



Community Programs • Community Facilities Grant

## Sunshine House Receives Grant for Furnishings and Equipment

The Sunshine House in Alpine has been a place of comfort for those in need since 1977, and today it continues to serve those looking for a helping hand. This non-profit organization prepares and delivers an average of 140 meals each day for the Meals on Wheels clients. They also prepare and serve 30 to 40 meals each day for qualified congregate clients. In addition, the facility serves as a place where seniors, disabled and handicapped gather to socialize. The mission of the Sunshine House is to provide quality nourishment and social enrichment in the lives of seniors, the homebound and disabled in Alpine, Texas.

Sunshine House was located in a building that was 119 years old, in poor condition, and too small for their needs. The TV room was too small with limited seating. Only three computers fit in the computer room. Water leaked in one office and the game room. The building had lighting, heating and cooling issues. The kitchen was at full capacity with no room to expand meal services. In addition, the building did not meet the federal or state laws with regard to handicap accessibility which is serious for a facility whose purpose is to serve the elderly and handicapped.

In March 2017, Sunshine House was able to purchase a new building in an ideal location for their clients. They soon began to raise money and apply for foundation grants to remodel the building and purchase equipment. In January 2018, Sunshine House applied for a Community Facilities grant to help cover the cost of furnishings and equipment. As of July 5, 2018, Sunshine House had moved into the newly remodeled facility.

The \$50,000 Community Facilities grant was approved in April 2018. This grant helped purchase a tilt braising pan, kettle, hot plate, sandwich prep station, shelving for walk-in refrigerator & freezer, planetary mixer, shelving for pantry, step stool, fire extinguishers, salad bar and sneeze guard, dining room chairs, community room tables and chairs, food carts, and a storage building.

Because of many volunteers, generous contributions, foundation grants, and the community facilities grant from the USDA Rural Development, Sunshine House will be able to serve clients for many years into the future.



*The kitchen staff enjoy using new commercial grade equipment at the newly remodeled Sunshine House Senior Center in Alpine.*

**Obligation Amount:** \$50,000.00 Grant

**Date of Obligation:** 04/24/2018

**Congressional District:** Representative Hurd, District 23; Senators Cornyn and Cruz

**Partners:** Abell-Hanger Foundation, King Foundation, Permian Basin Area Foundation, James A. "Buddy" Davidson Charitable Foundation

**Demographics:** Alpine Population is 5,905

**Impact:** The Sunshine House will serve more clients in a larger newly furnished senior center.