

May 18, 2022 Update

EDUCATION

- Blackshear Elementary School - A portion of Blackshear's accountability is based on their 4th and 5th grade scholars performing at a higher level than they did on Reading and Math STAAR Test the previous school year. In April Blackshear scholars took a formative assessment and continued to see tremendous growth as they have seen all year indicated in the chart below.

Grade and Content	Growth
4 th Grade Reading	65%
4 th Grade Math	85%
5 th Grade Reading	79%
5 th Grade Math	100%

- Blackshear Elementary School Annual Community Fair was held on Saturday, May 14th under the theme "Blackshear Family Reunion." Good Reason Houston provided free books created specifically for minority scholars. The free books were also provided by the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation and TSU-TIEER. UH Third Ward Initiative (TWI) volunteers and College of Medicine (UCOM) staff also attended. Blackshear Principal Alicia Lewis is forever grateful for the tremendous support that she receives from the University of Houston.
- Mentor Takeover at Foster Elementary School - On April 22nd UH student TWI volunteers and members of the UH Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. participated in the Mentor Takeover at Foster Elementary School by reading to elementary school children, assisting them with homework, and physical education and personal fitness activities.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

- Center for Economic Inclusion (CEI) launched on May 7th at the UH Cullen Performance Hall. That same day SURE Program participants celebrated their successful program completion. Several SBA officials were on hand and spoke as did representatives from Wells Fargo Bank. Henry Cisneros, former Mayor of San Antonio, delivered the keynote address to the audience. Also present were U.S. Congressional representatives Al Green and Sheila Jackson Lee. Since the event a total of approximately 10 million dollars has been raised or pledged toward the CEI endowment. The donor gift agreement with the Dakri family has been signed and will be presented to the UHS Board on May 19th along with the request to name the CEI after the Dakri family.

HEALTH

- Third Ward Dental Clinic – Free Dental services were provided to 508 residents. NSI and College of Medicine provided the tent for the event along with a few enthusiastic volunteers for this April 28 – April 30, 2022 event held at Emancipation Park. The event was sponsored primarily by the Third Ward Methodist ministers and the Texas Mission of Mercy non-profit. Below are the results from the services that were provided.

Day	Patients	Treatments	Total Production	Patient Average
April 29, 2022	220	1,161	\$149,506.76	\$679.58
April 30, 2022	337	1,602	\$224,757.66	\$666.94
Total	508	2,763	\$374,264.42	\$736.74

College of Medicine (COM) – Office of Community Health (OCH) Community Outreach and Activities:

- The Healthy Connections program provides health and social services navigation to 72 community participants in Third Ward and East End.
- OCH team participated in the monthly Fresh Produce Market and Health Fair at Trinity United Methodist Church to recruit for the Household Centered Care program.
- OCH team participated in the Center Well Health Center Grand Opening located on Emancipation Avenue at Elgin to recruit for the Household Centered Care Program.
- Prepared a letter of intent for the Episcopal Health Foundation Community Activation grant cycle. Partners include: Center for Civic and Public Policy Improvement (CCPPI), Humana, the Third Ward Community Cloth, Change Happens, and the Emancipation Economic Development Council (EEDC).
- OCH partnered with Change Happens to create a Third Ward Health and Resource Directory, a community-based request. Printed copies will be hand-delivered to Third Ward residents and will be available at neighborhood food pantries.
- OCH participated in monthly community collaborative meetings, including Third Ward Community Cloth, Health Equity Collective, Third Ward Health Collaborative, and UH Wesley Foundation.
- OCH held informational meetings with partners including American Heart Association, Houston in Action, Texas Southern University Center for Biomedical Research Community Engagement Core, and Care Partners.

OCH participated in the SER Jobs for Progress graduation ceremony for the customer service program graduates. SER Jobs is a job training program that is very active in the East End.

- OCH held the Third Ward Community Working Group meeting focused on planning the first Tre Talk on the long-term effects of COVID.
- OCH led East End Community Working Group meeting with the theme of food access. Guest speakers included Brian Green of Houston Food Bank, Tommy Garcia-Pratts of Finca Tres Robles, and Randall Mosman of Urban Harvest.

- Art Bike Parade at MacGregor Park – The Houston Parks Board, HISD and the Orange Show are hosting Houston’s first-ever Art Bike Parade and festival this Saturday, May 21st. This event is a day-long festival between MacGregor Park, Fonde Park, and Smither Park, all connected by the Brays Bayou Greenway. See attached flyer for details. At MacGregor Park, The Art Bike Parade will feature 86 HISD schools with decorated art bikes. The start of the parade is 10:00 a.m. NSI has been invited to participate. Mayor Turner, Commissioner Ellis and Council Member Evans Shabazz have confirmed their attendance.
- Baby Formula Distribution Drive was held on Saturday, May 14th, University of Houston Student Government Association President Joshua Martin assisted as did Dr. Lee.

ART AND CULTURE

- Project Row Houses Critical Race Exhibit. This exhibit has been lauded not only in the Houston Chronicle but in the Houston Defender and other media. UHD faculty and others collaborated on the exhibit which closes on June 5th. This exhibit is an example of PRH becoming broadening its exhibit themes that will attract more visitors and media attention.
- Project Row Houses (PRH) Renovation of the Historic Eldorado Building Kick-Off Celebration was held on April 30, 2022. This \$9 million project will bring live entertainment back to the legendary Eldorado Ballroom and a casual food venue and art gallery on the first floor. The project was lauded in a long article on May 15, 2022 in the Houston Chronicle.
- Project Row Houses Summer Studios – The UH Fellow in the KGMCA/PRH fellowship program will mentor college students in the 2022 summer studio art program.

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