

# 2027 Community Partner Budget Request

## Bell County Public Health District

Robert Kirkpatrick Jr, M.S., Executive Director  
Office: 254-532-9800

Estimated Funding request: \$384,996.05

Purpose of funding: Member contribution of the Bell County Public Health District Cooperative Agreement, this agreement covers 100% of salaries and 25% of benefits for Environmental Services; Retail Food and On-Site Sewer Facility divisions.



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### Services Provided:

Retail food and On-Site Sewer Facilities divisions provide the following services: retail food division conducts food establishment inspections, new retail food establishment plans reviews to ensure health code compliance, food handlers training and complaint investigations to ensure food safety for consumers. The OSSF division conducts plan reviews for septic systems issuing authorizations to construct once plans are approved, inspects septic installations and issues licenses to operate once systems pass inspections, thus protecting water aquifers, monitor compliance of OSSF, building permit requests, also assists with sub-division plan reviews, and sewage complaints.



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### Justification:

This funding ensures food and water safety for residents of the City of Killeen and Bell County. This is done by permitting 683 City of Killeen retail food permitted facilities and the OSSF division monitoring 1059 aerobic septic systems, approving 57 new septic systems and providing reviews for building permits.

The funding increase is driven by population growth and transitioning to FDA inspection standards which is more labor intensive, thus requiring more inspectors and a customer support staff. This year the addition of one retail food inspector thus increasing the budget request. Additionally, increased medical insurance costs have had an impact on the budget request.

