

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

Executive Summary:

During the month of May, Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) continued utilizing a Results Count Framework to advance equitable outcomes for Beecher Terrace residents and the Russell Community. Our intensive family support model allows USI staff to partner with individual families and community resources to obtain better off results in our key service pillars which include housing stability, education, economic mobility, health, and wellness, and lastly policy and influence. This month's report will include highlights ranging from Beecher Terrace residents participating in an intimate community stakeholder meeting with district councilman, Jecorey Arthur to Beecher Terrace youth captured on local news for taking advantage of USI's partnership with Louisville Sports Commission in the Kids Finish First Initiative. A program designed to promote active lifestyle by completing an incremental half-marathon over a 4-week span.

Currently, there are 409 households and 783 individuals (91% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services with Urban Strategies Inc. This reflects an increase of 1 household (new to BT) from last month. USI staff continue to diligently engage and enroll families new to Beecher Terrace and eligible original inactive Beecher Terrace households. USI continues to exceed the target of 80% engagement.

There were several engagement events held this month. Resident activities are typically multigenerational and often provide opportunities for residents to gather information, increase awareness of equitable opportunities and most importantly, continue to build trusting relationships with each other and community partners, which is the cornerstone of community development.

This month's events included:

- **Community Stakeholder Meeting with Jecorey Arthur:** (Held on 5/24/22) Beecher residents were able to have an intimate discussion with councilman regarding his role as councilman of district 4, offered information regarding the law-making process in metro government, and encouraged to provide their insights regarding issues impacting the community. Beecher residents shared concerns regarding safety and lighting, police response to the neighborhood, food insecurity and the need for a grocery store in Russell. Beecher residents also received the nomination form for Resident Council offices and informed of next steps in the voting process. This meeting was offered both in-person and virtually. There were 36 total attendees.
- **Bingo with a Purpose:** (Held on 5/23/22) USI continued the Bingo with a Purpose Series the month. Building on last month's focus of "maintaining important documents", this month featured Russell Based Insurance Co., State Farm. Two State Farm representative were able to provide resident information regarding rental insurance and life insurance. There were 24 total attendees.
- **Summer Kick Off** (Held on 5/27/22) USI hosted a "Summer Kick Off" to celebrate wins with youth and families such as perfect attendance and academic proficiency, and most importantly to connect youth and families to summer enrichment opportunities. There were 16 total attendees.

Family Support Services - Outreach and Engagement:

Total Households in Grant Award 767	Total Eligible Households 451
# and % of HH and People in Case Management	408 (90%) and 778 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>USI continues efforts to enroll and engage all eligible Beecher Terrace families. USI is maintaining a 91% enrollment rate of eligible households. This month USI enrolled one new Beecher Terrace family and re-engaging 2 original inactive households. 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 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. This month USI partnered with State Farm and focused on both Rental and Life Insurance. 24 attendees to this month’s Bingo session. Also, to increase accessibility, USI staff and partners have begun to have <u>“Pop-Up” sessions</u> outside, nearest the family homes and “high” traffic” zones on site. Pop-Ups will feature resources and opportunities in all 5 services pillars. Additional outreach strategies include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Providing a monthly calendar of meetings and events that are accessible for residents. 2) Canvassing/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. USI has increased subgroups in the ONE Call systems to increase targeted outreach to identified populations. 4) Use of social media to engage and promote opportunities and successes of Beecher residents and supporting Choice Partners. <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 any 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 to support a resolution. USI staff participates in ongoing collaborative sessions organize to better support and coordinate rental support for both residents and property management. The Kentucky Housing Corp announced the <u>Healthy at Home Eviction Relief Program</u> this month. Eligible residents will be able to apply for maximum rent relief of 100% of past due rent since April 1,2020 + three months future rent. With a maximum of 12 months of past due rent. Both tenants and landlords are encouraged to apply. USI staff began to reach out for residents to share the information and to ensure residents have all needed information to process the rental support request.</p>	

Economic Mobility:	
# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (230 total)	2022 Target: 181 or 80% 146 or 64% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed (increase of 1% from last month)

# and % of 18–24-year-old youth in secondary education and/or job training (29 eligible)	2022 Target: 20 or 70% 13 or 45% of individuals between 18-24 are employed.
<p>2022 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 (22 or 70%) <p>Currently, 64% of those work able residents are employed. This month there was one new job obtained this month. This month’s job placements included a medical positing with Norton’s Healthcare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 69% of those employed are working full time (increase of 1% from last month) • 75% have been working for longer than a year (increase of 3% from last month), with only 15% 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: • (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 and other Early Childhood agencies to provide support and follow up with families. There have been 15 families referred to OVEC and YMCA. There were 1 additional youth enrolled in OVEC this month: for a total of 5 enrolled to date. USI staff worked intensively to follow up on previous referrals and assist with needed documentation to increase enrollment. • (Increase Career Training) In order to assist residents to return to the workforce, increase wages or transition careers, extensive job training may be necessary. USI recognizes the benefits of career training such as increasing productivity and skill level. Additionally, career training assists residents with keeping current in a world where both technology and societal expectations are rapidly changing. 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. Last month there were 2 additional Beecher residents enrolled in Catholic Charities Common Table program. One resident continues to participate meeting expectations of the program. • (Increase Access to Employment) USI continues to seek employment opportunities that provide flexible scheduling, bus line accessibility and a reasonable path towards living wages. USI hosted its first Economic Mobility Pop-up. USI provided information and resources regarding home ownership, job training, employment, and other economic mobility needs. There were 12 attendees to this event. USI partners with the Urban League Senior Jobs Program and the Workforce Wednesday Initiative. USI staff target residents weekly to participate in the virtual workforce opportunity that gives residents direct access to hiring employers from various sectors of the community. This event also provides barrier removal support for those needing second chance employment or others 	

needing supplemental documentation such as social security cards and driver's license. Residents receive weekly prompts regarding the virtual opportunity

- **(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.
 - **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. 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. This month there was one more family connected to the pipeline via homeownerships programs with LMHA Family Self- Sufficiency program. To date there have been 10 families connected to the Home Ownership pipeline.
 - **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.

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:

Ages and Stages Developmental Screenings: We have continued to conduct ongoing monthly meetings with Play Cousins and Metro United Way to discuss our ongoing partnerships, progress in registering youth in their services, and developing strategies in increase enrollment an overall participation in activities and services. 62% of targeted population has been screened for developmental delays. This month USI's Education Specialist completed training for Ages & Stages, as a result USI staff will now be able to conduct development screenings with parents and children ages 0-5. Moreover, USI's Education Specialist will be able to make more real time referrals and

linkages to address identified needs and prepare the youth and family for Kindergarten.

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. 59% of 0-4 Beecher Youth (39/66) are enrolled in early learning programs. The month denotes an increase of unlicensed childcare placement. As FSS staff follow up on all eligible youth, many families report that their paramours and familial relatives are caretaking for the youth. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Headstart: 17%
- Headstart: 9%
- PreK in Public School: 15%
- Licensed Childcare Center: 20%
- Licensed Childcare Home: 1.5%
- 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. There are currently 16 referrals to early learning programs with only 8 enrollments this month (3 with OVEC, 4 with YMCA, 2 private childcare). FSS staff continue to follow up with all referrals to further assist with obtaining documentation and other needed documents. USI is also working with partners to conduct "maintaining important documents" trainings to assist families that often struggle with having needed documentation to be properly linked to community resources and supports.

Cascade System/Academic Proficiency

As reflected in JCPS's Cascade System, 53% of BT's middle and high school students maintained an average GPA of 2.0 or higher. 7% had 4.0 (all A's), and 15% had between 3.0-3.9 and lastly 31% had between a 2.0-2.9 GPA. Of the remaining 47%, 16% were on the border of passing. USI staff will continue to utilize data from the Cascade system to triage and prioritize outreach linkages to youth resources.

Quality OST and Social and Emotional Supports:

- Girl Scouts of Ky: Onsite (unlimited slots) {15 active youth/3 new members this month}
- Sowing Seeds with Faith: Onsite (25 slots) (4 youth enrolled)
- Bellarmine University: Virtual (45-50 slots) {4 enrolled/3 waitlisted}
- I Would Rather Be Reading: Site Based/TBD (45 slots) {18 youth enrolled}
- LCCC: Site Based/Russell : (25 Slots)

All listed OST programs ended in May and began preparing for summer except Girl Scouts of Ky, this program is on-going and has continued to meet.

Summer Programming

This month (and month's prior) USI focused efforts on getting youth and families aware and connected to all summer programs and opportunities. Approximately 146 (60%) youth have been referred or connected to summer programming opportunities. Through Metro United Way's BLOCs program, several youth will be attend YMCA summer camp. Other opportunities included Cabbage Patch Settlement House, LCCC, IWRBR, Summerworks, Boys and Girl's Club and Metro Parks Community Centers. USI FSS will follow up with families to ensure youth attend programming opportunities and any barriers are addressed.

As previously mentioned, USI hosted a Summer Kick Off event to help assist families with exploring and connecting to summer programming options.

Health and Wellness:

and % of residents who have health insurance

(741) – 99% of Residents have Health Insurance

Updates on Health and Wellness: (Key meetings and activities conducted to support improving health and wellness outcomes for residents this month)

58% of Beecher Terrace adults report having a chronic health condition. The most noted illnesses include high blood pressure, asthma, and depression. 15% of youth also report having a chronic illness, as well. 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:

- MOLO Village/KSU: Dare to Care Food Box deliveries
- Hope Buss: Food and Basic Care Package Deliveries
- Genesis Arts: Art and Soul Program (3 hr. sessions twice a week)

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

Fit Club-Family Fitness Program—The fit club focuses on being Healthy at Home and is led by ECDL participant B. Turner. The Fit Club meets to share physical and nutritional options in addition to discovering multiple ways to optimize well-being at home. USI SPM and Resident Leader B. Turner led a community kickball game. Both youth and parents participated in the event. Approximately 15 attended the event.

Kids Finish First. – Approximately 12 youth participated in the Kids Finish First Program. The goal of the program is to encourage local youth to take steps toward an active lifestyle by training to complete a half marathon. Although several youths could not attend the final event due to school travel, this program is not to serve as a one-time event, but to be a catalyst for physical activity and good nutrition as a lifestyle and motivation for permanent behavior change. One of our participating BT youth did make the news showing off his medal and pride of accomplishing this major task.

Increasing Food Security. This month as many COVID resources begin to dwindle, USI staff had an increase of service linkages regarding food security. USI continues to partner with MOLO Village, Dare to Care, Hope Buss, Sister Visitors, Community Ministries and Neighborhood Place to provide connections to food and resources. There were 9 food boxes/linkages this month.

Beecher Walks. This month Beecher residents and USI staff reignited the Beecher Walks walking club. This walking program is a health and wellness strategy aimed to encourage Beecher Terrace residents, targeting seniors and residents with chronic health conditions to increase walking, physical activity and socialization. USI staff and participating residents walk every Wednesday morning, starting at the Beecher Terrace Senior Building.

This month, USI added an evening session for Walking Wednesdays. The evening session was designed to include more youth and family units.

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 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 “Seasonal Allergy Tips” and COVID interventions and supports. This month, health chats also included assessing if families are participating in trauma reducing programs and activities. 13 Residents received intensive Health Chats this month. As a result of conducting monthly health chats, one referral to mental health support was completed.

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:

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

1 Residents	Participate in Trauma Reducing Programs/Activities
12 Residents	Not Participating in Trauma Reducing Programs/Activities