



GLIMMER | AUSTIN



Photo Credits: Casa Marianella, Community First! Village, Jeremiah Program

2021 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



GLIMMER|AUSTIN

Dear Friends:

Glimmer|Austin empowers and invests in local “changemakers” that care for and uplift those who are afflicted by poverty. To help break this cycle, we provide seed, growth, and strategic grants to local non-profit organizations who holistically address the critical needs of this population.

As we all know, life changed for everyone in 2020 and continued in 2021 as Austin and the nation were dramatically impacted by the ravages of COVID-19. Homeless shelters, soup kitchens and food banks saw dramatic increases in their services, as those who had never faced these insecurities before, found themselves needing assistance. G|A was able to partner with the few food pantries and organizations that continued to serve and operate throughout the year, enabling them to not only keep their doors open, but increase the number of families and individuals served.

In 2021, Glimmer|Austin invested over \$1 million into 21 local organizations, resulting in the net impact on more than 9000 people primarily facing hunger and homelessness. Additionally, we learned that there was an increase in those needing addiction recovery support, so for the first time we helped launch and support “The Phoenix - Austin,” an innovative nonprofit that helps individuals recover from substance use disorders through intrinsic and transformative social connections, physical and outdoor activities, and other peer-to-peer gatherings. We were able to bring this program to the area to aid in the complex issues around recovery.

Even with the new and expanded focus, we continued to support programs for foster youth, and initiatives offering training and jobs or “dignified income” for the homeless. Camp Glimmer, in partnership with Candlelight Ranch, provided a safe, fun, and joyful outdoor experience for hundreds of youths during the summer of 2021, which was extremely important for those who had been attending school from home for so many months. In December, we were also delighted to provide gifts to hundreds of children and homeless citizens during our “Season of Giving.”

Since Glimmer|Austin’s inception 18 years ago, we have granted over \$10 million, locally, to more than 200 nonprofit organizations. Behind the numbers are the people in need that we care about and support. They are hungry, homeless, recovering, and poor. They are also kind, deserving, resilient, and important. They are not invisible--we see them. And we could not do any of this without the innovative leadership teams and organizations working to make sure those suffering in our communities continue to be seen.

As you review our 2021 Impact Report, we would also like to invite you to click through the links to our partner organizations to learn more about the wonderful work that they do, and the joy it brings us to support their visions. I know you will see, like we do, the value of their commitment.

Thank you,

Glimmer|Austin Foundation

In 2021, Glimmer|Austin
awarded grants to 21 local
organizations which have
impacted more than
9000 people.



Photo Credit (clockwise): Casa Marianella, The
Phoenix ATX, Jeremiah
Program, Community First! Village



GLIMMER|AUSTIN

SEED GRANTS

AWARDED IN 2021

In 2021, Glimmer|Austin awarded 11 seed grants to the following local organizations that worked to create opportunities for the nourishment and well-being of vulnerable Austin communities:

Mission Accomplished

The Salvation Army Austin

Sunrise Community Church

Austin Baptist Chapel

Our Shared Kitchen

Saffron Trust Women's Foundation

Save The Food Austin

Change 1

Learning Bridge ATX

Jail To Jobs



G|A partner organizations distributed over 39,000 meals and grocery boxes to individuals and families facing hunger and food insecurity.



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GROWTH GRANTS

AWARDED IN 2021



In addition to seed grants, Glimmer|Austin awarded 10 growth grants to organizations that continued to provide support to the mission of caring for those in distress from food insecurity, poverty, and homelessness.

Jeremiah Program

Lifeworks

Lighter Loads ATX

The Other Ones Foundation

Caritas of Austin

Hungry Souls

Meals On Wheels Central Texas

Safe Alliance

Dress for Success



STRATEGIC PARTNER

The Phoenix-Austin



Photo Credit: The Phoenix-Austin

Last year, more than 100,000 people fatally succumbed to a substance abuse overdose. In Travis County, an estimated 74,000 people are living with an addiction. While professional treatment is helping many start their recovery journey, supportive social networks also play a critical role in addressing the needs of those seeking to maintain sobriety.

[The Phoenix-Austin](#) fosters a supportive, physically active, peer-to-peer community for individuals who are recovering from a substance use disorder and those who choose to live sober. Their mission is to build a sober active community that fuels resilience and harnesses the transformational power of connection so that together “we rise, recover, and live.”

Since inception in September, The Phoenix-Austin has grown beyond expectations and is far outpacing other chapters in typical membership at this stage in its growth. In its first four months, the group has already reached more than 600 Austinites, coordinated over 130 events, formed more than 30 local partnerships, and activated ten volunteers with just three staff members.

Glimmer|Austin fully supports The Phoenix-Austin in their commitment and quest to help thousands of individuals stand up every day from the ashes of addiction, find the hope and support they need to thrive, and discover a new identity for themselves in the process.

“I came to my first Phoenix event in September and have participated each week ever since. I have been in recovery since 2018 and there has been a void of sincere connection, community, and support. The Phoenix provides healthy and fulfilling opportunities to fill in that gap. I am beyond grateful that I stumbled upon this magical organization.”

— Tess, a Phoenix member in Austin



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STRATEGIC PARTNER

Mobile Loaves & Fishes * Community First! Village



Photo Credit: MLF-Community First! Village

Many of the long term chronically homeless can be seen beneath the bridges, in certain areas of downtown Austin, and in various wooded encampments all around the city. Glimmer|Austin supports both the “Housing First” concept, as well as those organizations providing services and support for those who suffer from homelessness.

In 2021, G|A continued its support of [Mobile Loaves & Fishes-Community First! Village](#). The 51-acre community which consists of RV/Park and micro-homes provides affordable, permanent housing and supportive resources to men and women experiencing homelessness. G|A’s funding supported the construction of a community cluster or group of neighboring homes built around shared communal amenities and an open greenspace for the residents.

Some of CFV’s major accomplishments over the year in which G|A was one of the supporters include: (1) Completing or in process of constructing more than 200 micro-homes (2) Providing homes for 148 neighbors in Phase Two, including 139 men and women coming out of chronic homelessness and seven missional and two children of missional neighbors, and (3) Constructing seven laundry / restroom / shower facilities and seven outdoor kitchens that will allow access to residents living in micro-homes which do not have plumbing.

MLF Community First! Village also offered opportunities for its residents to earn a “dignified income,” as well as promoted trusting relationships, and provided supportive care, restorative practices, and conflict resolution among its neighbors, missionals, and staff.

“CFV exists to love and serve our neighbors who have been living on the streets, while also empowering the surrounding community into a lifestyle of service with the homeless.”

— Mobile Loaves & Fishes: Community First! Village



GLIMMER|AUSTIN

STRATEGIC PARTNER

The Other Ones Foundation * Esperanza Community



Photo Credit: TOOF-Esperanza Community

What began as an idea to create a transformational shelter complex has now become a reality. Glimmer|Austin's continued support of [The Other Ones Foundation \(TOOF\) at Esperanza Community](#) has given them the opportunity to pursue and expand their critical resources to move forward with a conceptual plan to transition those who are unhoused and experiencing homelessness to a safe and sheltered environment.

Initially, G|A provided funding for temporary shelter units as an alternative to the tents that many of the homeless were living in at Esperanza. These shelters were originally designed by IKEA Foundation, in partnership with Better Shelters, who have provided over 60,000 of these to refugees in over 66 countries. With G|A's funding assistance, TOOF residents were trained, employed, and paid a minimum wage of \$15/hour to help build the temporary structures on site.

Currently, there are 123 community members with Esperanza / TOOF – 33 members in Better Shelters; 55 members in hotels while construction is underway; and 35 members living unsheltered on site in the community. All 123 persons are connected to case management, and many are a part of the Work Force First program, which gives individuals the opportunity to be of “service to the community” by working on large-scale environmental clean-up projects and invasive species removal.

Glimmer|Austin funding was also directed towards essential services such as access to transitional shelter, case management, mail, hygiene and laundry facilities, and a community kitchen.

“This is not just about the practical of offering a dignified place to sleep. It's about the opportunity for the individual to see themselves in a different way, as a person with a pride of place. That is an irreplaceable experience! It's empowering and life-changing.” —The Other Ones Foundation



CAMP GLIMMER

CANDLELIGHT RANCH

Camp Glimmer 2021, in partnership with [Candlelight Ranch](#), offered over 400 youth an opportunity to explore the outdoors and participate in safe, fun, educational, and recreational activities during the summer months. Campers enjoyed fishing, kayaking, hiking, zip lining, archery, high ropes climbing, canyon crawling, and overnight camping. Daily team building activities were conducted on the low and high rope courses, with an emphasis on working together and problem solving in a group setting. The new archery course helped campers improve their focus and patience, as well as hand-eye coordination. Youth also learned about Texas history, native geography, and the importance of protecting the wildlife while on guided hikes through the central Texas canyon. Sessions on nutrition and the benefits of growing and eating organic fruits and vegetables were shared with the youth. Candlelight Ranch prepared and served fresh fruit, snacks, and nutritious lunches for all campers. At the end of each day the campers spent time playing games, participating in arts and crafts, and cooling off in "Chillville," a water conservation and educational splash pad built for the youth.

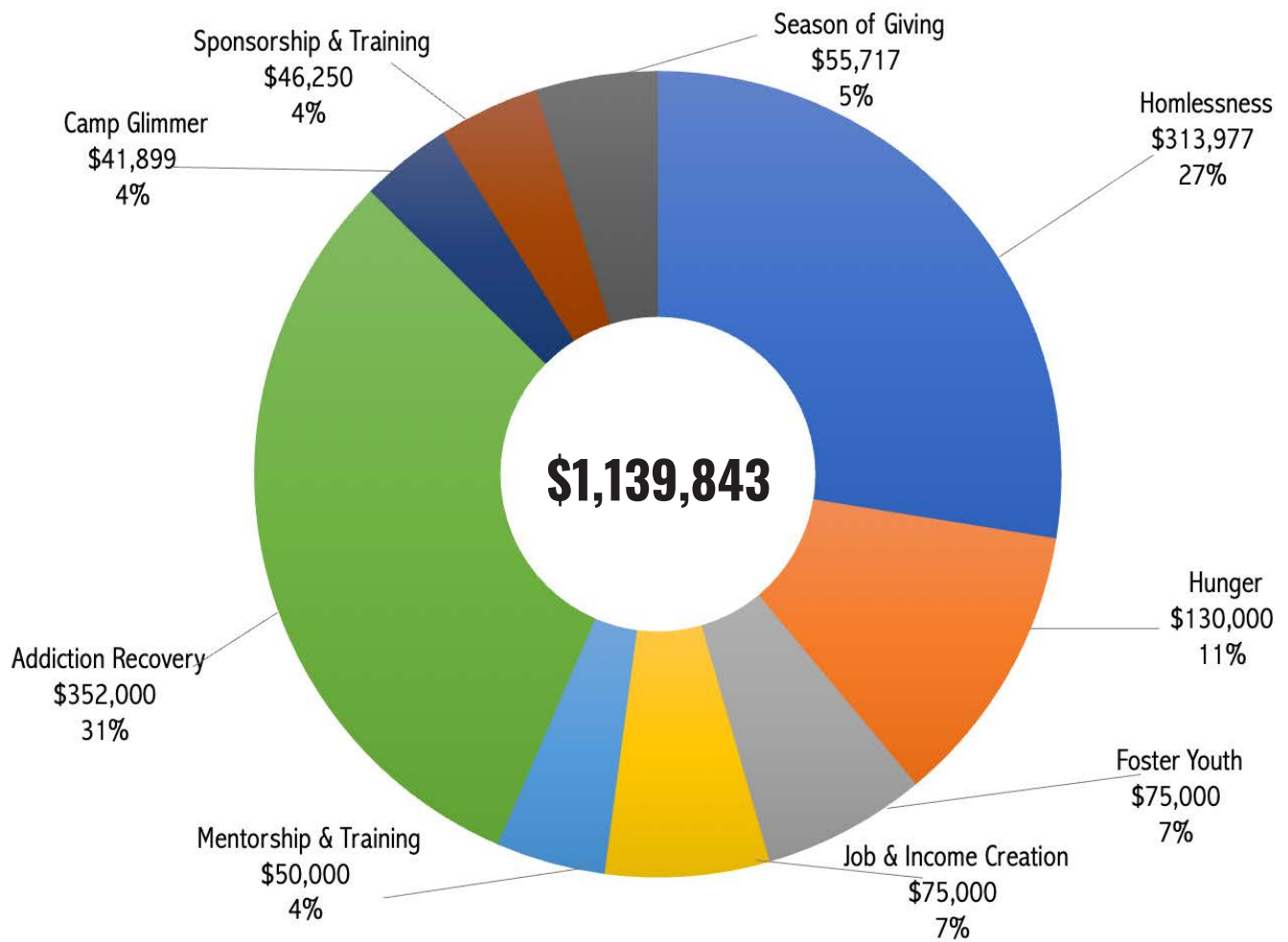


Photo Credit: Candlelight Ranch



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2021 SUMMARY OF FUNDING



2021 GRANTEE FUNDING

Funding Area	Grantees	Amount
Homelessness	Mission Accomplished	\$25,000
Homelessness	The Salvation Army Austin	\$25,000
Homelessness	Sunrise Community Church	\$25,000
Homelessness	Caritas of Austin	\$30,000
Homelessness	Hungry Souls, Inc	\$35,000
Homelessness	Lighter Loads	\$25,000
Homelessness	The Other Ones Foundation	\$148,977
Hunger	Austin Baptist Chapel	\$10,000
Hunger	Saffron Trust Women's Foundation	\$25,000
Hunger	Save The Food	\$25,000
Hunger	Our Shared Kitchen, Inc	\$20,000
Hunger	Jeremiah Program	\$25,000
Hunger	Meals on Wheels Central Texas	\$25,000
Addiction Recovery	The Phoenix-Austin	\$352,000
Job & Income Creation	Jails To Jobs	\$25,000
Job & Income Creation	Lifeworks	\$50,000
Foster Youth	Change1	\$25,000
Foster Youth	Learning Bridge	\$20,000
Foster Youth	Dress for Success	\$30,000
Mentorship & Training	Safe Alliance	\$50,000
Camp Glimmer	Candlelight Ranch	\$41,899
Sponsorship & Training	Community Sponsorships & Training	\$46,250
Holiday Season of Giving	Community Organizations	\$55,717
Total Summary of Funding		\$1,139,843



OVER THE PAST 18 YEARS,
GLIMMER|AUSTIN HAS INVESTED
OVER \$10 MILLION IN THE
COMMUNITY.

