits, social ventures, and Camp Glimmer.
In 2018, Glimmer Austin partnered with 24 organizations in their programs and other projects.

We also impacted more than 5,000 people in our community and the surrounding Austin area.
Seed Grants to Innovative Programs

Each year, Glimmer Austin selects new programs to receive a grant of up to $25,000 to help launch their innovative ideas focused on solving the biggest problems facing the Austin community.

**Austin Honey Badgers**
AHB provides youth athletes ages 5-18 with the opportunity to reach their full potential by developing speed, endurance, and strength while fostering high self-esteem, personal accountability, self-discipline, goal setting, and global achievement.

**BLF Foundation**
BLF’s mission is to retain, develop, and graduate college students, increasing the number of future leaders in careers and communities. BLF also provides mentorship services for its students to develop various professional skills.

**Bliss Kid Yoga**
Serves Austin by offering yoga classes accessible to vulnerable populations such as economically disadvantaged families, homeless youth, English language learners, refugee students, children with exceptional needs, and more.

**Foster Village**
Comes alongside children and families in the Austin area child welfare system to show them that they are not alone. Their goal is to create opportunities for the community to be a “village” of support to these vulnerable and underserved children and families.

**Huston-Tillotson University Track Program**
Promotes self-efficacy and ethics for success through track and athletics. The program focuses on enhancing and supporting the students’ academic preparation.

**Jeremiah Program**
Prepares determined single mothers to excel in the workforce, readies their children to succeed in school, and reduces generational dependence on public assistance.
Junior Achievement of Central Texas

Helps prepare young people for the real world by showing them how to generate wealth and effectively manage it, how to create jobs which make their communities more robust, and how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to the workplace.

Keep Austin Fed

Keep Austin Fed has the mission to reduce hunger and help the environment by connecting surplus food with the community in need. They gather wholesome surplus food from commercial kitchens and distribute it to area charities that serve people in need.

Six Square

Six Square's mission is to preserve the cultural assets of the African American community that once thrived in East Austin. They seek to accomplish this by reanimating public spaces with culturally relevant programming and spurring economic development through investment in artists and the arts community.

Street Youth Ministry

The mission of SYM is to know, serve, and love street dependent youth. Many of these young people have “aged out” of the foster care system and have nowhere to go to seek needed services. Their goal is to give these young people a safe place to find services and support.
Ongoing Partnership

After providing initial seed grants, Glimmer Austin continues to collaborate with and support our nonprofit partners. We identify opportunities to strategically advance their work through small grants, mentoring and networking opportunities, and

HOW IT WORKS

We’re on the ground, visiting our organizations in person and closely following their progress.

This connection means we can strategically invest at the right time, making a big difference with a smaller financial investment.

MENTORING

Glimmer Austin provides guidance to our nonprofit partners through one-on-one mentorship sessions and community development events. Cultivating leadership and capacity-building for start-up groups provides strategic support at a critical time in an organization’s growth.

CONTINUAL GRANTS

Our close ties to the nonprofit community bring us opportunities to make immediate impacts with past grantees.

In 2018, Glimmer Austin made 11 grants to past grantees to sustain projects that started with our support. These continual grants targeted critical areas such as foster care, life skills training, and career preparation.

MENTORING SUCCESS

Growing Together

Glimmer provided mentorship sessions to our grantees led by our Co-Founder Philip Berber and training by JBL Strategies.

The purpose of these mentoring sessions is to offer feedback and coaching during the initial half day session. This feedback and input serves to help our grantees as they continue to grow as an organization, develop their ideas, and seek funding.

Glimmer Austin believes collaboration and cooperation amongst programs and people can often be very helpful and, in fact, make all the difference.

Our grantees have big dreams to transform our city. By equipping them with new strategies and skills, Austin’s network of passionate leaders grows stronger together.

This year, our grantees, such as Excellence & Advancement Foundation and Foster Village (see left), participated in our annual mentorship training sessions led by JBL Strategies. These non-profits received feedback on their ongoing projects that Glimmer helps to fund.
Strategic Grants

Strategic grants are less frequent, usually larger, multi-year grants that are, in most cases, made in conjunction with donor partners who co-fund the grant.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes

Mobile Loaves and Fishes food trucks hit the streets of Austin to provide food, clothing, and other life sustaining items to homeless men and women who are struggling to obtain basic needs. The Streets Treats/Cool Goodness downtown commissary is a new program from Mobile Loaves and Fishes that will provide willing homeless community members with backpacks and carts filled with ice cream or water bottles to sell throughout downtown Austin.

Huston-Tillotson University

The Huston-Tillotson Mary E. Branch Gymnasium has been home to Huston-Tillotson Basketball for over 75 years. The gym had leaks, lacked water, and did not have updated equipment for the athletes. In 2018, “The Branch” received an update featuring all new floors, doors, bathroom facilities, and other upgrades made possible by Glimmer Austin.
MENTORING WITH CARE

Changing Lives,
Building Better Futures

The African American Youth Harvest Foundation was proudly named the 2018 Angel of the Year for their outstanding initiatives and programs aimed at addressing significant barriers impacting the quality of life for residents in East Austin. Since 2006, AAYHF and their founder, Michael Lofton, have fostered social change in Austin by addressing disparities of racial and socio-economic origin.

As a recognized community leader in much-needed programming for underserved youth and their families, community partners and stakeholders rely on their ability to ensure at-risk youth across the community have a chance to flourish and reach their potential.

Their mission is to effectively address disparities and ensure low-barrier access to vital educational, economic, and enrichment resources to underserved, at-risk youth and their families on their path to self-sufficiency. They strive to prevent and reduce risk factors, while promoting protective factors that are proven to change the lives of community members in need.

AAYHF has successfully launched two Junior Achievement programs intended for middle and high school students to help them become future entrepreneurs and agents of social change.

In 2018, The African American Youth Harvest Foundation made notable impacts in Austin:

- 9,000 Youth and adults received services
- 49 Juvenile offenders enrolled in the mentoring program
- 2,000 Annual conference attendees

Michael Lofton is a well-known Austin philanthropist, whose influence and passion has significantly impacted a host of at-risk populations including youths and families throughout the greater Austin area.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Camp Glimmer

“In partnership with Candlelight Ranch and local nonprofit organizations, Camp Glimmer hosted more than 500 children from the Austin area for outdoor adventures in the Texas Hill Country.

2018 Program Highlights

INVESTING IN AUSTIN’S KIDS

Camp Glimmer gives youth in need the opportunity to experience the joys of a first-class summer camp. Through sports, arts and music, team building and leadership activities, we create a safe place that allows children to be themselves and learn in a supportive environment.

51 CAMPERS STAYED OVERNIGHT

For many excited campers from Leap for Joy, Central Texas Tennis Association, and Life Changers, this was their first overnight camping experience.

556 ATHLETIC SHOES DONATED

Thanks to our generous partners at New Balance and Karavel Shoes, every camper that attended Camp Glimmer went home with a new pair of tennis shoes.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Candelight Ranch, based in the Texas Hill Country, is the perfect setting for getting kids outdoors. Time outside provides opportunities for emotional and physical growth.

We use fun, new experiences, like kayaking and ziplining, to encourage campers to get outside their comfort zones, approach challenges with a positive attitude and build self-confidence. Team and partner activities cultivate communication and leadership skills. Time out in nature and interaction with animals provide an emotional outlet and teach responsibility.

“My kids came home with beaming faces, full of excitement and exhaustion, eager to go back the next day. I can’t express our happiness and gratitude!”

- PARENT OF BLISS KID YOGA CAMPERS

“In Camp Glimmer was definitely a life changing experience this year for both the children and every adult who worked with them. Through the 100-degree weather, camp accomplished putting smiles on the kid’s faces.”

- HERB GRIFFIN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CAMP GLIMMER

Campaigned for more than 500 children from the Austin area for outdoor adventures in the Texas Hill Country.

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Glimmer Austin Program Partners: 2003-2018

**EDUCATION**
- 4-H Capital
- A.I.S.D. EDUCATION
- ACCION - Texas
- Ace Academy
- Austin Bat Cave
- Austin Idea Network
- Austin Partners in Education
- Austin Voices for Education and Youth
- Austin Youth River Watch
- Badgerdog Literary Publishing
- BookSpring
- Boys & Girls Club of South Central Texas
- Camp Fire USA
- Changing Expectations
- Code2College, Inc.
- E4 Youth
- Extend-A-Care for Kids
- Family Link
- Girstart
- Huston-Tillotson University
- Jacob Fontaine Religious Museum
- Keep Austin Beautiful
- Latinitas
- M.A.T.H. - Making Awesome Things Happen
- Media Awareness Project
- Mission Possible Austin
- Outside the Box Dropout Prevention
- Reach Out and Read
- Reading is Fundamental
- Sande Youth Project
- Texas Preparatory Schools
- Thinkery (Austin Children’s Museum)
- Urban Roots
- Young Journey Foundation

**FOSTER CARE**
- Austin Angels
- Central Texas Table of Grace
- Foster Angels of Central Texas
- Foster Village
- Helping Home For the Children
- SafePlace

**HEALTH**
- Alliance for African American Health in Central TX
- Austin Recovery
- Bliss Kid Yoga
- Capital Area Food Bank
- Community Yoga Austin
- Meals on Wheels and More
- Prairie View A&M Research Foundation
- GEN Austin
- Samaritan Center for Counseling
- St. David’s Foundation/Dental Program - Project Theo
- Welcome Table, Inc.

**HOMELESSNESS**
- Assistance League of Austin
- Back on My Feet
- Casa Marianella
- For The Children
- Mobile Loaves and Fishes
- Saint Louise House
- Senior Access
- Street Youth Ministry

**HUNGER**
- Caritas of Austin
- Central Texas Food Bank
- Keep Austin Fed
- Meals on Wheels

**JOB & INCOME CREATION**
- Austin Area Urban League
- Austin Free Net
- Junior Achievement of Central Texas
- Justice
- MLF Community Works
- PelotonU
- Redemptive Work
- Workers Defense

**SPORTS**
- Arts and Fitness Program for Young Children
- Austin CAN Academy
- Austin Honey Badgers
- Boneshaker
- Central Texas Tennis Association
- East Austin Soccer Club
- Ghislallo Foundation
- Hoop Zone
- Huston-Tillotson University
- Montessori for All
- Promiseland Explorers
- RunTex Carrozza Foundation
- San Antonio Spurs Foundation
- Set 2 Serve
- YMCA of Austin

**Mentorship & Training**
- A.S.P.I.R.E.
- African American Youth Harvest Foundation
- AGE of Central Texas
- Amala Foundation
- Any Baby Can
- Austin Area Urban League
- Austin Clubhouse, Inc.
- Austin Free-Net
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- BLF Foundation
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Austin
- Breakthrough Austin
- CASA of Travis County
- Catholic Charities of Central Texas
- CASA of Travis County
- The Arc of the Capital Area
- The Austin Harmony Project
- The Cipher - Austin’s Hip Hop Project
- Con Mi Madre
- Council On At-Risk Youth
- EcoRise
- Excellence and Advancement Foundation
- Family ElderCare
- Frameworks Community Development Corp.
- Friends of the Children Austin
- G.E.M.S United
- Girl Scouts
- Girls Empowerment Network
- Golden Touch Enrichment Academy
- Healing with Horses
- J.O.I. Community Outreach (Jump On It)
- Jeremiah Program
- Junior Achievement of Central Texas
- Kids In a New Groove
- Launchpad The Center for Hope
- Life Changers
- My Healing Place
- Palmer Drug Abuse Program of Austin, Inc.
- People Fund
- Positive Coach Alliance
- Redemptive Work
- River City Youth Foundation
- Rosy Healthcare Foundation
- Survive 2 Thrive Foundation
- The Seedling Foundation
- Vela
- Ventana del Soul