

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

**Executive Summary:**

Considering the implications of an ongoing global pandemic, increased loss and a rising collective anxiousness, Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) continues to engage families in comprehensive support services aimed to more residents closer to positive outcomes. Recognizing the substantial needs of Beecher Terrace families and the Russell Community, USI utilizes the Results Count Framework to advance equity, education, economic mobility and health, by connecting families to Choice partners and other community resources that are mutually aligned and invested in thriving results. The report will reflect progress across all pillars of service.

There are 414 households and 793 individuals (92% of eligible households) enrolled in case management services. This is an increase of six households within the month of December; USI has exceeded previous goal of 80% and will work to maintain 90% of eligible families enrolled and actively participating in supportive services. Moreover, USI continues to partner with both LMHA, MBM, and other property management services to fully support residents throughout the relocation and reoccupancy process. 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.

USI facilitated and hosted several meetings and events throughout the month that were aimed to continue to build connections and community. USI is intentional about providing services and opportunities for whole family, including all age ranges. Residents were engaged, informed and in several instances challenged to lead throughout various opportunities in December such as:

**Meet and Greet: Community Mixer** There were approximately 39 attendees; there were 32 residents that attended. Meeting the requests of residents, this event allowed both the Senior and Family sides of Beecher Terrace to meet, greet and establish relationships. Strong connections and social support can improve health, increase longevity, resilience and growth.

**Youth Leadership Focus Group** There were 7 youth that participated in the Beecher Terrace Focus Group. In order to ensure that strategies and opportunities are driven by residents, a focus group was established to actively listen and gather information. The youth participated in a guided discussion (led by USI's Education Specialist) to explore the groups responses, perspectives, needs and wishes. One of the significant take aways from the first session included the group's majority interest to establish a business. The youth focus group will reconvene and lead to the development of the Beecher Terrace Youth Council, that will be an additional committee of the Beecher Terrace Resident Council.

**Holiday and Celebratory Events for BT Residents:**

**JenCare Holiday Pop-Up** – (36 Residents attended) Partnership with JenCare allowed seniors to participate in affordable shopping spree for their friends and family

**Beecher Youth Holiday Party-** (approximately 25 youth attended) Youth were able to celebrate the kick-off of their Winter Break and parents are better informed about resources and services available for the youth.

**Holiday Hallway Cheer-** (approximately 35 residents participated) Residents participated in caroling and supporting Beecher Terrace neighbors that may not have family support or additional resources

**Senior Sweet Night-** (approximately 20 residents participated) This is the first event held by the Senior Club. The Senior Club is a sub committee of the resident council that is ran by and focused on all issues related to the Seniors

**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	414(92%) and 793 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 maintains a 92% enrollment rate of eligible households, including 4 new onsite households added this month and 2 previously inactive families that were recently reactivated. USI utilizes various strategies to engage and inform residents. Such strategies include:  
 1)Providing a monthly calendar of meetings and events that are accessible for residents.  
 2)Conducting door knocking to share flyers and but also to sharing 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.

Additionally, 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. Most walk-in appointments and referrals from property management are for rental and utility support. 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 violation. 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.

**Economic Mobility:**

# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (227 total)	<b>2021 Target: 181 or 80%</b>
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	<b>138- 61% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed</b>
# and % of 18-24 year old youth in secondary education and/or job training (31 eligible)	<b>2021 Target: 20 or 70%</b> <b>10– 35% 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 (21 or 70%)</li> </ul> <p>Currently, 61% of those work able residents are employed. There were 3 jobs obtained this month. This month’s job placements include Cooking at Miles, Visiting Angel and Carritas. Additionally there were 2 jobs that ended in the month of December, as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68% of those employed are working full time (decrease of 1% from last month)</li> <li>• 74% have been working for longer than a year, with only 13% obtaining employment within the last 6 months.</li> </ul> <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.</p> <p>Strategies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Working to Remove Barriers that impact Employment:</b></li> <li>• <b>(Childcare)</b> Lack of childcare and transportation have been identified as the top 2 barriers to employment. USI has partnered with Chestnut YMCA to provide 25 early childhood slots for families with 3 and 4 yr. old youth). USI targeted families that have identified lack of childcare as a barrier to employment to benefit from this opportunity. USI also works closes with OVEC, MiniVersity and other Earl Childhood providers. There are currently 6 youth referred to OVEC. Families are continuing to gather needed documents for approval and enrollment. There are currently 3 youth currently referred to YMCA early childhood program</li> <li>• <b>Family Self-Sufficiency Program</b> The FSS program helps families to increase their earnings and build financial capability and assets. This month USI staff referred 2 residents to the FSS program.</li> </ul> <p><b>(Increase Career Training)</b> In order to assist residents to return to the workforce, increase wages or transition careers, extensive job training may be necessary. 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. There were 2 residents enrolled in work training programs. One resident enrolled in the Senior Employment Program with the Louisville Urban League and the other enrolled in the GoodWill training program. Additionally, this month one of our Beecher residents graduated from the GoodWill training program.</p> <p><b>(Disabled and Chronically Ill)</b> 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,</p>	

and connecting to legal services when necessary. One resident reported finally obtaining his approval for disability.

- **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 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 assistance with Kindergarten registration. 49% (increase of 8% from last month) of 0-4 Beecher Youth(32/66) enrolled in early learning programs. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Headstart: 17%
- Headstart: 9% (Increase of 5%)
- PreK in Public School: 14% (increase of 7%)
- Licensed Childcare Center: 22% (increase of 2%)
- Licensed Childcare Home: 1.5%
- Unlicensed (family, church) 3%

USI continues to work closely with OVEC and other partners to assist youth with registration to Headstart/Early Headstart and Licensed Childcare. USI staff are working to follow up with all referred families to further assist with missing documentation and facilitate connection with early childhood partners. The primary barrier tends to be obtaining all supportive documents such as birth certificates or complications that arise with obtaining childcare subsidies.

### 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) {7 active youth}
Sowing Seeds with Faith	Onsite and Virtual (25 slots) (8 youth enrolled)Services
suspended until after MLK Day.	
Bellarmino University	Virtual (45-50 slots) {4 enrolled/3 waitlisted}
I Would Rather Be Reading	Site Based/TBD (45 slots) {8 youth enrolled
LCCC	Site Based/Russell (25 slots) (0 slots filled)

**Holiday and Family Support:** Covid 19 and other adverse social impacts have disproportionately devastated our targeted community. USI staff worked tirelessly to connected families to

community partners with resources to serve the families. USI referred or connected over 50 families to organizations such as Angel Tree, Change Today Change Tomorrow, or Miracle on Broadway.

## 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/KSU	Nutrition Classes (3 Senior Residents attended)
	Dare to Care Food Box deliveries

**Vaccination Support for Seniors.** USI followed up with seniors to assist with any vaccination needs. Staff assisted 3 seniors with obtaining booster shots and facilitated discussion with medical providers for two other residents to make sure that the vaccination is aligned with current medical treatment.

**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 Staying Healthy Over the Holidays and COVID Interventions. The holiday season can be triggering for residents who have lost loved ones and or coping with many compounding traumas. 23 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:

8 Residents	Do Not want Vaccine or Info
0 Resident	Remain Undecided
0 Residents	Refused to Discuss
15 Residents	Already Received Vaccine

