


# **2024-2025 GRANT CYCLE**



**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT NO.1**

**JANUARY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2024**



# CONTENTS

3.

Grant Administration

4.

2024-2025 Grant Summary

5.

Center for Transforming Lives  
Foundation communities

6.

Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas  
Grace After Fire

7.

Houston Area Women's Center  
My Possibilities

8.

Panhandle Community Services  
Pockets Change

9.

RAISE Texas  
Region One Education Service  
Center



### **Grant Advisory Committee**

Laura Rosen, Consumer Advocate Representative  
Roselyn Morris, Finance Commission Representative  
Andrea Herrera, Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending  
Laura Nassri Warren, Finance Commission Representative  
Linda Davis-Demas, Financial Education Consultant

### **Grant Coordinator**

Treshayla Wilson, Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner

### **2024-2025 TFE Grant Recipients**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Center for Transforming Lives       | Financial Coaching                     |
| Foundation Communities              | Adult Financial Education & Capability |
| Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas      | K-12 Financial Education & Capability  |
| Grace After Fire                    | Adult Financial Education & Capability |
| Houston Area Women's Center         | Financial Coaching                     |
| My Possibilities                    | Adult Financial Education & Capability |
| Panhandle Community Services        | Adult Financial Education & Capability |
| Pockets Change                      | K-12 Financial Education & Capability  |
| RAISE Texas                         | Financial Coaching                     |
| Region One Education Service Center | Adult Financial Education & Capability |

# 2024-2025 Grant Summary

The Texas Financial Education Endowment awarded 10 organizations an aggregate amount of \$735,700 in funds for program activities related to the 2024-2025 grant cycle. These organizations promote and strengthen financial education and capability across Texas.

During the first reporting period (January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024), grant funds were used to provide more than 2,000 hours of direct financial education training to over 1,900 Texas consumers through group presentations and one-on-one financial coaching sessions.

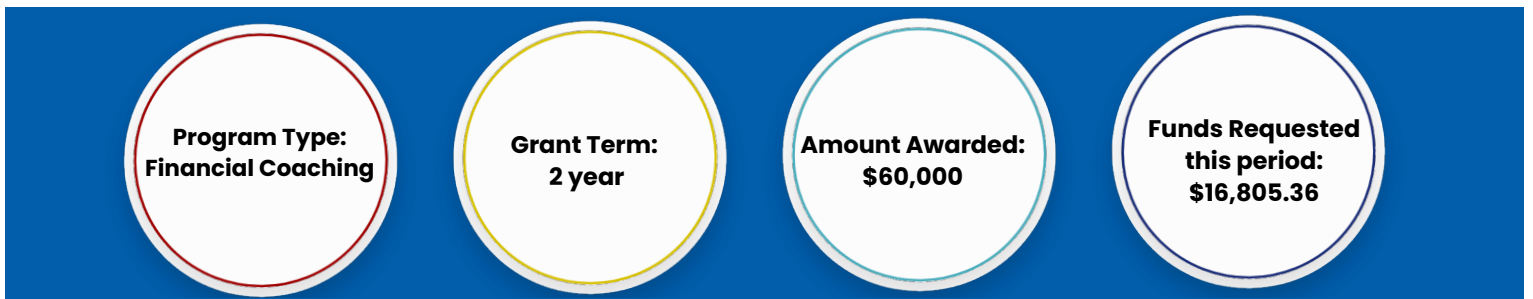
|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Amount Awarded</b>  | <b>\$735,700</b>    |
| <b>Reimbursement Requests (No.1 January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024)</b> |                     |
| Center for Transforming Lives  | \$16,805.36         |
| Foundation Communities   | \$18,065.95         |
| Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas                                       | \$5,539.82          |
| Grace After Fire   | \$19,748.74         |
| Houston Area Women’s Center  | \$13,937.84         |
| My Possibilities   | \$5,774.00          |
| Panhandle Community Services   | \$0.00              |
| Pockets Change   | \$22,631.79         |
| RAISE Texas  | \$11,393.56         |
| Region One Education Service Center                                  | \$0.00              |
| <b>Total Requested Amount for Reimbursement No.1:</b>                | <b>\$113,897.06</b> |
| <b>Total Requested Amount to Date:</b>                               | <b>\$113,897.06</b> |
| <b>% of Funds Expended to Date:</b>                                  | <b>15.4%</b>        |
| <b>Amount of Funds Remaining:</b>                                    | <b>\$621,802.94</b> |

# **Center for Transforming Lives**



The goal of the Center for Transforming Lives Financial Coaching program is to improve the overall short-term and long-term financial health of the participants and their families as evidenced by achieving objectively measured financial indicators. By providing women and families with financial coaching and access to CTL's comprehensive wrap around services, Center for Transforming Lives aims to disrupt the generational cycle of poverty and launch thousands of families upon the path of financial independence.

Center for Transforming Lives' greatest success this reporting period is the participant's ability to create upward mobility for their families through increased income. On average, financial coaching participants increased their monthly income by \$1,500. This was accomplished through 186 hours of one-on-one, client led coaching.



# **Foundation Communities**



The purpose of Foundation Communities (FC) Financial Wellness programming is to provide low-income clients and their families with tools and support to build and strengthen their financial capability. The Financial Wellness programming is part of FC's Prosper Centers - a larger suite of services that includes Tax Help, College Hub and Health Coverage. Prosper Centers provide free tax preparation, support to enter and finance higher education, and enrollment in affordable health insurance programs, creating a one-stop-shop for services that create pathways toward greater financial health.

In the first reporting period, Foundation Communities provided expertise, support, and resources to 190 participants, with over 310 courses given. FC aimed for 50% of its clients to make progress toward self-identified goals related to debt, credit, saving, and budgeting. The organization surpassed their goal, with 64% of clients making progress during this reporting period.



# Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas



The mission of Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (GSNETX) is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Their financial literacy program is designed to empower girls to take the lead in their lives as they learn about personal finances through age-appropriate activities. GSNETX plans to engage 5,000 girls (in grades K-8) in a comprehensive development program focused on personal financial education. The ultimate goal will be to prepare girls for the future by providing hands-on activities to build skills and knowledge for managing their personal finances.

During the reporting period, GSNETX directly trained 53 individuals through Girl Scout Cookie Rally Curriculum Development. These events focus on budgeting, decision-making, money management and other TEKS-aligned financial literacy topics.



# Grace After Fire



Grace After Fire (GAF) recognizes that there is a growing need for assistance overcoming barriers frequently encountered by women veterans. GAF's mission is to provide the means for women veterans to gain knowledge, insight and self-renewal. GAF's goal is to invest in the future of women veterans by giving them a direct path from active duty to transition the whole family into their next chapter in their new community. The organization seeks to provide collaboration with financial educators from FDIC certified professionals to provide financial education through FDIC Money Smart Program.

GAF has processed financial aid for 55 women veterans and their families. The organization has provided 915 direct contact hours through financial education workshops with professionals.



# Houston Area Women's Center



The Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC) serves thousands of women, children and families each year escaping domestic violence, sexual assault or sex trafficking. For survivors of domestic violence, financial abuse is the largest barrier to achieving self-sufficiency. The goal of HAWC's Economic Empowerment Program is to advance the financial capability of 225 survivor participants. A key program objective is to support survivors with information and tools to empower them to establish self-determined lives and financial independence, free from violence.

During the first reporting period, HAWC provided financial coaching to 151 clients, with over 385 hours of direct interaction with participants. 100% of these clients successfully created a budget during their coaching session.



# My Possibilities



My Possibilities (MP) seeks to pioneer a financial education program for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) and their caregivers. Traditional financial education often falls short in addressing their unique learning needs. MP's program features tailored curriculum, one-on-one support, and caregiver involvement with a focus on essential financial life skills through adaptive learning methods. MP will collaborate with its Employment Innovations School that helps adults with IDD complete vocational training and gain integrated employment at a competitive wage.

Throughout this reporting period, My Possibilities successfully served 62 unique adults with IDD. Additionally, MP developed a comprehensive curriculum designed for a 13-week semester, with each class meeting weekly for 1.5 hours.



# Panhandle Community Services



The mission of Panhandle Community Services (PCS) is to work as a community leader and partner in the Texas Panhandle to change the lives of low-income people by bridging the gap from poverty to self-sufficiency. PCS's Financial Empowerment program seeks to provide robust, comprehensive financial education to their predominantly low-income client base across a diverse array of programs, specifically clients within the EITC/VITA tax preparation programs, and in Family Development programs. In conjunction with the Career Coaching program, PCS seeks to serve 150 individuals/families through standalone, robust financial empowerment programs within the first year.

There is no activity to report this period; however, Panhandle Community services is on track to begin its initiatives next reporting phase.



# Pockets Change



Pockets Change's mission is to build intergenerational financial resilience with students, families, and educators. Pockets Change believes financial education is about much more than numbers, it's a means for self-care and social justice. In partnership with Here for Good Texas and Morphing Minds, Pockets Change seeks to increase financial education in Texas. Over the grant period, Pockets Change plans to empower a minimum of 400 students through in-person and virtual workshops. Its award-winning Hip Hop & Finance online curriculum and virtual professional development will be accessible to all Texas educators. This program will give Texas students access to personal finance education, impetus to discuss their relationship with money, and incentive to share their feelings with other youth as they prepare songs for the annual Hip Hop FinFest.

Pockets Change anticipated reaching 200 students during the first reporting period and were able to exceed that significantly. They reached 903 students through school programs and community events.





RAISE Texas (RAISE) is a coalition of 1,500 organizations and individuals united around the common goal of advancing equitable policies and programs that foster financial security and economic mobility for low- and moderate-income Texans. With support from TFEU in 2022, RAISE Texas developed a curriculum to help coaches provide individualized support for clients, building financial subject matter expertise along with an understanding of the racial wealth divide, income and wealth inequity, and systemic barriers. This grant will use that curriculum to train 150 financial coaches on Practicing Financial Wellness Through a Cultural Lens and develop, update, and distribute two tools to help consumers navigate short-term loans and credit building.

This reporting cycle, RAISE has offered 10 online training sessions totaling 14 hours of training, including one hybrid in-person and virtual session. They have exceeded their 2024 goal by training 101 financial coaches. RAISE has also distributed an updated credit-building resource designed to help Texans with no credit or poor credit to 52 organizations working to improve financial stability and resilience.



## **Region One Education Service Center**



Region One Education Service Center delivers training and consulting assistance to thousands of educators and provides a wide range of services to local school systems to enhance the education they are providing students at the local level. Through the Region One Money Empowerment program, 1,500+ at-risk college adults and parents will receive financial training. The overall program goal is to assist participants in either reducing credit card/loan debt or improving their credit score within a four-month time frame.

Notable progress includes successful execution of 25 scheduled college classroom visits. Region One successfully reached and provided services to 323 adults all within their targeted demographic. The program encouraged 133 individuals to open savings accounts, promoting financial stability and future planning among participants.

