

**Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)**  
**Beecher Terrace Monthly Report**  
**September 2022**

**Summary:**

Throughout September, Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) continued delivering comprehensive supportive services to the eligible families of Beecher Terrace. USI continued utilizing the Results Count framework to move families beyond their obstacles towards more positive thriving results. USI works to illuminate disparate consequences resulting from systemic racism, while closing equity gaps by increasing employment and livable wage income, improving educational outcomes, and addressing holistic needs of youth and families. This report will highlight resident leadership development strategies demonstrated by facilitation the election residents to onsite resident council leadership positions, collaborative efforts such as Beecher Terrace Family Field Day and continued marked progress across all pillars.

- There are 417 households and 801 individuals (92% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services (increase of three HH and 10 individuals from last month). USI has exceeded previous goal of 80% engagement and will work to maintain 90% of eligible families enrolled and actively participating in supportive services. USI maintains focus on engaging and assessing residents to increase access and linkages to equitable opportunities that lead to thriving outcomes. 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 cancelations and other barriers that may prohibit reoccupancy. There were several engagement strategies/activities executed this month. This month's events included: **Beecher Terrace Family Field Day** (Held on 9/17/22) Urban Strategies in partnership with the Louisville Sports Commission aimed at increasing the overall health and wellness of each household, while also increasing family connectedness. Special guests included the Louisville Metro Fire Department and LMPD. The Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC), and I Would Rather Be Reading were available to provide educational resources to Beecher Terrace families. Zappos also donated 100 pair of sneakers to the event, which were given to children of families enrolled in family support services. There were approximately 60 total attendees.

**Monthly Resident Meeting** (Held on 9/19/22) This month's resident meeting focused on demonstrating the impact and benefits of connecting with Urban Strategies, highlighting Resident Leaders, and announcing the inaugural Beecher Terrace Resident Council (executive team). Guest Speakers included members of the Equitable Community Development Leadership team and Dr. Ferguson, of Molo Village. USI premiered the infomercial produced by videographer, Lavel White. There were 43 total attendees.

Currently, 64% of those work able residents are employed (increase of 1% from last month). There was one new job reported this month.

- 70% of those employed are working full time
- 80% have been working for longer than a year (increase of 1% from last month), with only 4% obtaining employment within the last 6 months.

## 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	417 (92%) and 801 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></p> <p>USI continues efforts to enroll and engage all eligible Beecher Terrace families. USI is maintaining a 92% enrollment rate of eligible households. Implementing strategies that includes outreach to inactive households, USI re-activated one original BT households and enrolled two new Beecher residents. Each month USI conducts various outreach strategies to engage and inform residents. Per request of Beecher Residents, each month USI will partner with a community resource and to host and facilitate <u>Bingo With a Purpose Sessions</u> that allows residents to establish a trusting rapport with each other but also become informed on vital information intended to support the families and community. There were approximately 15 attendees to this Bingo Session. The Western Library Branch was unable to attend but sent over information. USI staff shared multiple resources from each pillar Also, to increase accessibility, USI staff and partners have begun to have “Pop-Up” sessions outside, nearest the family homes and high traffic zones on site. Pop Ups will feature resources and opportunities in all 5 service pillars. Such strategies include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Providing a monthly calendar of meetings and events that are accessible for residents.</li> <li>2)Canvassing/Conducting door knocking to share flyers and but also to sharing information regarding available family support services.</li> <li>3)Utilizing ONE call system that sends mass phone calls, texts and emails</li> <li>4)Use of social media to engage and promote opportunities and successes of Beecher residents and supporting Choice Partners.</li> </ol> <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 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 and Senior Project Manager participates in ongoing collaborative sessions aimed to better support and coordinate rental support for residents and Property Management.</p>	

<b>Economic Mobility:</b>	
# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (233 total)	<b>2021 Target: 181 or 80%</b> <b>148- 64% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed</b>
# and % of 18-24 year old youth in secondary education and/or job training (32 eligible)	<b>2021 Target: 20 or 70%</b> <b>13- 37% of individuals between 18-24 are employed.</b>
<b>2021 EMPLOYMENT TARGETS:</b>	
➤ 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 (22 or 70%)

Currently, 64% of those work able residents are employed.

- 70% of those employed are working full time
- 80% have been working for longer than a year, with only 4% 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:**
- **(Childcare)** 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 closely with OVEC, MiniVersity, PlayCousins and other Early Childhood providers. There were 15 referrals to date for early learning programs both OVEC and YMCA. There are currently 5 youth enrolled in OVEC and 4 youth enrolled in YMCA.
- **(Goodwill Excel Center)** USI staff attended the grand opening and will partner with Goodwill to connect Beecher resident to the Excel Center. This year-round program helps anyone over 18 to obtain their high school diploma. It is at no cost and includes onsite childcare and transportation assistance to reduce common barriers. USI referred two residents this month.
- **Increase Access to Employment)** USI continues to seek career opportunities that provide flexible scheduling, bus line accessibility and path towards living wages. This month, USI implored strategies to provide intensive support with all unemployed workable residents. Residents were also provided with work readiness resources and additional linkages. Each resident received a series of individual and follow up calls in addition to ONE call alerts regarding the employment opportunities with Norton’s Healthcare. USI conducts **bi-weekly pop-ups** to share most recent and up to date employment opportunities. Residents attending Economic Mobility receive information regarding available jobs, career training opportunities, in addition to other wealth building supports and services.
- **(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. One resident reported finally obtaining his approval for disability.
- **Homeownership Pipeline** Urban Strategies remains committed to moving families to more thriving results in terms of Economic Mobility beyond obtaining employment. Recent, strategic planning yielded an established a goal to connecting 25 Beecher Terrace families to the Homeownership Pipeline by the end of 2022. To date there have been 10 families connected to the Homeownership Pipeline. The Homeownership pipeline includes

partnerships and resources that assist families at any point of the homeownership process. This ranges from budgeting, financial literacy and repair to connecting residents with lending officers and realtors that are all invested and aligned in advancing equity around wealth building and home ownership.

- **Family Self-Sufficiency Program** The FSS program helps families to increase their earnings and build financial capability and assets
- **Commonwealth Credit Union.** The Commonwealth Credit Union has a community focus that offers second chance opportunities and benefits for the under/unbanked population such as checking/savings accounts, credit review/repair and other home owning options.
- **Homeownership programs and supports.** Several Choice Partners and community resources have programs to support various stages of the homeownership process. Such resources include LCCC, Louisville Urban League, Goodwill Industries, Diamond Key Realtors, and others.
- **Generational Wealth Building Series (GWBS):** Commonwealth Credit Union has agreed to sponsor an ongoing generational wealth building series. This series will be conducted onsite at Beecher Terrace. The targeted result for the GWBS is to engage more residents in the discussion and subsequent changes or actions that maximize the likelihood of building and increasing generational wealth. The GWBS will include sessions (but not limited too) such as debt management, credit repair, investment and savings and home ownership. Although the series will be open for all ages, there will be targeted strategies aimed to link youth 16-24 to assist with establishing best practices as they are transitioning into adulthood. USI and Commonwealth will finalize series design this month and implement next month.

## 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:

**Ages and Stages Developmental Screenings:** USI's Education Specialist has now begun to conduct Ages and Stages screenings with Beecher families. Currently 76% of targeted population has been screened for developmental delays.

**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. 55% of 0-4 Beecher Youth(34/63) enrolled in early learning programs. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Headstart: 27%
- Headstart: 9%
- PreK in Public School: 3%
- Licensed Childcare Center: 28%

- Licensed Childcare Home: 3%
- Unlicensed (family, church) 13%

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. Also due to limited funding for the subsidy program, many families are deemed ineligible.

**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 active youth}
- LCCC: Site Based/Russell (25 slots)
- Bellarmine University (25 slots) (Virtual and In-person – 7 referred)
- Musical programming sponsored by Councilman J. Arthur (in progress)

**Health and Wellness:**

# and % of residents who have health insurance	(750) – 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)**

62% of Beecher Terrace residents report having a chronic health condition. Illnesses include high blood pressure, asthma, and depression. Understanding that housing is a social determinant of health has long been established. Factors such as housing stability, quality, safety, and affordability all affect health outcomes. Therefore, in addition to efforts to stabilize housing, USI utilizes a holistic approach to execute strategies aimed to provide support that looks at the health and wellness of 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:

- JenCare/UK Nutrition Provide food and nutrition classes each week for the seniors; in addition to resources and information increasing access quality health care

**Increasing Food Security:**

- Kroger Mobile Bi-weekly mobile unit stops at and surrounding Beecher Terrace to increase access to affordable healthy food
- Dare to Care/MOLO/CTCT Each organization provides food boxes and basic care necessities
- Hope Buss Hope Buss makes bi-weekly stops to deliver food boxes to Seniors