

Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)
Beecher Terrace Monthly Report
November, 2019

Executive Summary:

In November, USI began conducting interviews for the Education Specialist that is being funded by a grant recently awarded by the Ohio Capital Philanthropic Group in the amount of \$225,000. This month also consisted of ongoing training of newest case managers and staff. Shortly after beginning employment with USI, our 5th Case Manager was offered and accepted a position with a national organization, thereby recreating a vacancy. This position is currently reposted. Senior Project Manager, Community Captain (Resident Leader, L. Allen) and other Choice Management Team Members from LMHA attended the "Choice Means Choice" HUD Conference in New Orleans. Choice Team Members were able to connect and learn from other sites in various phases of implementation.

USI continues to engage relocated residents with intensive and comprehensive service coordination and case management services. USI staff completed the remaining 10% of educational assessments for all school age youth and also completed health assessments for work able residents between the ages 55 -64. Those assessments continue to inform strategies around engagement and support of families. There are 393 Households and 741 Residents in Case Management.

There are 240 workable adults in case management. Of those 240, 144 (60%) of the workable residents are currently employed. During November, USI collaborated with Kentucky Career Center to connect residents to opportunities with resume building, interview practicing and real-time job connection. As a result, of this connection, two BT residents were moved to employment. A total of 8 residents obtained employment in November. USI increased coordination with Messer, General Contractor, and McCormack Baron as a strategy for increasing BT Section 3 hires and supporting retention. Messer identified the need for additional support in engaging the community and responding to people who approach onsite with questions about employment. USI will be present onsite every week on Friday from 11 am to 1pm to engage with the community, provide information to potential applicants, and increase service connections that would help interested individuals obtain Section 3 or other employment. As part of our strategy development related to economic mobility, USI facilitated the Economic Mobility task group meeting. This meeting focused on aligning contributions of economic mobility partners to establish a shared target for increasing the number of Russell families who are able to establish an emergency fund.

The Education task group met in November as well. Subsequently, USI team met with Coleridge Taylor administrators and staff. This discussion created an opportunity to explore the ongoing needs and concerns of current students and families and needed collaboration amongst all Russell based school settings. As a result, in 2020 there will be aligned strategies including USI, FRYSCs, and Russell based Elementary schools to coordinate efforts to support attendance, literacy and academic achievement. In November, USI hit our target with enrollment of BT youth in the Beech program for tutoring and academic support. 21 youth and families were identified, referred and in process of awaiting a start date at the Beech.

USI Outreach partnered with JenCare and held three events targeting seniors 55+. Two of the three events were held near the resident's home; the last was held at the Urban Strategies Office. There were a total of 18 senior attendees to JenCare Events.

There are currently 22 executed MOUs with partners.***

*****In November, USI's computer system experienced a significant network disruption that is currently still being corrected. This limited staff ability to access computers and complete data entry. As such, the data typically provided in the monthly report is not being provided as it does not accurately reflect progress made in November 2019.**