

**Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)**  
**Beecher Terrace Monthly Report**  
**January 2021**

**Executive Summary:**

Considering the implications of COVID 19 and other stressors that affect the Beecher Terrace community, USI continues to engage families in comprehensive support services aimed to drive equitable outcomes. During this month of January, USI-Louisville evaluated trend data of 2020 in order to refine targets and strategies for 2021. Our trend data reflects an overall increase in case management services (25 families), increase of residents graduating from higher education (4 individuals), increase of families accessing the internet (increase of 5%) and owning computing devices (increase 14%). Updated strategies were captured in action plans across all pillars that include targets focused on increasing employment and income, increasing completion of home ownership programs (2 residents accessed barrier elimination funds in Q4 2020 to enroll in Urban League's homeownership program), increase GED completion and increase of connection to programs that improve safety, mastery and connection for all residents.

There are 413 households and 811 individuals (92% of eligible households) enrolled in case management services. USI-Louisville has exceeded previous goal of 80% and will work to maintain 90% of eligible families enrolled and actively participating in supportive services. Moreover, USI partnered with both LMHA and MBM to fully support residents throughout the relocation and reoccupancy process. The USI-Louisville staff toured the new Beecher Terrace 55+ Building and met with MBM staff to discuss lease up process, needed documents and other concerns related to supporting seniors in this moving process. The USI team is also working closely with LMHA to reach out to residents eligible for phase 2 redevelopment. USI is working to provide accurate and up to date information, while assisting with navigation of various systems with housing and utility support.

In October, USI released a request for proposals related to improving outcomes in the Education pillar with all three key indicators identified in the Louisville People Plan; kindergarten readiness, core academic proficiency and high school graduation and college/career readiness. Submitted requests were scored and finalist were interviewed. USI proudly announces new partnerships with Collaborative for Teaching and Learning/I'd Rather Be Reading, Sowing Seeds of Faith and Louisville Central Community Center. Each partnership is aimed to support targeted youth with academic proficiency, mentorship and career and college readiness. Next steps include securing formal Supportive Service Agreements and establishing timeline for execution which will include resident engagement and reporting.

USI has continued to move forward with the partnership with Bellarmine University and Evolve 502. This partnership will yield a two-model approach aimed to support targeted BT and Russell residents, but also will build capacity of other community NTI hubs. Bellarmine has identified 25 tutors and the USI-Louisville team has simultaneously identified approximately 20 youth to be matched with Bellarmine tutors. USI Senior Project Manager and Education Specialist participated in onboarding orientation for identified tutors. This process assisted college students with being better prepared to work with targeted population.

## Case Management - 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	413 (92%) and 811 participants
<p><b>Updates on Outreach and Engagement: (Key meetings ad conducted to engage residents, increase residents in case management or to support residents who are active in case management with USI:</b></p> <p>USI utilized the reoccupancy process to reach out to those who have not been active in service participation with us. USI continues to collaborate with LMHA to obtain up to date phone numbers and addresses, offering both relocation and on-going support and services.</p> <p>USI mailed out opt-out forms to several inactive families to clarify participation status. USI did not received any signed opt out forms.</p> <p>USI also collaborates with LMHA property managers to remain proactive and solution focused regarding issues that impact lease compliance, such as non-payment of rent, potential violations, and other housing concerns. USI has been deliberate in establishing relationships with landlords (outside of LMHA) to replicate similar strategies utilized with LMHA.</p> <p>USI continues to use Social Media to engage and promote opportunities to Beecher residents and supporting partners.</p>	

## Economic Mobility:

<p>The beginning of the year yielded additional CARES funding to support residents struggling with rental and utility payments. USI staff utilizes the list provided from LMHA to provide service linkages in order to maintain lease compliance and housing stability. USI staff are also working to assist residents with establishing payment plans to maintain utilities and avoid eviction. USI will be making referrals through United Communities platform to ensure seamless connections to all available funding and support.</p> <p>Currently, 60% of those work able are employed. USI will continue to match residents with career interests and skill sets but will now employ strategies to targeted populations such as those without a GED, or residents that have been unemployed for than 3+ years. USI had referred 28 residents to the Power of Work Program. Power of Work staff has confirmed receiving referrals and has begun completing benefits check in order to place referred residents to most appropriate program.</p> <p>USI continues to work closely with Messer and McCormack Baron to ensure that resident's benefit from Section 3 employment opportunities. Both Messer and MCB share current openings and future needs, USI then shares via our One Call system and various outreach methods. USI continues to address barriers to Section 3 and long-term employment. Transportation continues to be an ongoing barrier that prohibits employment requiring travel or have working hours beyond the range of TARC.</p>
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## 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:

**Identify Tutoring Needs and Matches-** Both Bellarmine and USI worked to identify tutors with submitted biographies to most appropriate youth match. Tutors and youth will be using the Learn to Be platform to meet and conduct tutoring sessions.

**Barrier Removal/Accessing Technology** USI continues to assist families with obtaining laptops and any other technical needs such as assisting with internet assistance and navigation of said technology. USI also continue to use funds to pay past due internet bills that may prohibit youth from participating in NTL.

**Early Childhood Enrollment:** We have currently enrolled 45% of eligible youth for ECE/Headstart with JCPS. USI staff continued to identify barriers such as proper documentation and work conflicts in order to meet the 70% goal for enrollment. Several parents have identified barriers that prohibit their youth from participating in Early Childhood Interventions. USI staff utilized barrier removal funds to assist a family with obtaining their birth certificate in order to assist with early childhood enrollment. USI also obtained flyer and registration information needed to connect residents to OVEC opportunities near the Beecher site.

**Increasing Partnerships:** USI is in the process of formalizing agreements with several education partners including: Bellarmine University and Evolve 502, Collaborative for Teaching and Learning/I'd Rather Be Reading, Sowing Seeds and LCCC. USI is also working with YMCA to repurpose funds originally identified for the Come Grow and Learn program at Roosevelt Perry and increase slots available for early childhood. USI continues to seek partnerships that better support and prepare youth for college and/or career readiness.

## Health and Wellness:

# and % of residents who have health insurance	(791) – 97 % 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)**

USI-Loisville has increased intentionality regarding the holistic approach with health and wellness. More in-depth assessments have led to improved strategies to support individuals physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Such strategies include:

**Conducting Monthly Targeted Health Chats.** Each month a topic will be chosen, in addition to selected residents and families. Through collaborative efforts with Passport, YMCA, Family Health

Centers and JenCare, USI staff can provide information regarding health benefits, resources and tools, as needed. In January, the focus included discussions regarding mental health support and inquiries regarding the COVID vaccination. There were 25 Health Chats conducted in January.

In Progress: USI met with the Louisville Story Program to determine alignment and partnership regarding the development of a Heritage Cookbook. USI will work to engage families regarding collecting and gathering recipes and family stories that are connected. The Louisville Story Program has agreed to partner and enter into an MOU that will include a Russell Neighborhood focus and take a long-term approach.