



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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children, and families.



1410 Lee Street • Houston, TX 77009-8228
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STABILITY DURING CHANGE



Dear Friends,

Over the past year, the forces of Hurricane Harvey and neighborhood changes have tested the strength of Wesley Community Center. But one thing that hasn't changed is our commitment to investing in individuals and families. Thanks to the generous, ongoing support of our loyal donors and volunteers, 2018 was once again a strong year for Wesley even during this time of change.

I am new to Wesley and thrilled to be part of an organization that does so much for our community. I am also excited to unveil our new logo. The different colors reflect our six core programs: Early Head Start, Early Childhood Education, Youth, Community Services, Seniors, and the Financial Opportunity Center. The new design embodies our mission of "investing in the potential of individual and creating opportunities to strengthen families and neighborhoods." The look has changed, but the foundation of our organization remains the same!

In 2018, we served over 11,000 individuals with childcare, afterschool care, basic needs, financial education, job training, and senior activities. And, as our neighbors continued to feel the effects of Harvey, Wesley provided 3,728 unique disaster recovery-related services to 1,836 households and 4,369 individuals to continue helping our neighbors transition from crisis to stability.

In 2018, Wesley's early childhood program was awarded a 4-Star rating, the highest available, from the state's Texas Rising Star program. Through this program, our dedicated staff receives professional coaching and development. This wonderful accomplishment demonstrates to our families that their children are receiving the best quality care and education.

This year Wesley transitioned our Emergency Food Program into a Choice Pantry. With the help of the Houston Food Bank for technical assistance and supplies, our families can now shop for groceries instead of receiving a prepared bag of food. This model has been known to reduce waste and will better serve our families because they can choose the food items their family wants to eat.

Change is coming to the Near Northside through new development and gentrification. Wesley is here to continue to assist those closely affected by this transformation. We strive to be an organization that addresses the needs of the whole family, and we are empowering our neighbors to build a better future.

I hope you enjoy the stories of the lives changed through Wesley's program. We could not make a difference in the lives of so many without the help of our supporters. Thank you for investing in a bright future for families in the Near Northside and beyond!

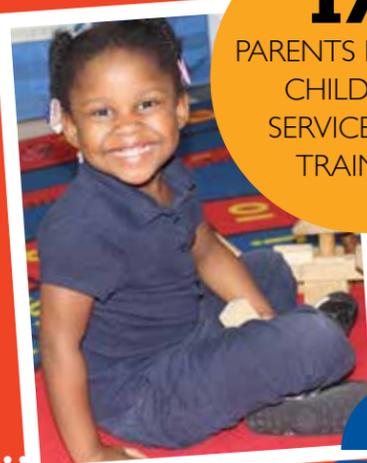
Sincerely,

Amy Corron
President and CEO

IMPACT

Early Childhood Education (0-5YRS)

227 CHILDREN RECEIVED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM SERVICES



170 PARENTS RECEIVED CHILDCARE SERVICES AND TRAINING



IMPACT

98% Parents parent participate in family engagement activities
86% Children achieved developmental milestones for their age group

Financial Opportunity Center (FOC)

652 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE SERVICE FROM THE FOC



- 620** Individuals received financial counseling
- 349** Individuals received at least one employment service
- 252** Individual increased net income
- 250** Improved a credit score
- 143** Students completed an education/training program
- 133** Improved net worth
- 109** Individuals placed in a new job

Youth

417 YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN AFTER SCHOOL AND IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



234 Youth participated in summer enrichment programs
234 Parents attended parent education support programs

IMPACT

85% Indicated a positive view about their future.
80% Mastered self-regulating skills to promote positive social interactions

Community/ Seniors/ Emergency

492,714 POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED



27,787 Meals were served to 193 seniors in the Seniors Program (breakfast and lunch)
5,785 Individuals were provided emergency food through Wesley's Choice Food Pantry
2,203 Individuals were provided with food assistance through Wesley's Community Food Fairs

339 Individuals were provided emergency rental and utility assistance
249 Seniors received food twice a month through our Food Co-Op program
185 Seniors received food through Wesley's Outreach Food Bag program that included three new seniors' communities where there is no food program



THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR



The sense of loss that Christina felt when her only son, a veteran police officer, was killed last year in the line of duty was immeasurable. The loss also had an impact on many in the community, but for Christina, it created a deep depression that eventually consumed her. She found little joy in her life as one day ran into another.

Then one day, she heard from a friend about the senior program at Wesley Community Center and decided to visit. Christina was welcomed with open arms and found a place where people care about her and she enjoyed helping in any way to support the program. Now, almost ten months later, she has made Wesley her home and considers many here her friends.

Christina has thrown herself into the senior activities, participating in almost everything. She loves exercising, crafts, dancing, and playing BINGO and regularly volunteers with the program serving food to her peers. When the Senior

Olympics came to Wesley, she jumped at the chance to be an "Olympian" by participating in the kick and run relay and bean bag baseball. Christina particularly likes to be around the "older" seniors, listening to their stories as they reminisce about the "good old days." She laughs and reminds us that although she is 74, she doesn't look a day over 45, so she considers herself a "youngster" in the program.

As she continues to work through the stages of grief, she looks forward to getting up every day and coming to the Center. With the help of Wesley's Senior Life Program Manager, she applied and received health benefits, including Medicaid insurance, which helped defray some of her expenses. Christina also joined the Healing Circles at Wesley where she and others who have experienced loss talk, share stories, and surround each other with mutual support. It has helped her to know that she is not alone. In good times and bad, she knows her friends and the staff at Wesley are there for her, after all, that's what friends are for.

"In good times and bad, Christina knows her friends and the staff at Wesley are there for her."

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

When their doctor told the parents of three years old Rui that he might benefit from a preschool experience, there was no question where he would go – Wesley Community Center. The well-kept secret, known only to a few, was that Rui would be the fourth generation to attend school there.

Rui's great-grandparents, Joe Sr. and Mary, walked through Wesley's doors more than 40 years ago. Mary enrolled her three children in the Early Childhood Education program, and she took advantage of the driver's education class. Having a driver's license opened a new world for her. As Mary later told others, being able to drive allowed her to have a career. Eventually, Mary joined the board where her input as a community member was invaluable.

Great-grandpa Joe, Sr. also joined the board and took on the role of Board President, raising money to add an early childhood wing to the building. Coincidentally, this is this very classroom space where Rui now attends.

There was no question where Rui and his siblings would attend preschool. His father Jacob fondly remembers activities in the classroom and playing on the back lot behind the Center. When he attended Wesley, the city of Houston had a police sub-station located in the Center. It isn't by accident that Jacob is a Houston police officer and that others in the family have also chosen a career in law enforcement, a testament to the positive role models the children saw every day.

When Rui came to the Center, he was only speaking a few words, but thanks to his experience at Wesley, his speech has dramatically improved. He went from mumbling to expressing himself and spelling his name to identify himself. "I'm Rui," he exclaims, "R-U-I – Rui!!" He also recognizes his letters, asks lots of questions, and his academic assessments have dramatically improved. Emily, his mother, feels Wesley has done more for him than even speech therapy. He loves to come home and tell her stories about his daily adventures.

In a year or so, his younger sister may start attending as well, making her the 9th family member to attend school at Wesley. And who knows, twenty years from now, another relative may walk through those same doors. Because for this family, coming to Wesley is not just an education, it's a family affair.



“Rui went from mumbling, to expressing himself, to spelling his name, to identifying himself. “I’m Rui,” he exclaims, “R-U-I – Rui!”

LIFE'S A MARATHON



Barriers are meant to be broken, hurdles climbed, obstacles navigated and Celcia has done it all. First starting as an Early Head Start teacher, she eventually joined the Financial Opportunity Center to obtain her Child Development Associate. She knew caretaking was in her blood, but along the way, she learned about Wesley's healthcare training, and another vision came to her – to work in a hospital. Believing she was finally on the right track, life had a different plan. Facing transportation and housing issues, she had to take a step back. It was not the right time.

part-time position in the Early Head Start program which provided the much-needed income to help her move to the next opportunity. The agency had recently started a new partnership with CHI St. Luke's Hospital, Lone Star Community College, and United Way THRIVE to provide Patient Care Technician (PCT) hospital training. Once again, Celcia was handed the baton, and she crossed the finish line completing the PCT training. And in late 2018, her dream finally came true when Houston Methodist Hospital offered her a position.

A few months later, she reached out to Wesley again and was brought in to take the Texas Adult Basic Education test. She scored at the highest level for reading with a 12.9 grade equivalency, but her math and language scores were not as strong. She began the remedial bridge training where the team wrapped emotional support, food, and transportation assistance around her to help knock down barriers and bolster her confidence. With perseverance and a contagious smile, Celcia pressed on, completing the bridge class and increasing her math and language scores along the way.

In April of 2018, Wesley hired Celcia again for a

“Celcia was handed the baton and she crossed the finish line, completing the PCT training.”

This new opportunity has afforded Celcia an increase in pay and a new apartment. Now she is focused on purchasing a new vehicle, which will give her the flexibility to work at night for higher pay. Thanks to Wesley, she was connected to On the Road Lending, an affordable car buying solution for individuals with challenging credit. With this new piece in place, there will be no stopping her.

But Celcia is not done. She continues to work part-time at Wesley with the infants and toddlers and full-time at Methodist Hospital, setting more goals along the way. She knows there are others just like her who have days when those big goals seem impossible, and she wants to share her story. As she runs this marathon called life, she is reaching back to help others cross the finish line too.

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David Edwards, **Director of Operations**

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Avenue Community Development Corporation
ACBW Real Estate Holdings-CANA
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Frost Bank
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The Powell Foundation
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Reliant, an NRG Company
Isla Carroll Turner Friendship Trust
Texas Methodist Foundation
United Way of Greater Houston
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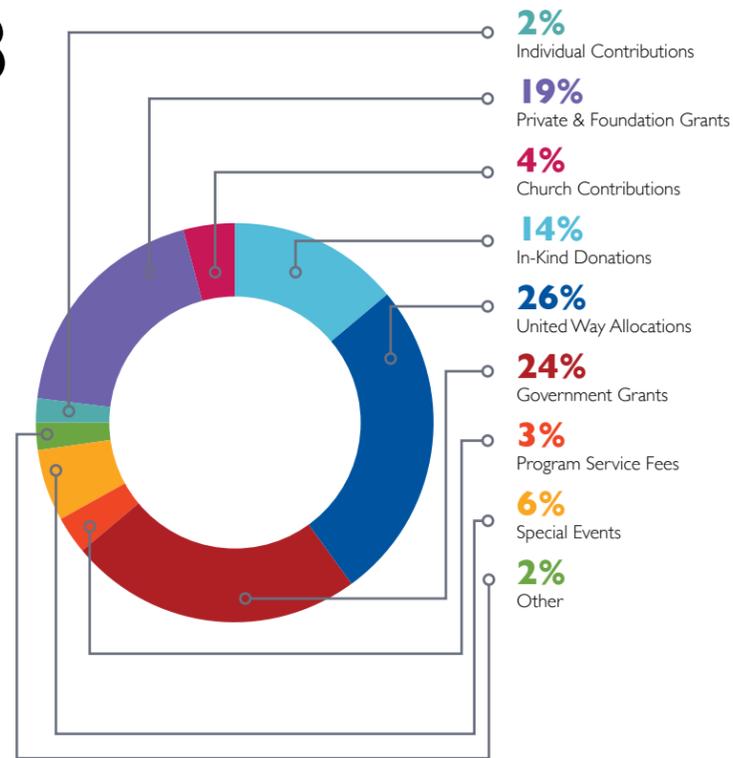
CHURCHES/CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Chapelwood United Methodist Women
First United Methodist Houston
Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
Heartspring Methodist Foundation
John Wesley United Methodist Women
Lakewood United Methodist Church
Lakewood United Methodist Church-Discovery SS Class
Lakewood United Methodist Church - UMW
Memorial Drive United Methodist Church - UMW
Moody Memorial United Methodist Church - Galveston
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
St. Luke's United Methodist Church - Houston Seekers Class
St. Mark's United Methodist Church
St. Paul's United Methodist Church-Roundtable Class
St. Paul's United Methodist Church-Houston Cathedral Class
St. Paul's United Methodist Church Foundation
St. Peter's United Methodist Women
St. Stephen's United Methodist Church - Houston
Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church
United Methodist Women

FINANCIAL REPORT 2018

REVENUE

Individual Contributions	\$69,776
Private and Foundation Grants	\$723,762
Church Contributions	\$131,506
In-Kind Donations	\$564,558
United Way Allocations	\$970,299
Government Grants	\$891,555
Program Service Fees	\$120,965
Special Events	\$212,396
Other	\$58,087
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,742,904



EXPENSES

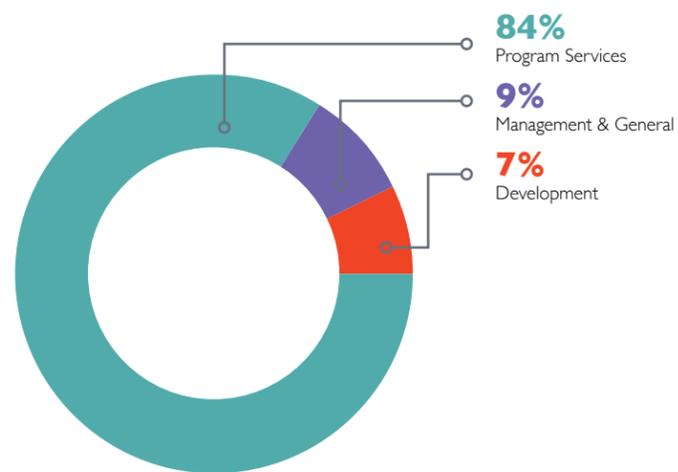
Program Services	\$3,534,309
Management & General	\$374,643
Development	\$289,018

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$4,197,970**

TOTAL ASSETS **\$3,241,306**

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$173,006**

TOTAL NET ASSETS **\$3,068,300**



**WESLEY COMMUNITY
CENTER INVESTS
IN THE POTENTIAL
OF INDIVIDUALS
AND CREATES
OPPORTUNITIES
TO STRENGTHEN
FAMILIES AND BUILD
NEIGHBORHOODS.**