

Urban Strategies, INC (USI)

Beecher Terrace Monthly Report

May 2023

Executive Summary:

This month, USI has continued to support families through intensive supportive services, to all eligible Beecher Terrace residents, (both on and off-site). Participating in Family Supportive services allows families to envision a thriving future and intentionally establish goals while removing barriers that once stood in their path. Utilizing the Results Count Framework, USI works to close equity gaps by implementing targeted strategies aimed to promote economic self-sufficiency for families, enhance the quality of life for Seniors and over all well-being for all Beecher Terrace residents. This report will reflect highlights from engagement strategies, such as monthly resident meetings, a new partnership with a youth provider for summer programs, and violence prevention measures with Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods.

There are 390 households and 743 individuals (87% of eligible households) enrolled in family support services. USI has exceeded previous goal of 80% engagement of eligible families enrolled and actively participating in supportive services. 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. Recognizing the importance of assisting with community development amongst the residents of Beecher Terrace, it is equally important to assist BT residents with establishing a sense of community and connection with their neighborhood, including community partners and resources. There were several engagement strategies utilized this month.

This month's resident programming and activities are as follows:

KIDS FINISH FIRST--- (HELD ON 5.9.23) Louisville Sports Commission partnered with USI to get kids active. Over a course of 6 weeks, participants ran 2 miles a week and finished out on May 9, 2023, to have a total of 13 miles, which is a Mini Marathon. Our youth were given a form to track their weekly miles and was able to celebrate at Iroquois Park with pizza and drinks and a medal was earned as well. This event was hosted by the Sports Commission and attended by several other youth, which included 7 youth from Beecher Terrace. This event was promoted in early March to give families a head start on exercising, but moreover to get FIT together. Exercising at that age is primarily gauged by the school system or those who participate in sports activities. USI wanted to incorporate the entire family as well as the community. This event was also held last year and will be something that will be offered each year as more families show interest.

Monthly Resident Meeting- (HELD ON 5.15.2023) This month's resident meeting focused on Russell Pivot to Peace Violence Prevention and Resident Council Updates. Representatives from the Russell community presented valuable information about their concerns for the violence in the community amongst other topics. The rising violence included discussions around the vulnerable population of the senior. Much light was shed on their safety and how seniors need to be more observant when they may be traveling alone. This group also spoke about the health of the community, ie eating habits and light

exercises individuals can do at home. Self-Care was a great discussion that led to inviting our senior community to Elder Serve, which is a Senior based community center. Also, during this meeting a representative from resident council was present to discuss inducting a new president. USI plans to partner with Russell Pivot to Peace Violence Prevention to take preventative measures to bring awareness to the rising violence not only in Louisville, but our community as well. USI is very aware of what is taking place in our surrounding communities, we are wanting to step in and see where we can ensure the safety of our residents.

FAMILY SUPPORTIVE SERVICES- OUTREACH and Engagement:

Total Households in Grant Award 767	Total Eligible Households 451
# and % of HH and People in Case Management 390 87%	743 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 in with USI):

As mentioned in last month’s report, there were families who were moved to “inactive” status after various attempts to reengage. Some of those attempts included multiple phone calls, (various time throughout the working hours), text messages, home visits and letters mailed. We have increased the enrollment through those attempts, one being the mailed letter. USI is using current strategies and implementing more creative ideas to gage enrollment. One of those strategies will include “pop up” tents on site to allow new residents, eligible families that were once made “inactive” and seeking our original residents. USI will continue to uplift the follow efforts as well:

- 1.) Providing a monthly calendar of meetings and events that are accessible for residents,
- 2.) Canvassing the community to share monthly calendars, flyers and info regarding family support services.
- 3.) Utilizing the ONE CALL systems to increase targeted outreach to identified populations.
- 4.) Better use of social media to engage and promote opportunities and successes of Beecher residents and supporting Choice Partners
- 5.) Creating and sending a newsletter to our residents each month to highlight past and upcoming events within each pillar, provide contacts to partners and other resources.

Economic Mobility:

# and % of Able-Bodied employed residents 215 – total (increase 3 individuals from last report)	2023 Target – 170 or 80% Current Employment Rate 149 or 69.3% (Increase of 4.3% from last month)
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# and % of 18- 24- year-old youth in secondary education and/or job training. (24 eligible)	2023 Target: 16 or 70% 18 or 76% of individuals between 18-24 are employed.
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2023 Employment Targets:

- Increase working work able to (170 or 80%)
- Increase number of 18-24 y/o youth in post-secondary education and/or job training (45 or 70%)
- Currently 69.3% of the work-able residents are employed.
- 1 person has reported job training through Goodwill.
- 2 new persons reported working as a “LABORER.”
- 1 person reported working at the University of Louisville hospital.

The numbers of those who are work able have increased by nearly 5%. The number of working individuals has increased due to reporting current employment by those who were inactive and now have been reactivated. There were residents who were newly employed, and through the intense strategies of supportive services, engagement has increased as well. USI will continue to push toward that 80% goal to get more individuals working. USI is hosting a job fair on site. The attendees invited are not only to hire these individuals, but also to partner with USI to offer ongoing employment to targeted populations and to allow residents to participate in job training programs. These organizations include Goodwill Inc, YMCA Louisville, Louisville Free Public Library and Norton Healthcare. **Most of these employers also consider 2nd chance opportunities, experience is not a must and opportunities of growth.** These particular employers were chosen to eliminate the barriers that most of our families find challenging to overcome; childcare, transportation and some criminal history that has deterred them from gaining opportunities in such career fields.

Goodwill offers a wide range of opportunities for many. Bringing them onto the site will help seek out those individuals who have had a hard time getting to them due to transportation and/or not being aware of the opportunities. Goodwill assists will soft skill trainings, eliminates transportation barriers, (bus passes are given to participants and bicycles), they offer vouchers for clothing for interviews, computer classes and more. With this wide range of career development opportunities, we tend to focus on these needs. USI and Goodwill will develop a pathway in which residents can learn and earn through this network of resources.

Increase in Access in Employment: **WEALTHY WEDNESDAYS:** USI has developed a new approach to allow residents time to come into a space where computers and WIFI will be available from 12- 2pm. Staff will continue to support residents with resume writing, job search, school enrollment, computer skills, etc.

Education:

2023 Educational Updates:

The implementation of the following strategies for the advancement of educational outcomes and increase parent engagement:

USI continues to connect families with Play Cousins Collective to conduct the surveys for Developmental Screening for Ages and Stages. The screenings will be conducted in with the parents of those ages 0-5. This will be done in real time to be able to identify those with needs to make the necessary linkages to address any concerns and also to prepare those who are entering kindergarten.

Partner with the Office of Safe and Healthy neighborhoods to address the concerns of those in 5th - 9th grade. **The concerns are understanding the perspective of a victim violence, the impact and morality of violence, and obtain skills for violence prevention and conflict resolution.** This is a 6-week program geared toward this target population. Through Virtual Reality, this program will focus on the youth of the Russell community and others. USI will partner with OSHN to aid in the recruitment of these youth in our neighborhood. USI will be able to connect the youth from Beecher as this program incentivizes with a Kentucky Kingdom Pass and a temporary YMCA pass as well.

USI is currently partnered with the following programs to give families the opportunity to explore summer programming. The table below shows the number of youth referred and also slots held for Beecher and the highlighted areas are those that are new to the Bloccs program.

Summer Program	Number of referrals this month	Referrals to Date	Slots
SOWING SEED WITH FAITH		15	UNLIMITED
YMCA		13	APPROX 25
MOLO		2	UNLIMITED
METRO PARKS		2	UNLIMITED
IWRBR/COMMUNITY CENTERS			UNLIMITED
GIRL SCOUTS		15	UNLIMITED
SUMMERWORKS		5	UNLIMITED
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE	2	2	TBD
SANKOFA-OSHN	3	3	UNLIMITED

Number and Percent of residents who have health insurance	636-99% 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)

It's been reported and the percentage has not moved, 60% of the Beecher Terrace adults reported having a chronic illness, all which include, asthma, high blood pressure, and depression. 15% of our youth also report having chronic illness as well. Understanding that housing is social determinant of health has been long established. 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 health and wellness of the whole person: the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being. This month's strategies have included:

Partnership with Centerwell: Senior support, USI has recently partnered with Centerwell to come out monthly to conduct health education. For the month of May, the discussion was amongst diabetes health. Residents were educated about numbers when looking at blood pressure and sugar checks, diets and exercising. Residents were invited to come visit their home-based clinic located near U of L Stadium and to in the next months when they open their Russell location.

WALKING WEDNESDAYS: USI LEAD GROUP; in 2022 a walking group was established in Beecher Terrace. This group is open to all residents. This is to invite residents to participate with staff to walk around the neighborhood for 30 minutes. This is to promote health, light exercise, but most importantly mental stability through fellowship. USI participates in the walks to allow residents to get to know staff better and to establish even better rapport with the community.

- Wednesdays in May, June, and July (weather permitting)
- All residents are welcomed.
- 9/9:30 walks begin