

**Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)**  
**Beecher Terrace Monthly Report**  
**July 2021**

**Executive Summary:**

During the month of July, USI continued delivering comprehensive family support services amid amplified racial inequities and economic uncertainties currently impacting the Louisville community. Despite the fervent return of positive COVID cases and adverse effects, USI staff and stakeholders continue to provide and connect residents to resources and opportunities aimed to move families towards stable and thriving results. This report will demonstrate ongoing efforts to engage Beecher Terrace families and progress across cornerstone pillars that include housing stability, economic mobility, education and health and wellness.

There are currently 401 Households (89% of eligible) and 774 participants enrolled in family support services (formerly called case management services), exceeding the previous goal of 80%. USI-Louisville Family Support Specialist (FSS) continues to work extensively with our relocated and returning families, in addition to providing support for new Beecher Terrace residents moving onto the newly developed site. Urban Strategies staff maintains daily office hours in both the Family and Senior sides of Beecher Terrace to ensure accessibility and availability with all Beecher Residents.

To ensure that Beecher families are well informed and connected, USI staff continues to facilitate virtual resident meetings with partners LMHA and McCormack Baron, in addition to monthly featured guests. This month's meeting focused on preparing families and youths to return to school next month and early childhood enrollment. July's guest speakers include Open Arms Pediatric, OVEC, 4C's and JCPS.

Moreover, USI, also utilized the month of July to strengthen strategies with existing partners such as Catholic Charities, MOLO Village and JCPS. Senior Project Manager and staff have worked with identified partners to refine strategies to include a targeted approach that leads to more effective sustainable outcomes. The strategies are as follows:

**Building Trades Program** – The top 3 career interest identified by Beecher Residents include 1) Construction 2) Warehouse and 3) Retail. USI will partner with Catholic Charities and others such as the PNC and Urban League to provide increased on the job training and career development opportunities for Beecher and Russell residents. This opportunity will also include entrepreneurial support for trainees that want to create their own business.

**Computer Classes and Social Support for Seniors** – Beecher Terrace Seniors have truly taken advantage of the new opportunities and resources at The Villages. In addition to co-facilitating Bingo and Health sessions with USI and JenCare, MOLO Village has begun weekly computer classes for the seniors. One of the attending seniors, is also a member of the Equity Community Development Leadership Program (ECDL) and has agreed to further assist seniors that may need additional computer supports.

**Cascade System**- USI's Education Specialist and Senior Project Manager continue to work with JCPS to align efforts to support residents with several issues that impact academic performance. JCPS granted access and USI staff were trained to access and make use of the Cascade System. This

system will allow real time access to grades, attendance, and behaviors. USI staff will utilize the Cascade system to prioritize and triage youth that may require immediate and substantial intervention.

**Family Support Services - Outreach and Engagement:**

<b>Total Households in Grant Award</b> 767	<b>Total Eligible Households</b> 451
# and % of HH and People in Case Management	401(89%) and 774 participants
<p><b>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:</b>            During the month of July, USI continued efforts to enroll and engage Beecher families. USI maintains an 89% enrollment rate of eligible households, including two new onsite families added this month. Two families were moved to inactive status due to conducting various methods of outreach to no avail. Additionally, there was 1 family that opted out of family support services.</p> <p>USI continues to work with LMHA property managers and the McCormack Baron Management group to assist residents with all concerns impacting housing stability. USI staff work with landlords and community resources to aid with rent and utility payments, potential lease violations and multiple other issues that require advocacy and mitigation. LMHA property managers submit monthly reports and USI staff immediately follows up with both resident and property managers to address any identified concern.</p> <p>The Kroger Mobile Market held its first visit this month. There was approximately \$300 in sales for the first visit. All residents using the Mobile Market received an additional 10% off their purchase. The mobile market will return bi-weekly for Beecher and Russell residents.</p> <p>USI continues to use social media to engage and promote opportunities to Beecher residents and supporting partners.</p>	

**Economic Mobility:**

# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (217 total)	<b>2021 Target: 173 or 80%</b> <b>140- 65% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed</b>
# and % of 18-24 year old youth in secondary education and/or job training (28 eligible)	<b>2021 Target: 20 or 70%</b> <b>12 – 43% of individuals between 18-24 are employed.</b>
<p><b>2021 EMPLOYMENT TARGETS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increase working work-able to (182 or 80%)</li> <li>➤ Increase the number of 18–24-year-old youth in post-secondary education and/or job training (19 or 70%)</li> </ul> <p>Currently, 65% of those work able residents are employed. This is a 1% increase from last month. There were 2 residents that obtained jobs during the month. The job placements included University of Louisville and GE.</p>	

- 66% of those employed are working full time
- 82% have been working for longer than a year, with only 10% 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:**
  - (Substance Abuse)** Senior Project Manager is working on developing the MOU terms with Flip the Script CEO and Manager. Flip the Script is a non-profit that is new to the Russell Neighborhood that offers intensive inpatient and outpatient services that includes 12-step Meetings and Sponsorship, Peer Specialists, Case Management, and Employment Opportunities. Flip the Script staff has agreed to support USI staff as they address the substance abuse concerns with residents and families. Flip the Script will attend resident meetings and conduct Pop Ups at Beecher and throughout Russell.
  - (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.
- **Increase Job Training Completion for Unemployed Residents:** In order to increase both employment rate of work able residents and increase income towards a living wage, USI Louisville is working to connect residents to various career training opportunities that lead to gainful long-term employment.
  - Building Trades Project** USI will partner with Catholic Charities and others such as the PNC and Urban League to provide job training and career development opportunities for Beecher and Russell residents. Residents can receive up to 12 weeks of on-the-job training with various construction opportunities throughout the West end of Louisville. This opportunity will also include entrepreneurial support for trainees that want to create their own.
- **Increase Access to Section 3 Opportunities:** USI staff have identified residents that have career interests in construction and other Section 3 opportunities. Likewise, USI continues to work closely with Messer and McCormack Baron to ensure that resident's benefit from section 3 employment opportunities. Both Messer and MBM share current openings and future needs, USI then shares via our One Call system and various methods used by our Family Support Specialists.

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USI Staff made three referrals to the FSS Program. All three referrals have homeownership goals.

## Education:

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

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

**Increase Ages and Stages Questionnaire Efficiency/Completion:** Urban Strategies continues to work with Metro United Way and Play Cousins to identify barriers and opportunities to increase Beecher Terrace family's participation and survey completion. Play Cousin's Family Advocate has begun conducting Pop-up Play Dates and holding Family Support hours to continue to enroll and engage all eligible families. Play Cousins will also provide Circle Time with youth for all upcoming resident meetings and events.

**Increase Early Childhood Enrollment:** USI continues to work closely with OVEC to assist youth with registration to Headstart/Early Headstart. OVEC participated in this month's resident meeting and also shares bi-weekly updates on referred families. Subsequently, USI staff are working to follow up with all referred families to further assist with missing documentation and facilitate connection with OVEC staff. The primary barrier tends to be obtaining all supportive documents such as birth certificates or complications that arise with obtaining childcare subsidies. We have currently enrolled 46% of eligible youth for ECE/Head start. MOU is currently in process.

**Preparing Parents and Youth to Return to School:** As summer programming winds down, USI and Choice Partners focus on transitioning back to school. USI staff utilized the month of July to conduct annual youth questionnaire assessments with all enrolled youth. Such assessments provide updates from summer experiences but also identifies needs and targets for the upcoming school year. Families that have to change schools due to moving were connected to JCPS schools and staff to aid with transfer needs. Several Education Partners participated in the monthly resident meeting that also included necessary information registration and enrollment in the upcoming school year. USI partnered with HOME of the INNOCENTS and other community resources to provide needed school supplies. USI also provided information and reminders for several school supply giveaways throughout the city of Louisville.

## Health and Wellness:

# and % of residents who have health insurance	(741) – 99% 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)**

60% of Beecher Terrace residents report having a chronic health condition. Such illnesses range from high blood pressure, asthma, and depression. USI utilizes a holistic approach to execute

strategies aimed to provide support that looks at the whole person; the physical, emotional, social and spiritual well-being. This month's strategies include:

**Strengthening Partnerships: Supporting Seniors** USI continues to strengthen partnerships with partners and resources targeted for Seniors. MOLO and USI have partnered to offer programs and activities for Seniors aimed to assist with isolation and inaccessibility. Seniors have begun attending weekly computer classes and volunteering for events such as stuffing backpacks for a back-to-school giveaway. Both JenCare and Commonwealth Insurance held Pop Up tabling events in July. Both agencies provided information and benefits when connected to enrolled in their program. Approximately 20 residents participated in the tabling events.

**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 can provide information regarding health benefits, resources, and tools, when needed. This month's Health Chats focused on youth. USI Staff checked in on any health concerns or needs, especially specific health needs required to prepare for back to school. There were 25 Households and 49 youth that participated in this month's Health Chats. Additionally, to mitigate disproportionate outcomes of the COVID pandemic, USI staff also continued conducting outreach and assisting residents with registering for the Covid vaccination. There were 19 residents contacted regarding the COVID vaccination and the results are as follows:

12 Residents	Remain Undecided
2 Residents	Refused to Discuss
4 Residents	Already Received Vacc
1 Resident	USI assisted with registration for Vacc