

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

Executive Summary:

Amid escalated community violence and persistent challenges related to the Covid 19 pandemic, Beecher Terrace families continue to work with Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) and Choice partners to obtain stability and reach for thriving outcomes. In addition, to sharing progress and updates across our cornerstone pillars of service, which include Economic Mobility, Health and Wellness, Education and Housing Stability, this monthly report will also illuminate the development of the Beecher Terrace Resident Council and other facets of life that have begun to take shape with residents and families on the newly developed site.

From fitness walks led by resident to cooking classes facilitated by Aetna, USI collaborates with resident leaders, Choice partners and other community resources to fulfill the commitment of promoting self-sufficiency by providing monthly opportunities for residents geared toward equitable outcomes. Beecher Terrace residents have not only been highly responsive and participatory in events and activities, but they have been eager to provide input and insight in regards needs of the residents and the direction of programming and activity planning. Last month, 29 residents signed up to be part of the BT resident council. This month there two Resident Council Meetings (virtual (12 resident attendees) and in-person (22 resident attendees) and a Senior Club Meeting (13 resident attendees). The most direct, and most important, benefits of a resident council are to the residents themselves. Those who participate are provided the opportunities to collectively exercise decision-making skills. The resident council is also a direct line of communication between residents, property management and USI. Ultimately, the resident council is an informational and educational forum for self-determination, that seeks accountability of living conditions and ongoing opportunities for all tenants of Beecher Terrace.

There are currently 405 Households (90% of eligible) and 779 participants enrolled in family support services (formerly called case management services). This is an increase of one household but includes 2 newly leased Beecher Residents. 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. USI staff maintains daily office hours in both the Family and Senior sides of Beecher Terrace to ensure accessibility and availability with all Beecher Residents.

Lastly, barrier elimination is a critical and necessary component to residents achieving positive and thriving outcomes. This is particularly true for Beecher Terrace resident M. Bailey. Ms. Bailey communicated to her USI FSS that she has a strong desire to help and support individuals that struggle with substance abuse. However, due to her not having the proper training and certification, she was unable to obtain a job in the area of substance abuse. USI staff utilized barrier removal funds to pay for Peer Specialist Training with Brideghaven Mental Health Services. In months past, USI reported that Ms. Bailey did complete the training. However, this month, USI

is proud to share, that Ms. Bailey passed her Peer Specialist certification exam and currently seeking employment as a certified peer specialist.

Family Support Services - Outreach and Engagement:

Total Households in Grant Award 767	Total Eligible Households 451
# and % of HH and People in Case Management	405(90%) and 779 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: During the month of September, USI continued efforts to enroll and engage Beecher Terrace families. USI maintains an 90% enrollment rate of eligible households, including 2 new onsite households added this month.</p> <p>USI continues to execute various strategies to engage and inform residents of available updates and resources. USI continues to host and facilitate monthly residents for BT families. This month’s virtual meeting focused on Health and Wellness and Housing Updates. This month’s featured guest was an ECDL Leader that is currently leading the Family Fitness Club for Beecher families. There were 11 attendees to the Resident meeting.</p> <p>Both resident council meetings, yielded concerns for youth in the community who don’t seem to be positively engaged in enrichment opportunities. USI also partnered with Beecher Terrace resident leaders to conduct a Community Pop-up that focused on targeting youth and sharing youth development opportunities. Approximately 20 youth and adults attended the community pop-up event. Four additional youth were connected to community OST programs.</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 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 then immediately follows up with resident and/or property management.</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 (220 total)	2021 Target: 175 or 80% 136- 62% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed
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# and % of 18-24 year old youth in secondary education and/or job training (27 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. There was one job reported this month. This month’s job placement was with the Louisville Urban League.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70% of those employed are working full time (Increase of 4% from last month) • 78% have been working for longer than a year, with only 12% obtaining employment within the last 6 months. <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working to Remove Barriers that impact Employment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Increasing Access to Employment) USI has partnered with Ahead Staffing. This partnership allows USI staff to expedite the hiring process and addresses the transportation barrier that often prohibits unemployment. Ahead Staffing has several positions that align with expressed interests of residents such as warehouse, construction and medical. 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 4 referrals to Ahead Staffing this month. (Transportation) Senior Project Manager met with SuperChefs/Dripping Crab management staff. SuperChefs owner is opening a second restaurant in MOLO Village called Dripping Crap. Dripping Crab staff shared that they are committed to positively investing in the community and seeking to hire employees in the Russell Neighborhood. The Dripping Crab staff will be holding onsite interviews. Dripping Crab staff shared expectations for new employees so that Beecher residents can be better prepared for onsite interviews. One of the primary requirements for employment is having reliable transportation. Hiring Beecher staff would quickly address issues with transportation for resident and the employer. (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 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 implementing 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 utilizes this time to meet and recruit new families while working to re-engage inactive families. PlayCousins will host and facilitate ongoing Pop-up Play Dates and Parent Cafes for Beecher and Russell families.

Increase Early Childhood Enrollment: 40% of 0-4 Beecher Youth(25/63) enrolled in early learning programs. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Headstart: 22%
- Headstart: 5%
- PreK in Public School: 6%
- Licensed Childcare Center: 20%
- 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 is currently being finalized.

Quality OST and Social and Emotional Supports: USI staff and partners have worked to recruit and enroll youth in the following OST programs:

Girl Scouts of Ky	Onsite (unlimited slots) {17 referred}
Sowing Seeds with Faith	Onsite and Virtual (25 slots) {15 referred}
Bellarmino University	Virtual (45-50 slots) {4 referred}
I Would Rather Be Reading	Site Based/TBD (45 slots) {2 Referred}
LCCC	Site Based/Russell (25 slots) {12 referred}

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 (10 Residents)
Aetna Insurance	Slow Cooker Cooking Class (approx. 30 residents attended) A waiting list was developed and additional cooking classes are being scheduled.

Resident Driven, Resident Led Activities. Beecher Resident Leaders have chosen to work with USI to lead two Health strategies:

Beecher Walks – Walking program for onsite residents every Thursday morning. 12 Residents participate in the Beecher Walks walking program. Beecher Walks will be sponsored by Aetna in the month of October.

Fit Club-Family Fitness Program—The fit club will focus on being Healthy at Home and is led by ECDL participant B. Turner. The Fit Club will meet monthly and share physical and nutritional options in addition to discovering multiple ways to optimize well-being at home.

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 Positive benefits of walking and COVID Interventions. 17 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:

6 Residents	Do Not want Vaccine or Info
1 Resident	Remain Undecided
0 Residents	Refused to Discuss
10 Residents	Already Received Vacc