

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

Executive Summary:

“For children living in neighborhoods with high crime rates, summer often can increase stress and isolation.....Gun violence in Louisville is public health epidemic impacting them directly, and as a community. We must offer them opportunities to have fun, be active and learn in safe spaces for free” --Asst. Director of Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods, Carla Kirby. During the month of June, Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) continued utilizing the Results Count Framework and aligned efforts with community partners to not only cast light on disparate outcomes resulting from systemic racism but to also disrupt such patterns that continue to plague the community and individual households. USI works diligently to close equity gaps but also helps to create safe spaces for families to thrive by increasing employment and livable wage income, improving educational outcomes, and strategically addressing needs of youth and families such as escalating gun violence. This report will reflect highlights that include the Unity the Community -Safe Summer Kick-off Community Event, Monthly Resident Meeting, and other advancements across all pillars and services.

After breaking the gun violence record last year, Louisville, Ky. Is on track to set another record-breaking year of gun violence. As of end of May, reportedly, there have been 70 homicides and 166 individuals injured in non-fatal shootings. As a result, community violence further perpetuates the cycles of concentrated poverty, structural disadvantage, and health inequity that already exist within these communities. This month’s events and activities were targeted to assist Beecher and Russell families with moving beyond their obstacles towards more positive results, more specifically providing opportunities, increasing awareness and most importantly, building trusting relationships amongst each other and community stakeholders. This month’s events included:

- **Unity in the Community -Safe Summer Kick-Off** (Held on June 25, 2022) USI partnered with the Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods to facilitate a fun but safe kickoff to summer. This event consisted of multigenerational activities and vendors to engage the entire family. Residents were able to interface directly with the Mayor of Louisville and their District Councilman. Families received free food and information regarding several community projects, such as information regarding the new hospital being built in the West End. In addition to several Beecher residents attending the event, several Resident Leaders volunteered to work the event. There were 4 ECDL volunteers and approximately 125-150 attendees.
- **Monthly Resident Meeting** (Held on June 21, 2022) This month’s meeting continued addressing factors that negatively impact economic mobility for the families of Beecher Terrace. Guest presenters were two non-profits, Change Today Change Tomorrow and The Louisville Association for Community Economics (LACE). This meeting was offered both in-person and virtually. There were 32 attendees.

Currently, there are 411 households and 785 individuals (91% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services with Urban Strategies Inc. This reflects an increase of 2 households 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.

Family Support Services - Outreach and Engagement:

Total Households in Grant Award 767	Total Eligible Households 451
# and % of HH and People in Case Management	411 (91%) and 785 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-activated 1 original inactive household. 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 Commonwealth Credit Union and focused on several economic concerns that impact our families such as debt management, credit recovery and home ownership. 22 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. This month USI assisted eight families with rental assistance and six families with utility assistance.</p>	

Economic Mobility:

# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (231 total)	2022 Target: 181 or 80% 146 or 63% of Beecher Terrace Work-Able Residents are employed
# and % of 18–24-year-old youth in secondary education and/or job training (30 eligible)	2022 Target: 20 or 70% 13 or 43% 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, 63% 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">• 70% of those employed are working full time (increase of 1% from last month)• 73% have been working for longer than a year, with 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:• (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 continues to follow up on referrals and address barriers that prohibit enrollment to quality childcare programs• (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. This month two residents were referred to career training programs: trilogy (medical career) and IES Electrician Apprenticeship. One resident enrolled and began the electrical apprenticeship program.• (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: 62% of targeted population has been screened for developmental delays. 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.

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 that best supports academic, social and emotional needs.

Quality OST and Social and Emotional Supports:

- Girl Scouts of Ky: Onsite (unlimited slots) {15 active youth/3 new members this month}
- LCCC: Site Based/Russell: (25 Slots)

Summer Programming

This month USI focused efforts on getting youth and families aware and connected to all summer programs and opportunities. This month there were an additional 23 youth referred to summer programming: LCCC and JCPS. Approximate 169 (70%) youth have been referred or connected to summer programming opportunities. Through Metro United Way's BLOCs program, several youth will attend YMCA summer camp. Other opportunities included Cabbage Patch Settlement House, LCCC, IWRBR, Summerworks, Boys and Girls Club and Metro Parks Community Centers. This month, USI Education Specialist conducted site visits to support both youth and families but also the programs that serve our families.

Western Library Block Party/Summer Reading Program (Held on June 11)

This USI participated in Louisville Public Library Western Branch Block Party. This event offered books and resources to youth and families throughout Russell. This was also an opportunity to register youth for the summer reading program. This incentivized program encourages multigenerational reading participation but also helps to reduce summer slide between grade levels.

Health and Wellness:

# and % of residents who have health insurance	(741) – 99% of Residents have Health Insurance
<p>Updates on Health and Wellness: (Key meetings and activities conducted to support improving health and wellness outcomes for residents this month)</p> <p>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:</p> <p>Strengthening Partnerships: Supporting Seniors USI continues to strengthen relationships with partners and resources targeted for Seniors. This month the following partners supported Beecher Seniors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOLO Village/Dare to Care: Pantry/ Food Box deliveries • Change Today Change Tomorrow: Food Delivers and Basic Need Assistance • Hope Buss: Food and Basic Care Package Deliveries <p>Increasing Food Security/HopeFull Event- The Hope Buss food justice initiative exists to increase access to healthy food for underserved families in the West End. The Hope Buss served approximately 85 families with food valued at \$3,600+.</p> <p>Diabetes Prevention and Education- This month USI partnered with Aetna to provide Diabetes prevention and education to Beecher residents. Residents received information regarding healthy foods and lifestyle behaviors to help or improve the impact of diabetes. There were 11 attendees to the event.</p> <p>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. This month’s Health Chats focused on “Men’s Health” resources and supports. This month, health chats also included assessing if families are participating in trauma reducing programs and activities. 15 Residents received intensive Health Chats this month.</p>	