

# Texas Health Community Impact Grant - 2023/24

WISE COUNTY

BRIDGEPORT 76426 and CHICO 76431

## Vision. Leadership. Teamwork.

Texas Health Community Impact uses cross-sector collaborative grants to address local community needs in resourceful and innovative ways. This data-driven, outcomes-focused approach pinpoints North Texas ZIP codes most in need of our help and drives how we engage with leaders, influencers and existing resources within those underserved areas. Together, we're responding to health disparities, eliminating root causes of chronic disease and providing tools that instill life-long health and well-being.

## Collaborating Organizations

Bridgeport Police Department

Chico Independent School District

Children's Advocacy Center for North Texas

Lord Send Me Ministries

Wise County Sheriff's Office

## To join the cause or for more information, please contact:

Melanie Nieswiadomy,  
Program Manager

Parker and Wise Counties  
Community Health Improvement  
Texas Health Resources

MelanieNieswiadomy@  
TexasHealth.org  
682.236.7493

## You can help.



To be part of the change, scan this QR code or [click here](#).

## Closing the Gap: A Collaborative Response to Essential Needs in Wise County

### About this Grant

Wise County lacks basic infrastructure to manage mental health crises that lead to violence in the home and an unstable community. The jail is the largest mental health provider in Wise County and as a result many people remain untreated until they commit a crime. Bridgeport Police Department, along with Wise County Sheriff's office, will develop a Mental Health Unit composed of both a trained police officer and social worker to specifically respond to those calls and provide supportive resources.

The Children's Advocacy Center for North Texas (CACNT) will develop a Training Institute to equip law enforcement and mental health providers in best practices and educational programs. Local food pantries and school districts will address food insecurity through the expansion of existing programs in local organizations and schools.

### Program Milestones

#### To achieve by December 2024

- Address mental health calls in Bridgeport and Chico.
- Educate teachers and provide services to students in kindergarten through fifth grade about mental health.
- Implement a training program for both law enforcement and mental health providers.
- Address food insecurity.



## Addressing a Gap

Most communities are touched by mental health crises, and those in North Texas are no exception. Locally and nationally, communities face an unprecedented rise in anxiety, depression, family violence, and suicide rates. In the face of those statistics, communities are working to identify innovative approaches to combatting behavioral health issues and the social determinants of health, including food insecurity, and a lack of employment, healthcare, and transportation, that so often accompany them.

In Wise County, the Closing the Gap grant will create and implement a mental health unit through the Bridgeport Police Department and provide a trauma-informed response to mental health in the cities of Bridgeport and Chico. The grant also supports creating a Training Institute, which will equip law enforcement, educators, mental health providers and other community leaders in the best practices for combatting mental health issues.

"The Children's Advocacy Center for North Texas is very excited about this opportunity to strengthen the skills of our child abuse professionals around the region," said Kristin Howell, CEO of the Children's Advocacy Center, which will develop and lead the Training Institute. "Our departments are growing, and we have seen turnover over the past few years; making training easily accessible is going to help all of us help kids better!" By establishing resources throughout the community, the goal of the grant is to stop mental health crises before they begin.

**\$896,500**

Amount awarded or the 2023/24 grant cycle as a result of an innovative concept and potential reach.

[TexasHealth.org/Community-Impact](https://TexasHealth.org/Community-Impact)



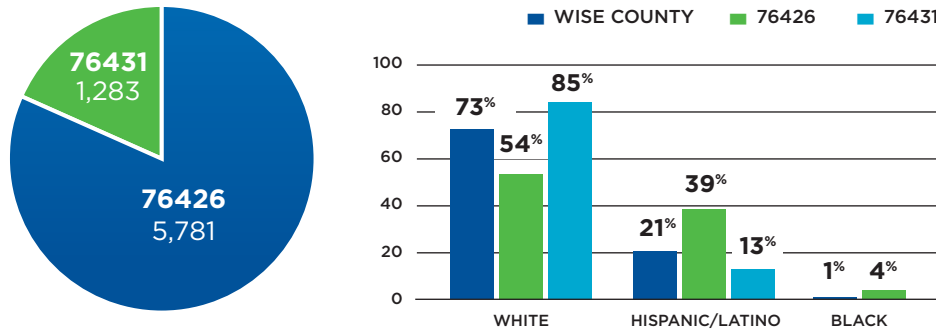
As an example of the data used to analyze the ZIP codes and determine areas of focus in each Texas Health Community Impact region, the following information is a snapshot for Bridgeport 76426 and Chico 76431.



**FOR ADDITIONAL DATA AND DEFINITIONS**  
Review the Community Health Needs Assessment by scanning the QR code or visiting [TexasHealth.org/CHNA](https://TexasHealth.org/CHNA)

## DEMOGRAPHICS

Of the **71,714** Wise County residents, **10%** reside in high-need ZIP codes.

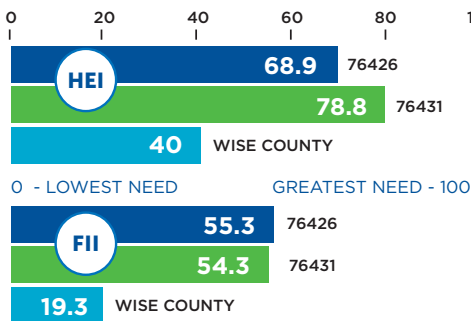


Source: CensusReporter.org

## SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. Through Texas Health Community Impact grants, we're trying to address the whole person—not just a disease.

Source: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/social-determinants-of-health>



Source: 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

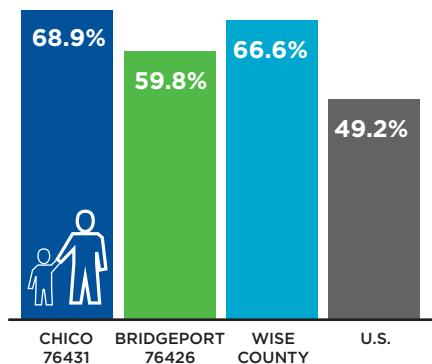
### The Health Equity Index (HEI)

HEI, formerly, the SocioNeeds Index, incorporates estimates for different social and economic determinants of health that are associated with poor health outcomes.

### The Food Insecurity Index (FII)

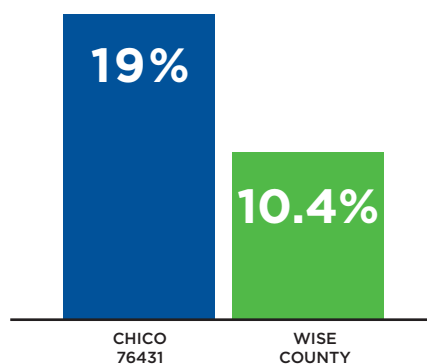
A measure of food access that is correlated with economic and household hardship.

### Households With Children Receiving SNAP

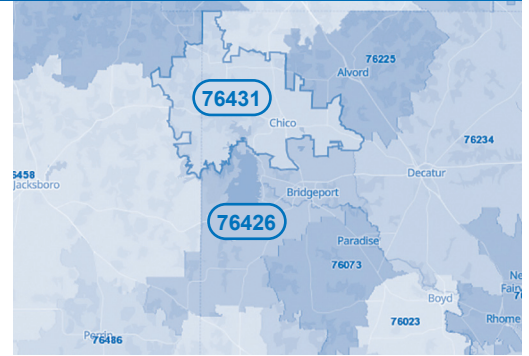


Sources: HealthyNTexas.org; USDA.gov; Tea.Texas.gov

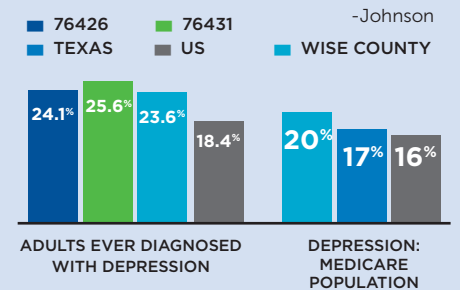
### Percentage of People Living Below the Poverty Level



Source: 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment



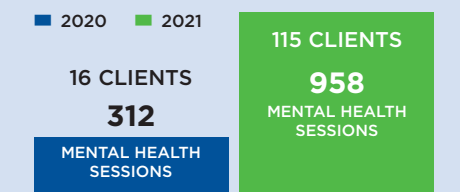
"Wise County Jail is the largest provider of mental health beds in the county. More than 85% of all inmates in the Wise County Jail are there because of substance use disorder related charges"



**Mental Health Provider Rate for Wise County: 30 per 100,000**

Bridgeport Police Department reports over 189 arrests from 2021-2022, including possession, manufacturing and sale of narcotics as well as alcohol. Mental health and substance use disorders are correlated with the disproportionately large number of child abuse and neglect cases, as reported by Ashley Enslow at Children's Advocacy Center for North Texas (CACNT). CACNT has provided over 700 services to families impacted by these cases.

### Identified Cases - 2020 VS. 2021



Sources: 2022 Texas Health Community Health Needs Assessment; HealthyNTexas.org



[TexasHealth.org/Community-Impact](https://TexasHealth.org/Community-Impact)