



Contact: Andi Brauer, Central Presbyterian Church, 512.565.4480
For Immediate Release

Homeless Advocacy Project Urges City and County to Prioritize Families, Shelter Access and Employment in 2025

Austin, Texas — June 2025 — Advocates will gather at the Travis County Commissioners Court Tuesday morning to ask for funding and action for Austin families experiencing homelessness. Family homelessness in the city has surged, with 1,284 households with children currently experiencing homelessness in Austin.

The Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP), a collaborative of Austin service providers and advocates, has released its 2025 Funding and Policy Priorities, urging the City of Austin and Travis County to invest in solutions that address the city's growing homelessness crisis.

Andi Brauer, a leader of HAP, explains, *"It is time to listen to the pleas of mothers who are reaching out every day to try and help their children, only to be turned away because all shelters are full. If Austin is going to make anything a funding priority, let's make sure we help children at-risk and fund additional emergency shelter beds for families."*

HAP is calling on leaders to fund 100 new emergency family shelter beds.

Other key recommendations include:

- **Increase workforce support** by launching a pilot downtown employment assistance program to connect unhoused Austinites with jobs.
- **Ensure our shelter system serves those at highest risk first** by implementing a prioritization system for shelter beds and using a real-time bed management tool
- **Protect rights and property during encampment cleanups** by ensuring 72-hour notices are given and sharing information with providers so more people get help.

With families now representing 20 percent of Austin's unhoused population, HAP stresses that long-term, cost-effective investments in emergency shelter, public health and employment pathways are essential to reducing homelessness.

For the full list of HAP's 2025 policy priorities or to schedule an interview, contact Andi Brauer at andi@cpcastin.org or 512.565.4480.