

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

Executive Summary:

During the month of August 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to drastically change lives of families in ways that will forever shape human history. While many families prepared for their youth to return to school, most are coping with the persistent challenges and disproportionate impact of the epidemic. Due to disparate outcomes such as loss of wages, reduced access to services and increased stress, USI staff and Choice partners are diligently working to link residents to community resources and opportunities targeted to move families towards stable and thriving results. This monthly report will exhibit continuing efforts to engage Beecher Terrace families and advances across cornerstone pillars that include housing stability, economic mobility, education and health and wellness.

There are currently 404 Households (90% of eligible) and 775 participants enrolled in family support services (formerly called case management services). This is an increase of three households from last month, exceeding the previous goal of 80% by 10%. USI-Louisville Family Support Specialist (FSS) continues to support 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.

This month, Urban Strategies and both McCormack Baron Salazar and McCormack Baron Management excitedly facilitated the first onsite Beecher Terrace resident meeting. To comply with CDC guidelines, seven mini sessions were held to give all residents the opportunity to attend and actively participate. There were approximately 82 attendees for all total sessions (71 Beecher residents). Resident meetings not only ensures that households are informed and connected, but also assists with assuring that strategies are resident driven and supported. Additional highlights from the resident meeting include: 29 residents signed up for Resident Council, 28 residents signed up for the Block Watch, and several residents offered to lead other programming initiatives such as a book club and health and fitness group. Residents were provided a calendar that offers dates and times for community resources such as computer classes at MOLO Village but also includes dates for onsite initiatives such as the Kroger Mobile Unit and Dare to Care deliveries. Several partners attended the mini sessions to build relationships and to share their program resources directly with residents. This month's partner guests included, JenCare, Therapy Heroes, Diamond Key Realtors, I Would Rather Be Reading, Sowing Seeds with Faith and Girls Scouts of Ky.

In lieu of the lifting of the eviction moratorium, USI staff worked extensively with residents, landlords and community resources to make a sure that households were receiving maximum benefits and supports. There was more than \$12,000 requested to assist with rent and utility gaps. Approximately 40% of service linkages in August were for basic needs and career training assistance.

Family Support Services - Outreach and Engagement:

Total Households in Grant Award 767	Total Eligible Households 451
# and % of HH and People in Case Management	404(90%) and 775 participants
<p>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:</p> <p>During the month of August, USI continued efforts to enroll and engage Beecher families. USI maintains an 90% enrollment rate of eligible households, including 3 new onsite households added this month. Two families were moved to inactive status due to conducting various methods of outreach to no avail (one of the two was due to moving to a nursing home). Additionally, there was 1 household that opted out of family support services. And two heads of households noted deceased this month. Four residents were re-engaged (previously inactive) into services. USI continues to execute strategies aimed to actively engage and support all eligible households.</p> <p>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 work with landlords and community resources to assist with rent and utility payments, establish payment plans and increasingly to advocate for needed repairs and problem solve other concerns or issues. USI staff have also met with residents to process lease violations and assist with developing a plan of action to rectify violation. LMHA property managers continue to submit monthly reports and USI staff immediately follows up with resident and/or property managers.</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 (219 total)	2021 Target: 175 or 80% 136- 62% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed
# and % of 18-24 year old youth in secondary education and/or job training (28 eligible)	2021 Target: 20 or 70% 10 – 37% of individuals between 18-24 are employed.
<p>2021 EMPLOYMENT TARGETS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 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 (19 or 70%) <p>Currently, 62% of those work able residents are employed. Despite 5 residents obtaining employment this month, this a 3% decrease from last month. The job placements include Passport, Kroger, Right Choice Healthcare, Clifton Oaks, and Norton Health Care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 66% of those employed are working full time • 84% 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:**
 - (Increasing Access to Employment)** Senior Project Manager and USI staff have worked to strengthen partnership with Ahead Staffing in order to increase access to various employment opportunities. Ahead Staffing has several positions that align with expressed interests of residents such as warehouse, construction and medical. Ahead Staffing has full and part time opportunities throughout the city of Louisville. Ahead Staffing also has background and drug test friendly job placements that sometimes deter residents from employment. To increase access to employment, USI staff can assist residents with completing necessary documentation and remit on behalf of the resident. There were 5 referrals to Ahead Staffing this month.
 - (Provide Work from Home Opportunities)** With record breaking COVID cases and an overrepresentation of Black workers in essential jobs, USI has worked to increase shared work from home employment opportunities. For example, through partnership with Eviction Prevention, USI was able to share needed navigation positions with Beecher Families first.
 - (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. (Ongoing)
 - (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. During the month of August, one Beecher resident completed 2 career training programs, Peer Specialist Training with Brideghaven (paid for with barrier removal funds) and Soft Skill Training with Goodwill. Additionally, three residents were referred to GoodWill for career training.
- **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.

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 of the Ages and Stages Questionnaires. PlayCousins is now offering in person, onsite hours at Beecher Terrace to assist with developmental screenings. The PlayCousin's family advocate will utilize this time to meet and recruit new families while working to re-engage inactive families. PlayCousins will also host and facilitate Pop-up Play Dates and Parent Cafes for Beecher and Russell families.

Increase Early Childhood Enrollment: 42% of 0-4 Beecher Youth(29/69) enrolled in early learning programs. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Headstart: 25%
- Headstart: 3%
- PreK in Public School: 17%
- Licensed Childcare Center: 23%
- Licensed Childcare Home: 1.5%
- Unlicensed (family, church) 3%

USI continues to work closely with OVEC to assist youth with registration to Headstart/Early Headstart. 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. MOU remains in process due to change in staff with OVEC. MOU will be executed next month.

Quality OST and Social and Emotional Supports: USI's Education Specialist is working with the following partners targeted to increase academic proficiency and social and emotional wellbeing of Beecher Terrace youth:

Girl Scouts of Ky	Onsite (unlimited slots)
Sowing Seeds with Faith	Onsite and Virtual (25 slots)
Bellarmino University	Virtual (45-50 slots)
I Would Rather Be Reading	Site Based/TBD (45 slots)
LCCC	Site Based/Russell (25 slots)

Education Specialist and partners have identified strategies to target youth based on needs and strengths of each program opportunity. In addition to USI family support specialist linking residents to services, each partner will also conduct recruitment and engagement endeavors, as

well.

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 relationships with partners and resources targeted for Seniors. This month the following partners supported Beecher Seniors:

MOLO Village	Computer Classes (Approximately 6 Residents attend weekly)
	Bingo (8 Residents participate weekly)
JenCare	Information and Resource Table (15 Residents)
Norton's HealthCare	Conducted Blood Sugar and Blood Pressure Checks (20 Residents)

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. Due to the overwhelming increase in COVID cases and its 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 Ways to Maintain Good Mental Health and COVID Interventions. 21 Residents received intensive Health Chats this month.

Additionally, to mitigate disproportionate outcomes of the COVID pandemic, USI staff also continued conducting outreach and assisting residents with registering for the Covid vaccination. The results are as follows:

7 Resident	Do Not want Vaccine or Info
3 Residents	Remain Undecided
0 Residents	Refused to Discuss
10 Residents	Already Received Vacc
1 Resident	USI assisted with registration for Vacc