



**City of Lago Vista
Charitable Contribution and Non-Profit
Funding Application**

Name of Agency/Organization: HopeAustin

Address: 13809 Research Blvd. Suite 810

City, State & Zip: Austin, Texas 78750

Contact Person: Monica von Waaden Title: Founder/Exec. Dir.

E-Mail Address: Monica@Hope4Austin.org

Phone: _____ Cell: 512-788-0978

Project Title: Opportunity Through Food Security

Amount of Funds Requested: \$7,500

Project Status: (check one) Existing Expansion New

Briefly describe the program:

HopeAustin is a local non-profit organization founded in 2016, endeavoring to ensure all Central Texas students are food secure.

HopeAustin provides opportunity through food security by ensuring local students are well nourished allowing them to reap the benefits of the quality education provided here in Central Texas. Currently, HopeAustin provides for over 5,200 students each week placing much needed nutritional support into the hands of students who rely upon us. We serve in seven local school districts on 120 campuses, including Lago Vista, Round Rock, Austin, Leander, Manor, Elgin & Taylor. Right here in Lago Vista we provide services during the school for students at LV Elementary, LV Middle and Lago Vista Intermediate. We are in communication with LV High School and plan to serve students there beginning school year 2025-2026.

Describe the services the program provides:

Our true partners are the school districts. At each of our campuses, school administrators/counselors identify the needs as they know their families and situations at hand. We also provide guidance on how to identify students who may be experiencing food insecurity. Once students are identified, we then deliver our weekend meal kits, daily snacks for the school day and additional support(as needed) so this much needed nutritional support may be placed in backpacks for students to take home. We operate nine distinct nutritional programs bringing vital nutritional support for both the school day and into the weekend

Our programs are as follows: Weekend Meal Kit Program, In School Snack Support, In School Fresh Food Snack Program, Shak Program, Family Meal Box Program, Fresh Food Family Program, Meal In A Bag Program, Teen Parent Program, Social Worker Assistance Program.

In the Lago Vista ISD we have been providing our weekend meal kits, school day snack support, and family box assistance. When we begin services at LV HS, we plan to add on our Shak Concept as well as our meal in a bag program.

If organization received support from the City of Lago Vista previously, provide the following information:

Year Received: _____ Dollar Amount: _____
Project Supported: _____

Charitable Contributions and Nonprofit Funding Request Application Questionnaire

The City strongly requests that all answers be typed.

Submission of a completed questionnaire is required for application consideration.

1. What is the agency's mission?

Providing Opportunity Through Food Security For Central Texas Students.

2. What are the goals of the program for which you are requesting funding?

In addition to keeping students well nourished allowing for best learning outcomes, we strive to say "YES" to all identified students in the LV schools. During this time of great change and high prices for all basic needs more students are being referred for our program. It is vital we have the ability to provide for each student who relies upon us for the nutritional support for proper physical/mental health, proper development and academic competence. Saying "YES" to administrators/counselors reaching out for more help is key.

3. How will you know you met these goals by the end of the funding year?

Through a survey to our educators, we measure the work of HopeAustin. From the 2024-2025 school survey, metrics demonstrate the nutritional support provided truly makes a difference. 97% of our educators indicate our services are needed on their campuses. 82% of our educators indicate our services improve student concentration during the school day. 86% of our educators indicate our services improve student behavior and reduce absenteeism. All with 0 wait lists-All identified students served.

4. Describe the impact of services on the community

HopeAustin works to make a positive impact, creating food security, bringing opportunity, instilling hope, dignity and respect of self; effectively changing the lives of students in our community.

During the school year 2024-2025 we provided 1,488 weekend student meal kits (10 food items per kit) plus 5,920 snacks for the school day.

The cost for the 2024-2025 school year \$7,803.50
The cost for the 2023-2024 school year \$6,587.10

Questionnaire Page 2

5. If the request for funding for the proposed fiscal year is an increase from the previous fiscal year, please justify such increase:

There has been an increase from the 2023-2024 school year to the 2024-2025 school year because more student were added to our service and we added our snack program to both the LV Elem and LV Intermediate campuses. Prior to the 2024-2025 school year, all three campuses we currently serve only received support through our weekend meal kit program.

As I mentioned above, in the 2025-2026 school year, we will be adding LV High School to our service.

6. Provide information on the overall financial position of the organization.

Include: annual budget, sources of funding (e.g., fund raisers, charitable donations)

HopeAustin is financially sound. Our current operating budge is \$550,000 which covers the food items we purchase through a co-op of similar organizations. Through this buying plan we purchase high quality, nutritious name brand products for our students. We do have separate revenue stream for our overhead including rent, utilities, insurance etc.

Funding Sources include grants from various organizations--The St. David's Foundation, The Moody Foundation, Austin Community Foundation, Many Family Foundations, etc.

We also partner with many local business and churches which keep us going.

We recently started a new initiative where we are having each of our campuses adopted. This plan will allow us to make the revenue needed to sustain our current needs as well as grow our areas of service. Our Adopt a Campus Campaign brings the opportunity for an individual, a group of families, business to cover the needs for all identified students on a campus for an entire school year for \$5,000.

Wanted to mention here that this school year, we also began collaborating with the Lago Vista Lion's Club. We shared all our knowledge on serving in the space. We have assisted them with purchasing, introducing Lions to school personnel and other vital aspects. The Lion's club support our students nutritionally during the breaks from school such as Holidays, and make a couple of deliveries during the summer months as well. Collaboration is key!!



**City of Lago Vista
Charitable Contribution and Non-Profit
Funding Application**

Submitted By: Monica van Waarden

MW

Signature of Executive Director (if applicable)

6/30/25

Date

Monica van Waarden

Printed Name of Executive Director (if applicable)

Approval:

MW6/30/25

Signature of Organization Representative

Date

Monica van Waarden

Printed Name Organization Representative

For Office Use Only

Date Received: _____ By: _____

Date Reviewed: _____ Reviewed By: _____

Submit for Board Review: Yes _____ Council Meeting Date: _____

Ineligible? Yes _____ Reason: _____

Council Decision: Approve \$ _____ Date: _____

Council Comments: _____

Finance Officer Reviewer: _____ Fund Distribution Date: _____

Hello,
Thank You For The Opportunity
To Share A Little Bit of
HopeAustin + The Impact
We Share In Community.

With Gratitude

MW

Hope Austin

Providing Opportunity Through Food Security

Monica von Waaden

512-788-0978

monica@Hope4Austin.org
www.hope4austin.org

