



BASIC NEEDS

Basic Needs are the absolute minimum resources necessary for long term physical and mental well-being. Most traditional lists of basic needs are limited to food, water, shelter and clothing. But realistically, a more accurate list would also include a clean living environment, education, healthcare, among others. There are countless nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies in the Austin area that offer services related to basic needs, but navigating them to locate services can be a daunting task.

211 of Central Texas offers 24/7 access to an enormous database of organizations and agencies that help with basic needs and many other resources. The 211 database is actively managed and routinely updated by Capital Area United Way to ensure that it is up to date. 211 is a free service that can be accessed by telephone by simply dialing "211" or through the internet at www.211centraltexas.org. On the phone, users will speak to a representative that will listen to what the caller's needs are, and provide referrals that are appropriate. Online, users can browse or search the database using keywords and topics, and print lists of organizations that meet their criteria.

The TCSO Victim Services Unit also maintains lists of agencies and organizations dedicated to basic needs and many other services. For more information or help from the Victim Service Unit, feel free to call (512) 854-9709.

Links

First Call For Help (Capital Area United Way): Dial 211
www.211centraltexas.org or www.unitedwaycapitalarea.org

Provides callers with information and referral to non-profit agencies and participating businesses based on individual resource needs