

# FORT BEND RECOVERS

COVID-19 Weekly Meeting 06/23/2020

## Participants

1. Mary Vazquez – United Way
2. Delena Pinkney – United Way
3. Caroline Egan – FB OEM
4. Palak Jalan – Access Health
5. Alvaro Hernandez - Endeavors
6. Herman Rogers - Endeavors
7. Tina Hatcher – Hope Impacts
8. Diana Turner – United Way
9. Lucretia Jelks – On the Road Lending
10. Amy Harkins Ph.D. – Easter Seals of Greater Houston
11. Dr. Kaye Reynolds – FB Health and Human Services
12. Qwentadria Ware – Endeavors
13. Calvin Obey - Endeavors
14. Julie Gaston – The Henderson Wessendorff Foundation
15. Lori Marcus – Texana Center
16. Jacqueline Washington - Endeavors
17. Timothy Stroud – Easter Seals of Greater Houston
18. Annie Derry – Endeavors
19. Selamawit – Endeavors
20. Stevie Bellow – Shady Oak Primary School
21. Penny Meek – The Henderson-Wessendorff Foundation
22. Rashmi Singh – Sewa International
23. Aarti Goswani – The Alliance
24. Julia Grabows – Tool Bank
25. Anthony Pryor – City of Richmond
26. Natalie Cortes – Attack Poverty
27. Roy Hayley – Attack Poverty
28. Elise Kaufman – Friends of North Richmond
29. Stacey Christ – Harvey Home Connect
30. Eun Breur – East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry
31. Vince Mannio – Agri Life Extension
32. Nadar Afshari – Endeavors
33. Ashley Richardson – Endeavors
34. Andrew Van Chau – Fort Bend Rotary Club
35. Melissa Washington – GLO
36. Spencer Walker – Mental Health of America
37. Renee Staley – The Henderson-Wessendorff Foundation
38. Rita Obey – FB Health and Human Services

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39. Sue Levin – HGI
40. Stasea Waller – United Way
41. Nikki Agner – St. Laurence Catholic Church
42. Brandon Baca – Attack Poverty
43. Schottsie Hill – Epiphany of Lord Church
44. Sindhu Sathes – Access Health
45. Tariq Gladney – Lone Start Legal Aid
46. Chaitrali Gokhale – Sewa International
47. Peggy Wright – FB Women’s Center
48. Elise Kauffman – Friends of North Richmond
49. Shirley Colins Clark – Access Health
50. Dominique Reed – Endeavors
51. Monica Ramos-Richey

## **Welcome**

Caroline Egan – Fort Bend Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Good morning and thank you all for joining us. Today, we will have presentations from Dr. Kaye Reynolds from Fort Bend Health and Human Services and Tariq Gladney from Lone Star Legal Aid. We will also have time for COVID related updates, announcements, and discuss our summer meeting schedule.

## **Fort Bend County COVID 19 Update**

Dr. Kaye Reynolds– Fort Bend Health and Human Services

- The presentation given by Dr. Reynolds can be found on the United Way hidden portal under the COVID 19 tab.

## **Eviction Assistance**

Tariq Gladney – Lone Star Legal Aid

- We launched an online intake form in March to make it easier for clients to apply for our services. It is available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Additionally, we still have our normal systems of applying for those who do not have access to the internet. Website: <http://lonestarlegal.org>
- The CARES Act offers additional protection. It applies to properties that participate in the following housing programs: Public Housing, Section 8, Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, Multi-Family Units. It also applies to programs with federally backed mortgages, including those

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backed by Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Veteran Affairs, Department of Agriculture, Fanny Mae, and Freddie Mac.

- LSLA Cares tool found on the legal aid websites, helps renters search public databases to find out if properties are subject to the CARES Act. This tool will be very useful in helping clients find out whether the homes they live in qualify for protection.
- LSLA has a partnership with A2J which offers a free program that asks questions that help clients determine what route is best for them. It can also be found on our website. Additionally, clients can find documents and resources on [www.Texaslawhelp.org](http://www.Texaslawhelp.org).

## Summer Meeting Schedule

Caroline Egan – Fort Bend Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

- We will continue to meet every other week in the month of July and reassess our meeting frequency at the end of the month.
- The meeting dates are July 7th from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. and July 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

## COVID-19 Updates

Lori Marcus – Texana Center

- The Behavioral and Spiritual Health Workgroup met today ahead of this meeting. We had 11 participants on the call.
- We added sections to the Padlet, they include connecting with support groups and Fort Bend preparedness. We also talked about adding a section about connecting with organizations. This section would highlight the services that organizations have to offer in 2-3 minute videos.

<https://padlet.com/FBRecovers/vdm7vhv41eg83vpt>

Elise Kauffman – Friends of North Richmond

- The Basic Needs Workgroup met last week on Monday. We discussed the CARES Act.
- Fort Bend Social Services received over 7,000 applications for assistance but will only be able to serve about 5,000 this round. The application for the second round will open July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Katy Responds has masks to distribute. If you signed up with them to get masks, please contact Chelsea Lucas.
- Katy Christian Ministries has started collecting resources for their back to school program.
- Hope in Fort Bend is this Saturday from 11am-1pm. Please click this link to register to volunteer or provide a resource: <https://bit.ly/saturdayhotmeal>

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Caroline Egan – Fort Bend Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

- The county has several testing sites open. The Texas State Guard has taken over the Rosenberg Fair Ground site and will continue operating 7 days a week through the end of July. The state has its own registration number and website to sign up for testing.
- There has been a significant increase in call volume at the call center, which is causing a bit of a delay in appointment setting. We are working to increase the number of individuals working at the center so that we can clear up the back log.
- On average, about 600 COVID tests are completed daily and we are expecting that number to increase.
- Last Friday, the county released a public guidance/ written assessment tool for members of the community to use. It can be accessed on the county website.

Rashmi Singh – Sewa International

- Sewa is hosting a food drive on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Fort Bend County. The flyer will be sent to Delena to share with everyone.
- We are slowing down with our food drives but will be picking up with Case Management.
- Our partnership with Houston Responds and their Masks For All Campaign is still ongoing. On average, we have been giving out 200-400 mask every week.

Tina Hatcher – Hope Impact

- Hope Impacts is starting to do assessments at the Breakfast for Homeless events that are happening once a month to see if they qualify for Houston Coalition Housing. We are also doing another survey to get basic information from them.
- We would like to partner with any organizations in Fort Bend County that work with the Homeless. If you have a list of people that need services, please reach out to me, [tina@hopeimpacts.org](mailto:tina@hopeimpacts.org) or 713-705-7884.

Julia Grabowski – Houston Tool Bank

- We are waiving fees for tools for any COVID related projects. Our inventory includes but is not limited to: tables, chairs, pop up tents, touchless hand sanitizer stands, plexiglass shields. If you want more information you can reach us at 713-674-0262.

Next Meeting July 07, 2020 from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.