

Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)
Beecher Terrace Monthly Report
November 2022

Executive Summary:

Urban Strategies, Inc (USI) plays an integral part in building meaningful relationships with individuals and families to help create strong family or individualized development plans. This month, USI focused on one-on-one meetings with Beecher Terrace families to determine specific supportive services Beecher Terrace families need during this holiday season, and overall. This gave staff the opportunity to offer or connect families with additional supportive services offered by partners, and other community-based organizations. Additional supportive services included rental and utility assistance, turkey basket giveaway, and quality out of school and after school programming. Building meaningful relationships means supporting them at every part of their journey.

More specifically, supporting the youth on their pathway toward college and career readiness, inside and outside of the classroom. This means building meaningful relationships with teachers and parents, connecting students to mentoring programs and quality out of school after school programming or any other supportive services that would uplift them on their journey toward becoming career ready. Urban Strategies, Inc. collaborates with families to remove any barriers and systems that would impede on a resident's ability to thrive, or a child's ability to excel. Increasing access to resources for educational opportunities for all family members, small business investment, homeownership opportunities, and additional opportunities through partnerships with community-based organizations, neighborhood schools and businesses. This report will feature highlights from engagement and community partner building strategies such as monthly resident meeting survey, community engagement and marked progress across our focus pillars for the month.

There were several engagement strategies/activities executed this month. This month's events included:

Pet Care-A-Van (11/1/2022) This month USI partnered with the Kentucky Humane Society to host the Care-A-Van for Beecher Terrace residents, sponsored by MetLife. This event provided Beecher Terrace families access to the mobile service that provides free or affordable pet care including vaccines, heartworm tests, microchips, and flea/tick preventatives. There were 43 attendees.

Festival of the Arts (Held on 11/12/2022) The Beecher Terrace Girl Scout Troop #2516 participated in the 'Girl Scout Festival of the Arts'. The first event the girls attended was an event at Presentation Academy called "Beautiful Asia" in which the girl scouts learned about the history of Tai Chi and Ribbon Dance and participated in a group activity on both. The troop learned and practiced the movements of Tai Chi and next they performed a ribbon dance as a group. Next, the troop traveled to Atherton High School and attended the "Wonderful World" in which the girls were entertained by an Elite All-Girl Dance Team

that performed several dance ensembles set to music. Next, the “Elite All-Girl Dance Team” invited the girl scouts in attendance to come down onto the gym floor to participated in a dance routine as a collective group. The troop was also allowed to take photos with the members of the elite dance troop. The troop was dismissed to have lunch, which concluded the day. There were 4 total attendees.

Family Turkey Drive (Held on 11/18/2022) In collaboration with Black Soil of Kentucky, USI provided turkey baskets to eligible Beecher Terrace households donated by farmers from the organization, Black Soil of Kentucky. Special guests from the organization educated residents on how to properly prepare a turkey and store a turkey. There were 21 total attendees.

There are 418 households and 803 individuals (95% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services (increase of one HH from last month). USI has continued to exceed the goal of 80% engagement and will work to maintain 90% of eligible families enrolled and actively participating in supportive services. USI maintains focus on engaging and assessing residents to increase access and making viable connections to equitable opportunities that lead to thriving outcomes. USI continues to partner with both LMHA, MBM, and other property management services to fully support residents throughout the relocation, re-occupancy, and housing stability. This support includes providing accurate and up to date information, aiding with navigation of housing and utility support programs, and assisting with lease cancellations and other barriers that may prohibit reoccupancy.

Family Support Services - Outreach and Engagement:

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| Total Households in Grant Award 767 | Total Eligible Households 472 |
| # and % of HH and People in Case Management | 419 (92%) and 803 participants |

Updates on Outreach and Engagement: (Key meetings ad conducted to engage residents, increase residents in family support services or to support residents who are actively participating with USI: USI continues efforts to enroll and engage all eligible Beecher Terrace families. USI is maintaining a 92% enrollment rate of eligible households. Implementing strategies that include outreach to inactive households, reactivating original BT households and enrolling new residents. Each month USI conducts various outreach strategies to engage and inform residents. Per request of Beecher Residents, each month USI will partner with a community resource to host and facilitate an event. Also, to increase accessibility, USI staff and partners continue “Pop-Up” sessions outside, nearest the family homes and high traffic zones on site. Pop Ups will feature resources and opportunities in all 5 service pillars. Such strategies include:

- 1) Providing a monthly calendar of meetings and events that are accessible for residents.
- 2) Canvassing/Conducting door knocking to share flyers and also to share information regarding available family support services.

- 3) Utilizing ONE call system that sends mass phone calls, texts and emails
- 4) Use of social media to engage and promote opportunities and successes of Beecher residents and supporting Choice Partners. USI continues to collaborate with LMHA property managers, McCormack Baron Management group, and other landlords to assist residents with all concerns impacting housing stability.

USI staff continue to meet with residents and property management staff to process late rent situations and lease violations by developing a plan of action to rectify violations. LMHA property managers and MBM both submit monthly reports that highlight residents requiring support due to late rent or other lease violations. USI staff and Senior Project Manager participates in ongoing collaborative sessions aimed to better support and coordinate rental support for residents and Property Management. LMHA property managers and MBM both submit monthly reports that highlight residents requiring support due to late rent or other lease violations. USI staff then immediately follows up with resident and/or property management to support a resolution. USI staff participates in ongoing collaborative sessions organized to better support and coordinate rental support for both residents and property management. This month USI assisted one (1) family with rental assistance.

Economic Mobility:

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| # and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (234 total) | 2022 Target: 181 or 80% 146 or 6% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed |
| # and % of 18–24-year-old youth in secondary education and/or job training (30 eligible) | 2022 Target: 20 or 70% 13 or 43% of individuals between 18-24 are employed. |

TARGETS:

- Increase working work-able to (182 or 80%)
- Increase the number of 18–24-year-old youth in post-secondary education and/or job training (22 or 70%)

Currently, 64% of those work able residents are employed. This month there was one new job obtained this month. This month’s job placements included an Administrative and Support position with Seven Counties.

- 70% of those employed are working full time (increase of 1% from last month)
- 72% have been working for longer than a year, with 12% obtaining employment within the last 6 months.

USI strives to achieve the goal of employing 80% of Beecher Terrace workable households by executing various strategies to match residents with career interests and skill sets. Strategies include: • Working to Remove Barriers that impact Employment:

(Childcare) Lack of childcare and transportation have been identified as the top 2 barriers to employment. USI has partnered with PlayCousins Collective to increase access to

quality childcare for children and families. USI targeted families that have identified lack of childcare as a barrier to employment to benefit from this opportunity. USI also works closely with OVEC, MiniVersity and other Early Childhood agencies to provide support and follow up with families. USI continues to follow up on referrals and address barriers that prohibit enrollment to quality childcare programs.

(Increase Career Training) In order to assist residents to return to the workforce, increase wages or transition careers, extensive job training may be necessary. USI recognizes the benefits of career training such as increasing productivity and skill level. Additionally, career training assists residents with keeping current in a world where both technology and societal expectations are rapidly changing. USI works to connect residents with career development opportunities that are resident driven and requested. The top 3 career interests expressed are warehouse/manufacturing, medical and food and culinary. This month two residents were referred to career counseling: Ahead Staffing and Dress for Success. One resident enrolled and began the employment readiness program.

(Disabled and Chronically Ill) 16% of the unemployed work able population has self-reported as chronically ill or in chronic pain, currently seeking disability and ultimately does not wish to obtain employment. USI Family Support Specialists continue to support residents throughout the disability application process which often includes assisting with paperwork and obtaining supporting documents, ensuring medical appointments are kept, and connecting to legal services when necessary.

- **Homeownership Pipeline:** Urban Strategies remains committed to moving families to more thriving results in terms of Economic Mobility beyond obtaining employment. Strategic planning yielded an established goal to connect 25 Beecher Terrace families to the Homeownership Pipeline by the end of 2022. The Homeownership pipeline includes partnerships and resources that assist families at any point of the homeownership process. This ranges from budgeting, financial literacy and repair to connecting residents with lending officers and realtors that are all invested and aligned in advancing equity around wealth building and home ownership. This month there was one more family connected to the pipeline via homeownership programs with LMHA Family Self- Sufficiency program. To date there have been 10 families connected to the Home Ownership pipeline.
- **Family Self-Sufficiency Program:** The FSS program helps families to increase their earnings and build financial capability and assets.
- **Commonwealth Credit Union:** The Commonwealth Credit Union has a community focus that offers second chance opportunities and benefits for the under/unbanked population such as checking/savings accounts, credit review/repair and other home owning options.
- **Homeownership programs and supports:** Several Choice Partners and community resources have programs to support various stages of the homeownership process. Such resources include LCCC, Louisville Urban League, Goodwill Industries, Diamond Key Realtors, and others.

Education:

Updates on Education: (Key meetings and activities conducted to support improving educational outcomes for children this month)

USI is implementing the following strategies to advance educational outcomes and increase parent engagement:

Ages and Stages Developmental Screenings: 62% of targeted population has been screened for developmental delays. USI's Project Manager will complete training for Ages & Stages, and as a result USI staff will continue to conduct development screenings with parents and children ages 0-5. Moreover, USI's Project Manager will be able to make more real time referrals and linkages to address identified needs and prepare the youth and family for kindergarten. **Increase Early Childhood Enrollment:** USI continues to partner with Catholic Charities, OVEC, 4C's and YMCA to move youth through the early learning pipeline that helps expectant mothers before birth to assist with kindergarten registration. 54% of 0-4 Beecher Youth (33/61) are enrolled in early learning programs. As FSS staff follow up on all eligible youth, many families report that their paramours and familial relatives are caretaking for the youth. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Head Start: 17%
- Head Start: 9%
- Pre-K in Public School: 15%
- Licensed Child Care Center: 20%
- Licensed Child Care Home: 1.5%
- Unlicensed (family, church) 13%

USI continues to work closely with OVEC and other partners to assist youth with registration to Headstart/Early Headstart and Licensed Child Care. USI staff are working to track progress of early childhood and kindergarten registration to further assist with missing documentation and facilitate any additional connections with early childhood partners and JCPS. The primary barrier tends to be obtaining all supportive documents such as birth certificates or complications that arise with obtaining childcare subsidies. Also due to limited funding for the subsidy program, many families are deemed ineligible. There are currently 3 referrals to tutoring services with 1 enrollment this month. FSS staff continue to follow up with all referrals to further assist with obtaining documentation and other needed documents.

Quality OST and Social and Emotional Supports:

- Girl Scouts of Ky: Onsite (15 active youth)
- Bellarmine Tutoring: On-site and Virtual (6 enrolled youth)

Health and Wellness:

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| # and % of residents who have health insurance | (768) – 98% of Residents have Health Insurance |
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Updates on Health and Wellness: (Key meetings and activities conducted to support improving health and wellness outcomes for residents this month)

58% of Beecher Terrace residents report having a chronic health condition. Illnesses include high blood pressure, asthma, and depression. Understanding that housing is a social determinant of health has long been established. Factors such as housing stability, quality, safety, and affordability all affect health outcomes. Therefore, in addition to efforts to stabilize housing, USI utilizes a holistic approach to execute strategies aimed to provide support that looks at the health and wellness of the whole person; the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being. This month’s strategies include:

Strengthening Partnerships: Supporting Seniors USI continues to strengthen relationships with partners and resources targeted for Seniors. This month the following partners supported Beecher Seniors:

Increasing Food Security. USI continues to partner with MOLO Village, Dare to Care, Hope Buss, Sister Visitors, Community Ministries and Neighborhood Place to provide connections to food and resources. There were 5 food boxes/linkages this month.

HOPE Buss & CARE Plan (Held on 11/15/22) Advisors hosted a health insurance information clinic at Beecher Terrace for seniors on Medicare over the age of 65+. The Plan Advisors discussed with attending residents what benefits their health insurance offered, as many residents do not use all of their offered benefits. Choosing the right insurance plan for resident, that would fit their budget, how many doctor visits (including specialists), medications, medical equipment, dental, vision and/or any additional services that residents might need.

Conducting Monthly Targeted Health Chats. Each month a topic is chosen, in addition to selected residents and families. Through collaborative efforts with Passport, YMCA, Family Health Centers and JenCare, USI staff provide information regarding health benefits, resources, and tools, when needed. Due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, and the consequential effects such as disproportionately higher rates of disease, death and collective negative social impacts for Black communities, this month’s Health Chats focused on “Breast Cancer Awareness”. This month, health chats also included assessing if families are participating in cancer screenings. 5 Residents enrolled in case management received intensive Health Chats this month.