

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

**Executive Summary:**

During this month, Urban Strategies Inc (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. This report will reflect progress across all pillars of service, programming highlights including LOVE Notes Youth program (collaboration with YMCA) and the West Louisville Housing Fair (Urban League) and lastly, development of new partnerships (Muhammad Ali Center).

There are 419 households and 803 individuals (92% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services (an increase of one household from last month). USI continues to exceed previous target 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. More recently, the support also includes assisting residents through difficult predicaments that impacts the stability of the household.

Urban Strategies, Inc. facilitated several events this month that provided opportunities for residents to engage in equitable opportunities and build trusting relationships with each other and community partners.

This month's events included:

- **LOVE NOTES: (Held on 12/5 - 12/8/22 & 12/13 - 12/15/22)** Urban Strategies, Inc., in partnership with the Chestnut Street YMCA, hosted LOVE Notes, an evidence-based program that supports teens, and young adults in developing skills and confidence to engage in respectful, equitable, and healthy relationships. USI focused on teens, ages 14-18. Upon completion of the program, participants and their households received a 1-year membership to the YMCA. There were 7 total attendees.
- **West Louisville Housing Fair: (Held on 12/9/22)** Urban Strategies, Inc. partnered with the Louisville Metro Center for Equity, and WE Lou, Inc. to host the West Louisville Housing Fair. This event connected West Louisville residents to resources focused on housing stability, and economic mobility. USI connected attendees to utility and rental assistance information, and information on affordable housing at Beecher Terrace. The Louisville Urban League Financial Empowerment Center connected attendees to

their budgeting and credit counseling program, and other programs offered at the Louisville Urban League that would support attendees on their economic mobility pathway. Other guests included LMHA, Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission, Louisville Metro Downpayment Assistance Program, Park Community, Republic Bank, local realtors, New York Insurance Co., and the Legal Aid Society. Breakout sessions focused on Credit Counseling and Budgeting, Homeownership 101 & Financing, Down Payment Assistance, and Estate Planning. There were 104 community attendees.

- **Holiday Mixer: (Held on 12/20/22)** This month’s in-person resident meeting focused on highlighting the voices of Beecher Terrace residents through meaningful conversations about ways to increase access to resources for families, conducting health chats focused on mental health and wellness during the month of December, and most importantly. Attendees were provided with a gift bag provided by AETNA. There were 30 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	419 (92%) and 803 participants

**Updates on Outreach and Engagement: (Key meetings are conducted to engage residents, increase residents in family support services or to support residents who are actively participating with USI):**

Urban Strategies, Inc. continues various outreach strategies to continue to engage and enroll all eligible Beecher Terrace families in comprehensive supportive services offered by USI and community partners. USI maintains a 92% enrollment rate of eligible households. Continuing to utilize the Results Count Framework, Urban Strategies, Inc. seeks to implement strategies that include providing equitable outreach solutions to inactive households, reactivating original BT households and enrolling new residents. Additional outreach strategies include:

- 1.) Providing a monthly calendar of meetings and events that are accessible for residents.
- 2.) Canvassing/Conducting door knocking to share the monthly calendar, event flyers, and information regarding available family support services.
- 3.) Utilizing 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.

Urban Strategies, Inc. continues to collaborate with LMHA property managers, and other landlords to assist residents with all concerns impacting housing stability. USI staff continued 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 organized to better support and coordinate rental support for both residents and property management. The Kentucky Housing Corp announced the Healthy at Home Eviction Relief Program ending this month. Eligible residents were able to apply for maximum rent relief of 100% of past due rent from April 1, 2020 with three months future rent. With a maximum of 12 months of past due rent. Both tenants and landlords are encouraged to apply. The Healthy at Home Eviction Relief Program has suspended rental relief as of December 22, 2023. Louisville Metro will likely receive additional funding but unaware of when it will be accessible for residents.

**Economic Mobility:**

# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents (235 total)	2022 Target: 181 or 80% 152 or 65% 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.

**2022 EMPLOYMENT TARGETS:**

- 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. During the month of November, there were two new jobs obtained this month. Both job placements are in the production industry, which included the Production Team at Frito Lay and GameStop Warehouse. There were no job placements for the month of December, but there was one referral to job placement services:

- 69% of those employed are working full time.

- 84% have been working for longer than a year, with 15% 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 Play Cousins Collective to provide alternative educational opportunities 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. USI staff works 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 will 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.
- (Increase Access to Employment) USI continues to seek employment opportunities that provide flexible scheduling, bus line accessibility and a pathway towards living wages. This month USI staff worked to connect residents to opportunities with the Urban League, and Dress for Success. USI conducts bi-weekly pop-ups to share most recent and up to date employment opportunities. Residents attending the Economic Mobility pop-ups receive information regarding available jobs, career training opportunities, in addition to other wealth building supports and services. USI provided information and resources regarding home ownership, job training, employment, and other economic mobility needs.
- (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.

Strategic planning yielded an established goal to connect 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 home ownership programs through the LMHA Family Self- Sufficiency program. To date there have been 11 families connected to the Home Ownership pipeline, which includes one from December.
  - 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 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 the series design this month and implement it later January, or early February.

USI met with staffing at the Muhammad Ali Center (MAC). The MAC has agreed to partner with USI with several upcoming endeavors. This partnership will increase resident access to the Center and its programming and activities. Additionally, USI and MAC will target Beecher Youth 16-24 for a leadership and entrepreneurship initiative. USI and MAC will meet again in January to formalize the partnership.

## 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:** Urban Strategies, Inc. will continue conducting monthly meetings with Metro United Way to discuss our ongoing partnerships, progress in registering youth in their services, and developing strategies to increase enrollment and overall participation in activities and services. 75% of the targeted population has been screened for developmental delays. This month USI's Project Manager will complete training for Ages & Stages, as a result USI staff will be able to continue conducting development screenings with parents and children ages 0-5. Moreover, USI's Project Manager 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 assist with kindergarten registration.

77% of 0-4 Beecher Youth (51/66) are enrolled in early learning programs. This month denotes an increase of youth enrolled in early learning programs, and licenses child care centers. 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 Head Start: 56%
- Headstart: 8%
- PreK in Public School: 7%
- Licensed Child Care Center: 29%
- Licensed Child Care Home: 1.2%
- Unlicensed (family, church) 7%

USI continues to work closely with OVEC and other partners to assist youth with registration to Headstart/Early Headstart and Licensed Child Care. 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. 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, 30% of BT's middle and high school students maintained an average GPA of 2.0 or higher. 4% had 4.0 (all A's), and 18% had between 3.0-3.9 and lastly 28% had between a 2.0-2.9 GPA. Of the remaining 48%, 36% 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)
- Bellarmine University: Virtual (25 slots) {6 enrolled)

**Health and Wellness:**

# and % of residents who have health insurance	(636) – 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)**

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

**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.

