



### Street Youth Christmas Party

On Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, LINC Austin Outreach celebrated with our annual Christmas Dinner and Party. We had 52 homeless and street youth in attendance, and 23 volunteers. This was our largest attended party to date. Participants enjoyed a warm meal with turkey and all the sides, gifts overflowing, and a fun and safe atmosphere surrounded by friends. We are so thankful to our partners at St. Austin's Catholic Church, and Lifeworks for helping us provide a joyful celebration with Christ's love at the center. A big thank you to our volunteers for helping with set-up, meal preparation, clean-up, and for their kind hearts as they spent time with those we serve. We could not have done this without our faithful volunteers. It was a privilege and a blessing to end 2017 celebrating the birth of Baby Jesus!



### **LINC Austin Outreach is officially a Not-for-Profit**

This Summer, LINC Austin Outreach was approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization, and is recognized by the State of Texas and the Federal government as LINC Austin Outreach. Glory and Praise to God!

# LINC Austin Outreach Prayers

## Prayers

BT- Continued courage and strength as he transitions. Strong support system. Open doors for employment. Continued healing of family relationships.

KW- Direction as she seeks employment and childcare for her 4-month old baby. Comfort as she transitions and adjusts to housing.

DA- Doors to be opened for housing. Continued guidance as he makes good choices for the future.

TH- Healing in relationships, peace in difficult decisions. God's guidance as she maps her future.

AE- God's guidance in helping her make better decisions, and courage to enter scheduled treatment in January 2018. Health for and her unborn child.

DB- Comfort and peace. God's guidance as he awaits a decision about disability income. Safety and protection.

RH- Courage and strength to complete treatment, healing in health issues, comfort and peace as he heals in body and mind.

JM- Safety and protection, wisdom and clarity as he navigates college classes, peace and guidance for future decisions, God's guidance and opened doors in finding a safe place to live.

## HMIS

The last six months have certainly been a time of growth and change for LINC Austin Outreach. Homelessness in Austin is changing and growing, creating a greater need for advocates for those living on the street to provide Christ's mercy. In July, LINC Austin was asked to join the Travis County Continuum of Care, a partnership of city, county and private organizations working in cooperation with HUD. This partnership of agencies is an elite group that provides trusted and consistent care to help end community homelessness. This new partnership has allowed LINC Austin to utilize a HUD-sponsored software program that connects us with other agencies, offers more resources, and is a data collecting and reporting program. This software program will open up opportunities for better networking, validity and credibility in our sector, and provide a wealth of data reporting and collection visible to HUD, and to use as we apply for funding. We are so thankful to God for leading us on this path, and opening an opportunity to LINC Austin to be Christ's hands and feet in this platform. We look forward to seeing God's plan unfold as we look to the future.

This program has given numbers to the work that has been accomplished over the last 6 months. LINC Austin is in active case management with 56 clients. And in the last month has offered 330 individual services to clients. This includes 130 people served at community meals, basic food/hygiene on the streets, mental health appointments, doctor/dentist appointments, housing deposits, utility assistance, rehab, clothes, sleeping bags, back packs, basic needs, and many other opportunities that develop and reinforce the relationships being built.



### Support LINC Austin Outreach Ministry

As LINC Austin Outreach continues to grow and create a footprint for Christ in the City of Austin, the needs of ministry are growing rapidly. The number of those we serve has tripled in the last quarter, LINC Austin is developing a solid reputation for caring for the hopeless.

It is with your support and involvement that God continues to open doors for LINC Austin to share the love and light of Christ wherever we walk.

To support LINC Austin click on the link below

<http://lincaustin.org/donate>

Send donations by mail to:

LINC Austin  
PO Box 16699  
Austin, Texas 78761

### Thrivent Choice Dollars

We are pleased to announce that LINC Austin Outreach is now eligible to receive your donations through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice® program.

By directing Choice Dollars®, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable grant funding from Thrivent.

If you have Choice Dollars available to direct, please consider directing to them to LINC Austin Outreach. We plan to use Thrivent Choice grant funding to continue to grow programming for those we serve. We will provide you with updates in the coming weeks.

To learn more about Thrivent Choice, visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice). Or call Thrivent at **800-847-4836**, and say "**Thrivent Choice**" when prompted.