

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

**Executive Summary:**

This month Louisville's headlines read "Beecher Terrace has new life, new look as the city invites longtime residents to 'come home'". Celebrating the Phase III grand opening this month, resident leader, D. Christian represented Beecher Terrace residents in her public address, while several other residents were interviewed by several local media outlets expressing their pride and excitement about returning to Beecher Terrace. In addition to amplifying the voices and needs of the Beecher Terrace and Russell community, Urban Strategies Inc. (USI) continued utilizing the Results Count framework to move families beyond barriers towards more thriving results. USI works to eliminate disproportionality 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 reflect this month's progress in efforts to engage Beecher Terrace families in family support services and advancements across all pillars and services.

- There are 412 households and 781 individuals (91% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services (increase of one new target HH). USI has exceeded previous goal of 80% engagement and will work to maintain 90% of eligible families enrolled and actively participating in supportive services. There were several engagement strategies utilized this month. USI collaborates with Choice partners and community resources to provide pathways for residents to gather information, increase awareness of equitable opportunities, and build trusting relationships with each other and the community.

This month's events included:

**Monthly Resident Meeting:** (Held on 7/18/22) This month's resident meeting focused on highlighting programs and resources within the Russell Neighborhood. Guest presenters represented, Russell Place of Promise, Chestnut YMCA, and Commonwealth Credit Union. This meeting was offered both in-person and virtually. There were 39 total attendees.

**LACE/Deli Up Tasting Event:** (Held on 7/8/22) Deli Up is a food justice strategy aimed to increase access to healthy foods, while also shifting decision making power to residents and community members. Deli Up is partnership with Louisville Association for Community Economics (LACE), Common Table, and the Humana Foundation. There were 61 total attendees.

Currently, 65% of those work able residents are employed (increase of 2% from last month). There were three jobs reported this month. This month's job placements included a position with Norton's Healthcare and 2 position in the fast food industry.

- 70% of those employed are working full time
- 75% have been working for longer than a year, with only 8% obtaining employment within the last 6 months.

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.

### 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	412 (91%) and 785 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 91% enrollment rate of eligible households. This month USI enrolled one new Beecher Terrace family. 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 JenCare. JenCare is a Senior Medical Center that honors seniors with affordable, VIP care that delivers better health. There were 12 attendees to this event. 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>	

### Economic Mobility:

# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (230 total)	<b>2021 Target: 181 or 80%</b> <b>149- 65% 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>11- 35% 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, 65% of those work able residents are employed. There were three jobs reported this month. This month's job placements included a warehouse and hairstylist positions.

- 70% of those employed are working full time
- 75% have been working for longer than a year, with only 8% 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 and other Early Childhood providers. There were 15 referrals for early learning programs both OVEC and YMCA. There were 2 youth enrolled in the YMCA this month. There are 5 youth enrolled in OVEC and 4 youth enrolled in YMCA.
- **Increase Access to Employment)** USI continues to seek employment opportunities that provide flexible scheduling, bus line accessibility and path towards living wages. This month USI staff worked to connect residents to opportunities with **Urban League**, Senior Jobs Program and the Workforce Wednesday Initiative. ECDL resident leader, K. Dozier has partnered with USI to assist any Beecher residents that would like to participate in training or the Senior Jobs Program. USI staff will 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. 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(Two residents were referred to the LUL Homeownership program).
- **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 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 69% of targeted population has been screened for developmental delays. This is a 7% increase since last month.

**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. **61%** of 0-4 Beecher Youth(34/61) enrolled in early learning programs. Breakdown as follows:

- Early Headstart: 20%
- Headstart: 5%
- PreK in Public School: 3%

- Licensed Childcare Center: 17%
- 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.

**Graduation/College Readiness:** There were 11 graduating seniors enrolled in supportive services. 49% of seniors are enrolled in secondary educational programs and 20% entered the workforce.

**Quality OST and Social and Emotional Supports: USI staff and partners have worked to recruit and enroll youth in the following OST programs:** Several programs were unable to meet due to safety concerns regarding COVID. USI staff did support youth and families that needed to transition participation in virtual opportunities. USI Education Specialist also worked to increase capacity for virtual opportunities for partners and residents.

- Girl Scouts of Ky: Onsite (unlimited slots) {15 active youth}
- 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. 60% of referred youth are actively participating in an out of school enrichment program. This month, USI Education Specialist continued conducting site visits to support both youth and families but also the programs that serve our families.

**Health and Wellness:**

# and % of residents who have health insurance	(750) – 99% of Residents have Health Insurance
<b>Updates on Health and Wellness: (Key meetings and activities conducted to support improving health and wellness outcomes for residents this month)</b>	
<p>58% 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:</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:

- JenCare Provide 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
- Aetna Healthcare Slow Cooker Classes (Each participant received their own slow cooker) There were 19 participants.

**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 "Preparing youth for Back to School (reminding about physicals, necessary screenings and shots and other medical needs)" 14 Residents received intensive Health Chats this month.