

## SPCAA + Garza County $\rightarrow \rightarrow$

South Plains Community Action Association and its vital programs are at risk for being totally eliminated or severely defunded. These hurtful impacts go beyond program budgets. Here's some important data you should know living in Garza County.

## **Garza County Population**

#### 4,645 Total Population

18 percent of Garza County lives below the poverty line. That is approximately 1 in every 6 people you meet.

1,433 Households

Nearly **1 in 5** individuals in Garza County have **zero health coverage or insurance**.

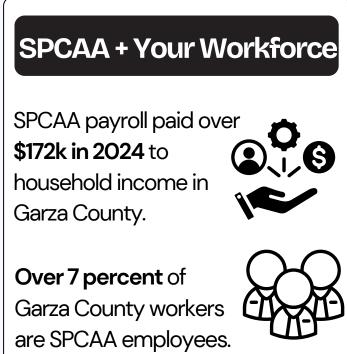
Data provided by the U.S. Census

## SPCAA Programs in Garza County\*

- Energy/Utility Assistance
- Head Start
- WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)
- Health Insurance Navigator Program
- Transition Out of Poverty (TOP) Program
- Child Care Services
- Workforce Solutions
- Weatherization Assistance

- Primary Health Care Program
- Project CHAMPS
- SPARTAN Transportation
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Income Tax Prep Assistance
- HOME Housing Program
- Section 8 Housing
- Multi-Family Housing Rental Program

#### \*ALL of the programs above are at risk of being eliminated



#### SPCAA + Your Residents

In 2024 alone, SPCAA spent over **\$86k in utility** assistance for families living in Garza County.



In 2024 SPCAA paid nearly **\$26k in snacks and meals** for Head Start students in Post.



#### SPCAA + Your County Seat

In 2024 alone, SPCAA paid nearly \$12k in medical assistance payments for Hometown Pharmacy in Post.



In 2024, **33 children in Post** relied on Head Start for **early education, health services, and family support.** 



# Who We Are

South Plains Community Action Association (SPCAA) is a non-profit organization that provides assistance in over 100 counties across Texas. Throughout all of our programs we are focused on enabling people to achieve self-sufficiency and escape poverty by providing them with the resources to achieve that goal. We provide assistance like job training, education and tuition assistance, child care, transportation, health services, and much more.

## **Picture This:**

You and your spouse are happily married with two children. Like so many other families across the United States, through no fault of your own, you fall on hard times and quickly slip into poverty. Being the hardworking parents that you are, you and your spouse weigh your options on how to escape the cycle of poverty. You decide the best long-term solution for you and your family is to go back to school and earn your CDL. While you search for options, your spouse thankfully has found employment at a local convenience store, but you know it is not enough. The CDL program you find is a 12-month contract out of state that would force you to leave your children and spouse behind, which would put an even bigger strain on you and your family. What do you do?

## SPCAA Provides Real Solutions

The scenario above is a **real** situation our client Ruben Ramirez found himself in. He and his wife Laura first visited SPCAA to receive utility assistance. Thanks to a dedicated center worker, the family also received assistance through our Transition Out of Poverty program along with our Workforce Solutions WIOA program which helped Ruben take local classes for his CDL so he wouldn't have to leave his family for 12 months.



By June of 2024, just a few months after reaching out to SPCAA, Ruben and Laura were at 125% the federal poverty level and both fully employed. By November of that same year, they were able to **purchase their first home.** 

SPCAA sees cases like these daily. We assist hardworking, **real** people to provide long-lasting, **real** change in their life.

### What You Can Do

In order to best protect vital SPCAA programs, we urge you to contact your local representative and ask them for their explicit support. "I am a constituent of Lynn County, and I am concerned about potential upcoming federal budget cuts to programs like [insert your choice of SPCAA programs]. This would be devastating for my community, and I respectfully ask that you oppose any proposed budget cuts to programs like these in the upcoming future."

#### Your Representatives

U.S. Congressman Jodey Arrington: (806) 763–1611 U.S. Senator John Cornyn: (806) 472–7533 U.S. Senator Ted Cruz: (214) 599–8749