
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE **AND THE** LAND GRANT MISSION

Dr. Donald Kelm
Spring 2024

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



OUR VISION



OUR MISSION

- **Our vision** is to be the leader in providing science-based information and solutions in agriculture and health to Texans when and where they need us.

- **Our mission**, to work daily to make Texas better by providing innovative solutions at the intersection of agriculture, natural resources, youth and health, thereby improving the well-being of individuals, families, businesses and communities through education and service.

“The land grant university system is being built on behalf of the people, who have invested in these public universities their hopes, their support, and their confidence.”

Abraham Lincoln, upon signing the Morrill Act, July 2, 1862

SERVING YOU TODAY

TRUSTED RESEARCH
LOCAL EDUCATORS...
EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE
PROVIDING SOLUTIONS

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

NEED FOR A NEW TYPE OF COLLEGE

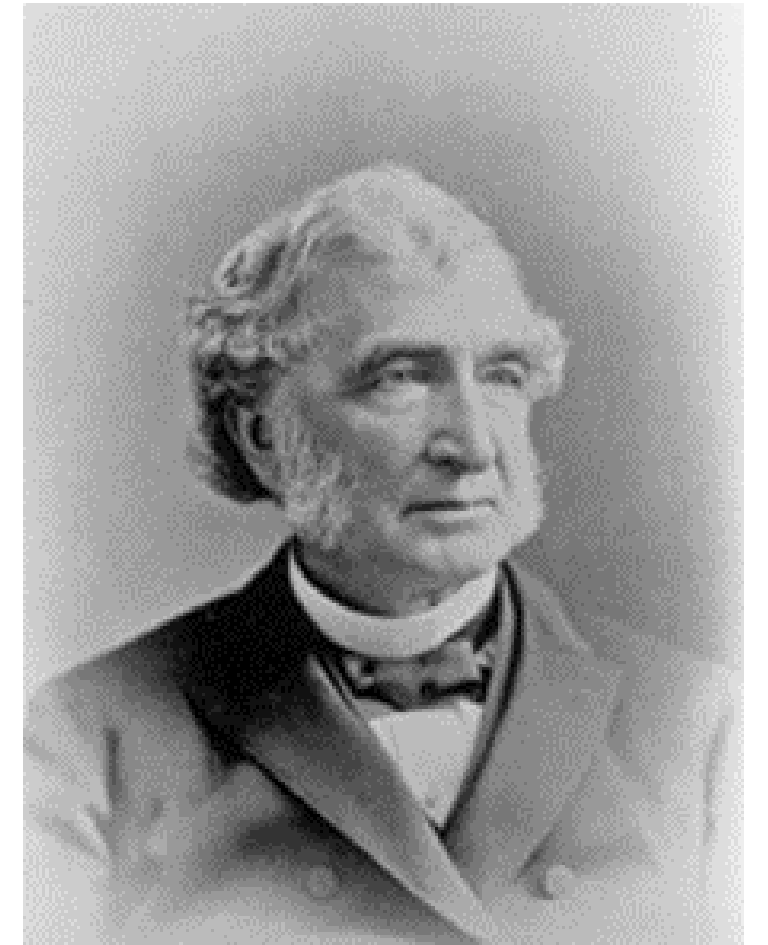
- First American colleges based on English university model
- Courses founded on the classics, preparing students for ministry, medicine and the law
- In the 1800's, agriculture was the nation's central pursuit
- Strengthening agriculture meant strengthening the nation

LEGAL FOUNDATION FOR **LAND-GRANT** UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

- **1862 Morrill Act** – Original Land Grant Legislation
- **1887 Hatch Act** – Experiment Stations
- **1890 Morrill Act** – Second Morrill Act, Historically African American
Serving Institutions
- **1914 Smith-Lever Act** – Cooperative Extension Service

MORRILL ACT OF 1862

- Provided a college for every State
- Main focus: Agriculture & Mechanic Arts
- Federal support was provided through income from public lands (thus the term “Land-Grant College”)
- **In Texas, this is Texas A&M**



LAND-GRANT COLLEGE SYSTEM

- **Two basic principles:**
- The right for all people to have equal access to education
- The idea of social service – the college must serve the needs of the people (common man)

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

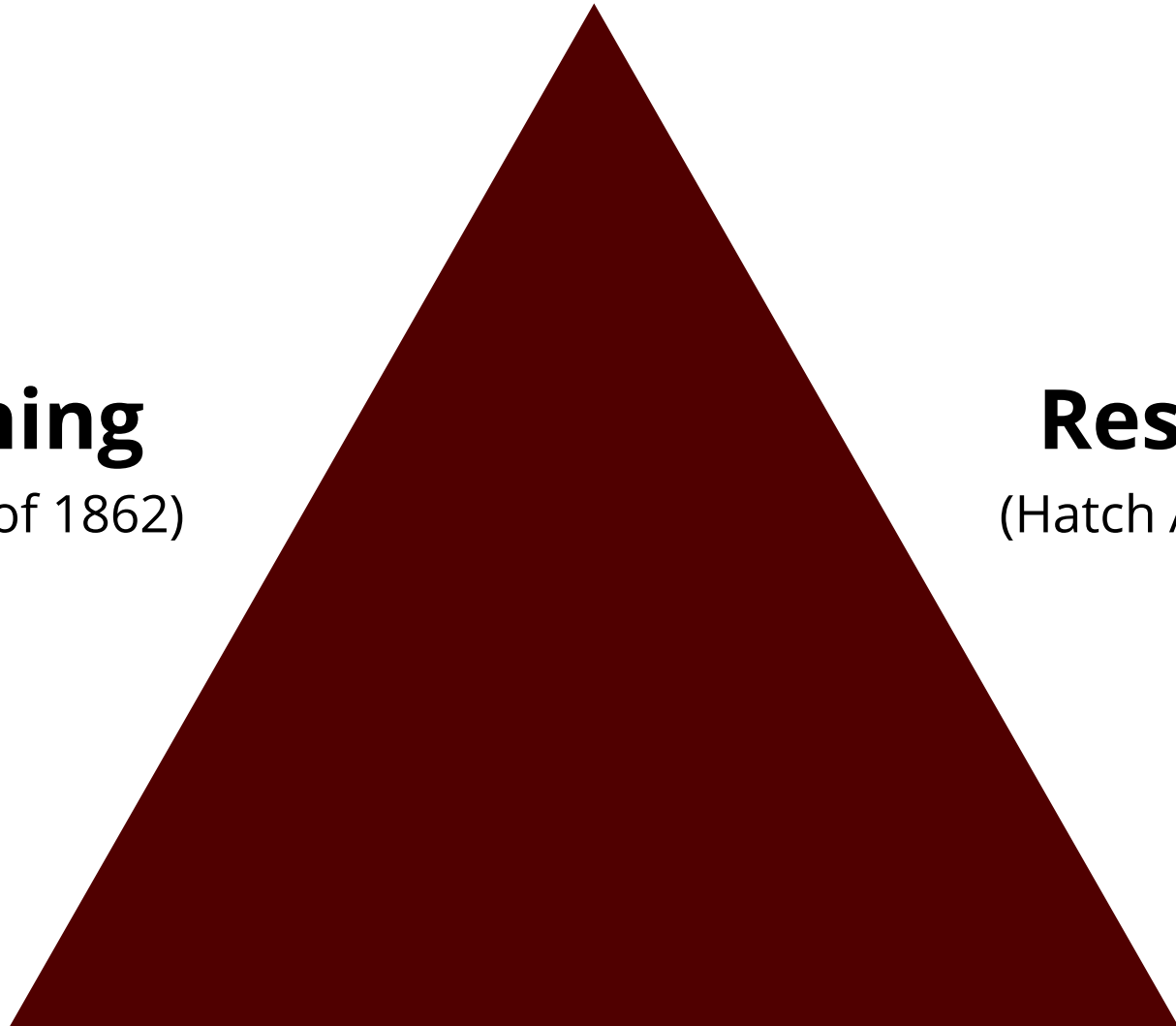


Teaching
(Morrill Act of 1862)

HATCH ACT OF 1887

- Established the Agricultural Experiment Stations at Land-Grant Colleges
- Agricultural research became a function of the Land-Grant University
- Demonstrations were used as a teaching methodology
- W.C. Stallings was the nations first County Demonstration Agent, hired in Texas in 1906

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



Teaching
(Morrill Act of 1862)

Research
(Hatch Act of 1887)

SECOND MORRILL ACT (1890)

- More funding for Land-Grant Colleges
- Designated 18 traditionally black institutions in the Southern states as a Land-Grant institution
- The 1890 Land-Grant university established in Texas was Prairie View A&M University

SMITH-LEVEL ACT OF 1914

- Provided cooperation of USDA & Land-Grant Colleges in conduction of agricultural Extension work
- It specified that the work "...shall consist of instruction and practical demonstration in agriculture and home economics to persons not attending or resident in said colleges"

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Teaching
(Morrill Act of 1862)

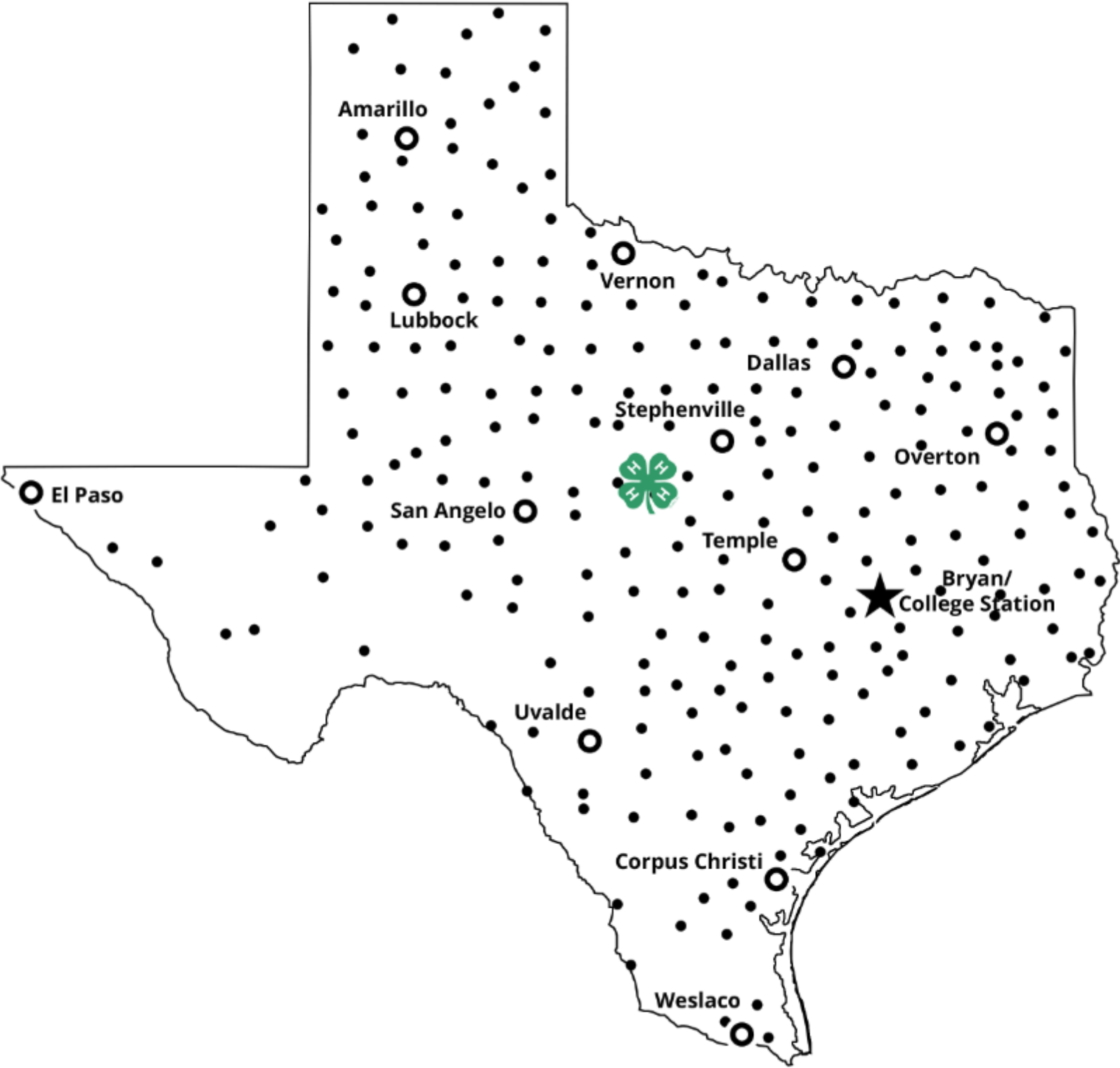
Research
(Hatch Act of 1887)

Extension
(Smith-Lever Act of 1914)

STATEWIDE PRESENCE

250 County Extension Offices
serving **254** counties.
County Partnership since 1917

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
headquarters at Texas A&M
University, College Station



MEMBER OF THE TEXAS A&M SYSTEM

- **Statewide Educational Agency**
- Part of Nationwide Cooperative Extension System
- Partnership – Federal, State, and County Government
- Address Needs of Local Residents
- Specialist Support

LEGAL AUTHORITY IN TEXAS

- **Texas Agriculture Code**

- **Section 43.031**

The commissioners court of any county may establish and conduct cooperative demonstration work in agriculture and home economics in cooperation with Texas A&M University.

LEGAL AUTHORITY IN TEXAS

- **Texas Agriculture Code**

- **Section 43.032**

- The demonstration work shall be conducted on terms and conditions agreed to by the commissioner's court and the agents of Texas A&M University*

- **Section 43.033**

- The commissioners court may employ any means and may appropriate and expend money as necessary to establish and conduct demonstration work under this subchapter.*

Educational Programs and Resources

83,500 Volunteers

21 million educational contracts



County Agents

Specialists



Needs Assessment

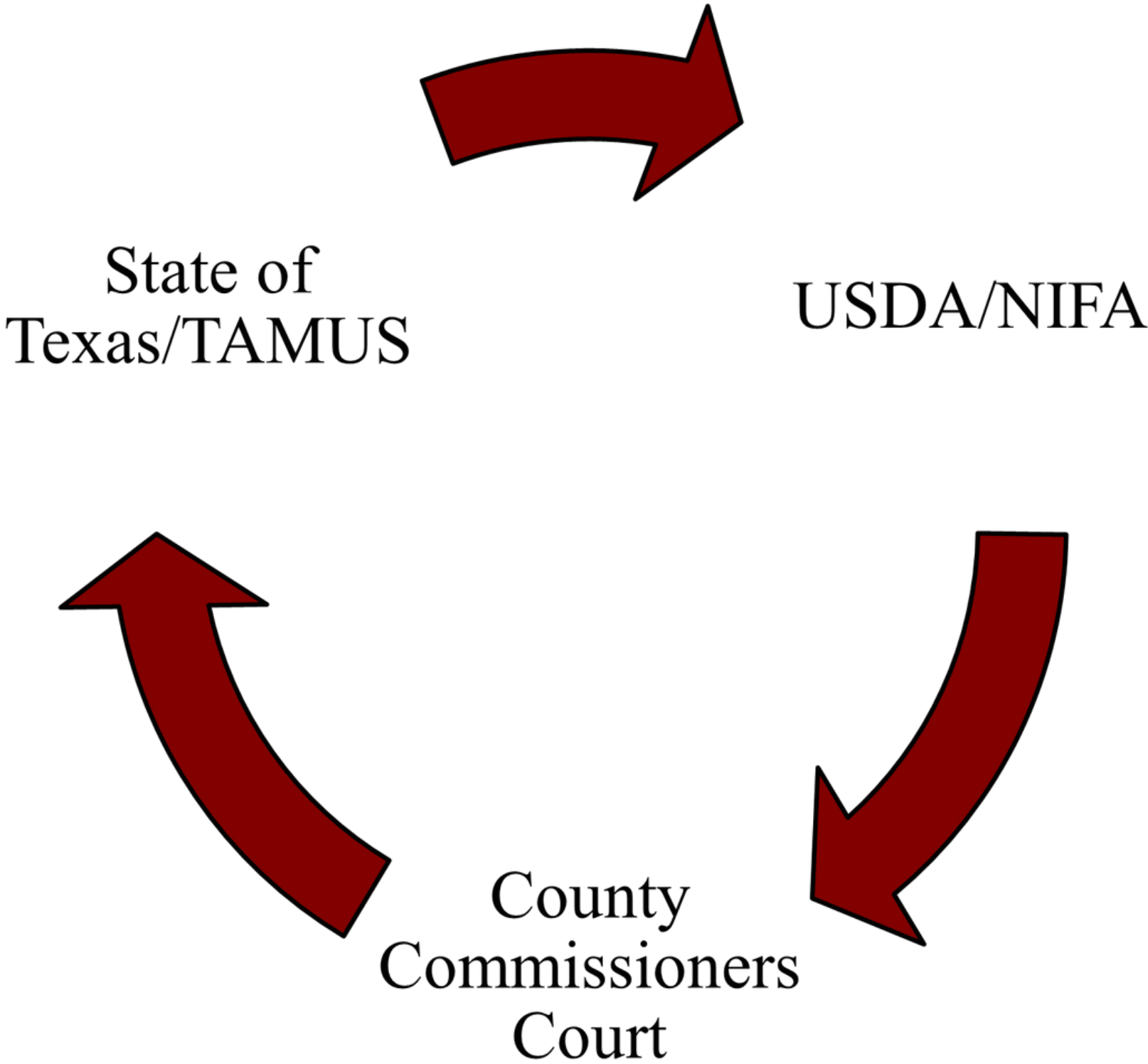
Clientele, Stakeholders

Collaborators and Researchers

Program Development and Delivery Strategy



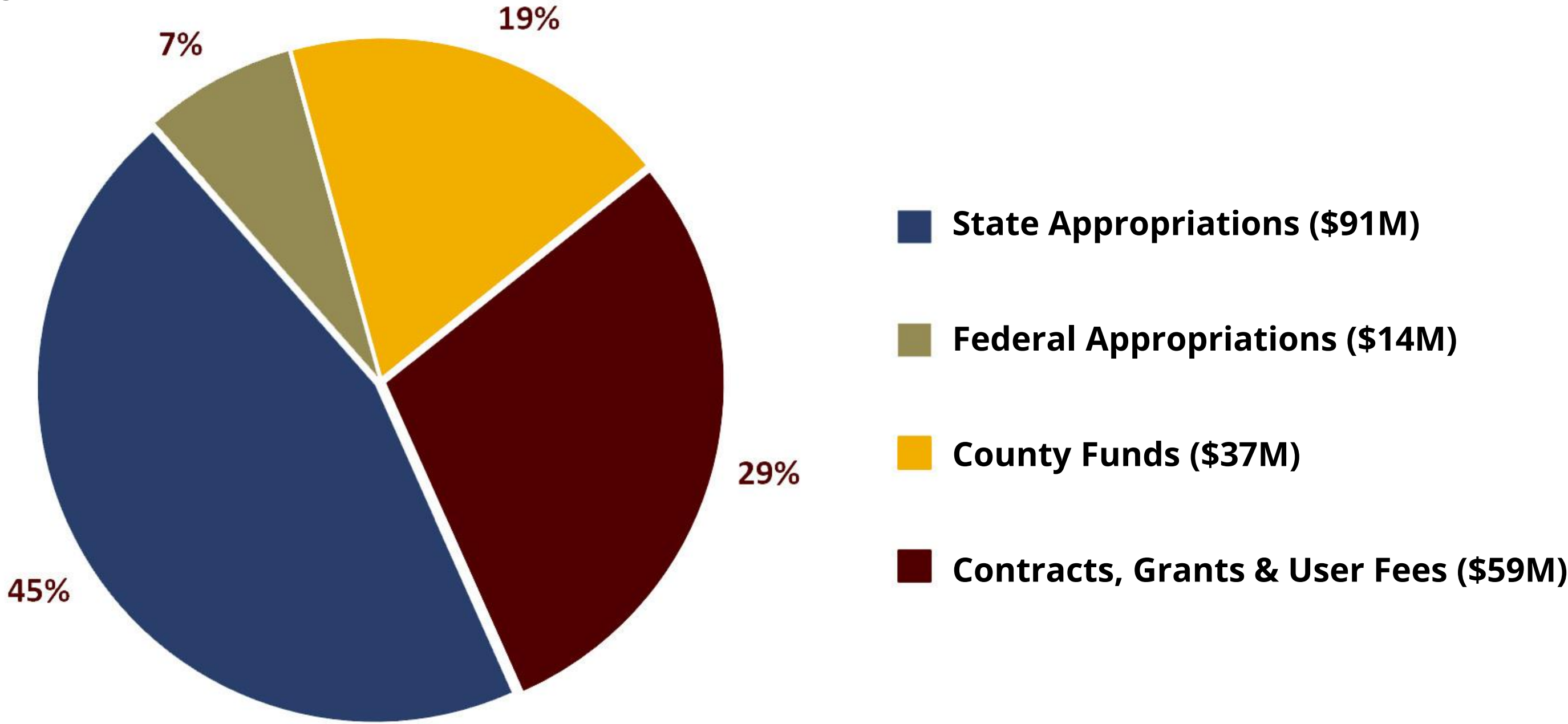
FUNDING SOURCE PARTNERSHIPS



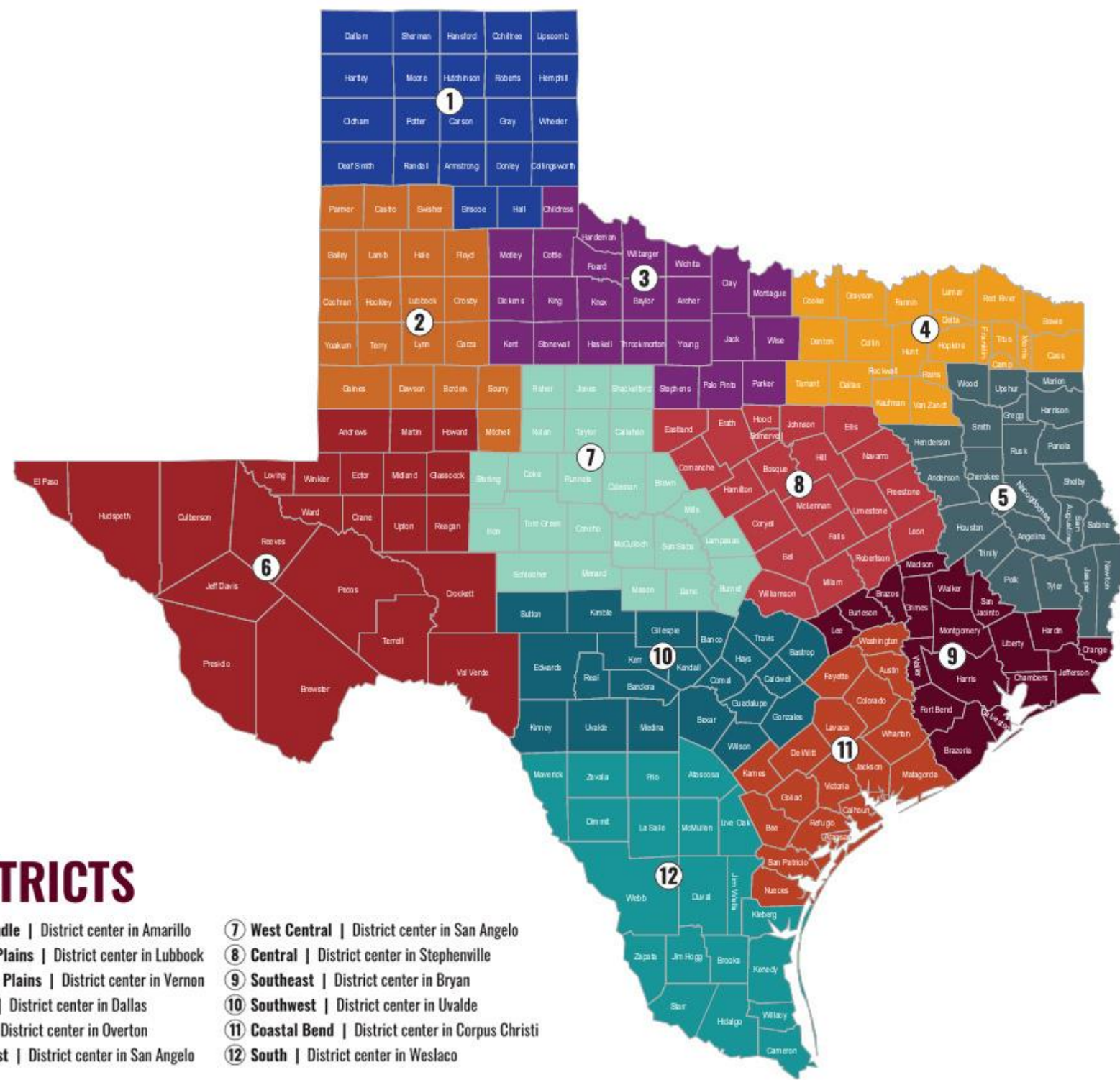
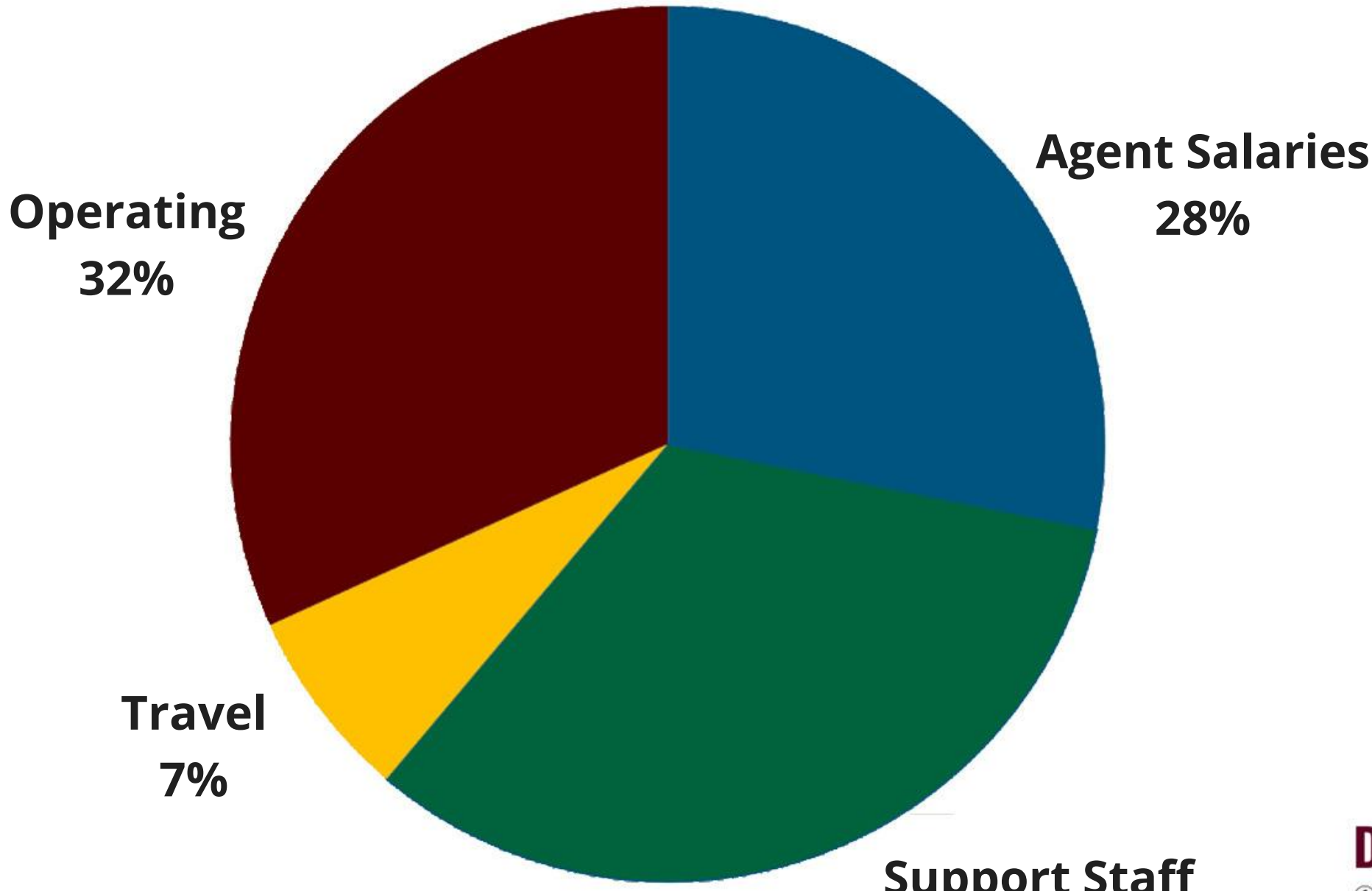
TOTAL ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS

Fiscal Year 2024

\$201 Million



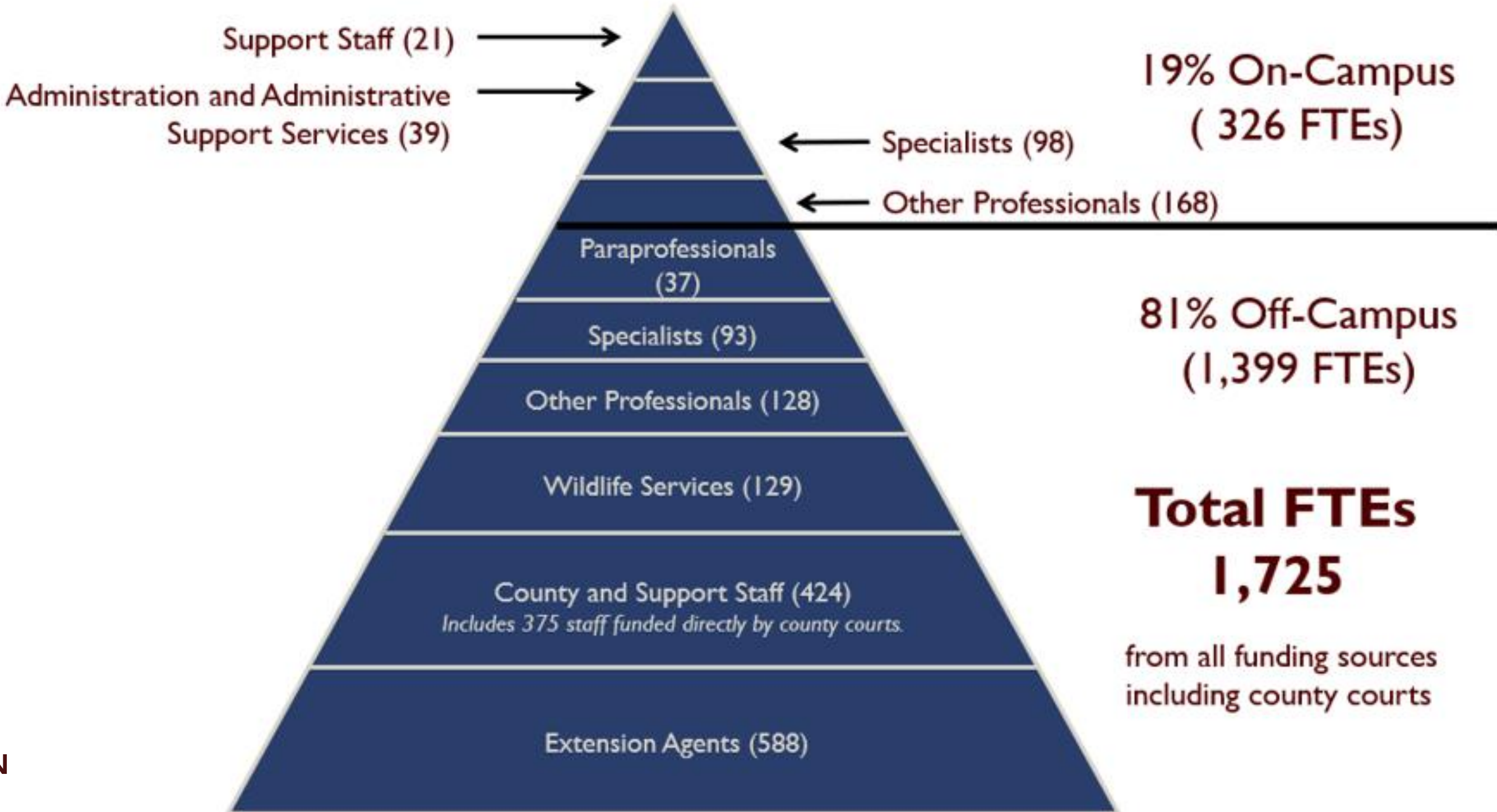
COUNTY CONTRIBUTIONS FY22 - \$37 MILLION



DISTRICTS

- ① Panhandle | District center in Amarillo
- ② South Plains | District center in Lubbock
- ③ Rolling Plains | District center in Vernon
- ④ North | District center in Dallas
- ⑤ East | District center in Overton
- ⑥ Far West | District center in San Angelo
- ⑦ West Central | District center in San Angelo
- ⑧ Central | District center in Stephenville
- ⑨ Southeast | District center in Bryan
- ⑩ Southwest | District center in Uvalde
- ⑪ Coastal Bend | District center in Corpus Christi
- ⑫ South | District center in Weslaco

FY24 STAFFING FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DELIVERY



EXTENSION'S ROLE IN THE COUNTY

- We are YOUR Education Department
 - Resource for your employees
 - Resource for your constituents
 - Resource for YOU
- We have direct and immediate access to the best educational resources available

ROLE OF COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

- **Local Resident Educator** Serving Youth and Adult Audiences
- Work with planning groups to ensure relevance
- All County Agents have 4-H responsibility

QUALIFICATIONS

- **Bachelors Degree Required**
- Preferred Degree in Agriculture, Health, Family and Consumer Science or Youth Development field
- Masters Degree preferred
- Individual Job Description for Each Position
- Performance Evaluations annually

HISTORIC PARTNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Extension	County
General human resources oversight	Office space, utilities, and supplies
Training and professional development	Office support staff
Educational resources	Travel and mileage funding
Support of departments and specialists	Salary support for Agents
Salary support of Agents	Other operational needs

FUTURE OF EXTENSION

- Growth in local 4-H program efforts
- Expanded role of trained volunteers
- Enhanced partnerships to expand our reach

QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your partnership and continued support of Extension.

THANK YOU

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