

A LETTER TO OUR NEIGHBORS



North Richmond

Vol. 10

Hurricane Harvey - Update

December was a very busy month for Hurricane Harvey recover efforts, in the Riveredge and the North Richmond communities! We've had volunteer teams repairing homes and ensuring families have what they need to be healthy after the devastation they have gone through. In the Riveredge community, multiple teams focused on demolition work and were able to remove 4 homes this past month! We are incredibly thankful to the hard work of the volunteer teams and residents.



The land owners are having the homes removed to be able to change their property to a RV park where residence can move back in an RV, so that if another flood was to happen they would be able to leave with their home so they do not lose everything for the third time.



In North Richmond, we have homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey from the top down. Starting with roof damages, the homes have continually gained further damages with the rain our community has seen this year.

One home in particular on Maiden Lane was so devastated by the damages from the hurricane. This is the home to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, who is helping to raise their great grandchildren in a home that was falling down around them. In partnership with First Response of America and a team of 35 Lowe's volunteers we have taken the home down to the studs. This is just phase one, and we are working with the city, Fort Bend Corp, and many partner Churches to provide a safe living space for them while we rebuild their home. The great grandchildren are part of our You Can Academy and this family has been part of the North Richmond community their whole lives.



In addition to completing the Taylor's Home, the coming months we have additional repairs on homes in both communities and at least 12 more home demolitions that need to be completed.



YOU CAN ACADEMY

The student and volunteers at You Can Academy had their annual Christmas celebration to finish off the year! Thanks to a generous donation, the leaders of You Can Academy were able to purchase Christmas gifts for the elementary students in our program.

Several gracious volunteers gave their time to wrap, label and organize all the gifts to be given to the kids at the Christmas party. To top it all off, Sole Loved, a local non-profit organization who provides shoes for kids, donated a new pair of shoes for each child at You Can Academy. What a cool moment to see them open their shoes and scream with delight! They were so excited to receive a pair of shoes in their own size, as well as a couple of wrapped gifts to take home. The kids had a blast with all the games and treats too. It was a great way to wrap up a semester of hard work.



You Can Academy started the new year by adding new participants. With a few new volunteers, we were able to get our student number up to 50! All of the new kids have settled in and are doing well. With your help, we could add additional students to our program! Will you volunteer?

Adult Program Update January 2018

Our Adult Students are thriving in their classes. With over 30 adults out ESL, GED Prep, and Computer classes, we are excited to kick off another semester of Jobs for Life and specialized workshops!

One of our students is in both our ESL and Computer Classes and she excelling in both! She was formerly in an abusive marriage, didn't speak a word of English, was financially unstable, and no high school education. She was strong and determined to get herself out of the unhealthy situation to get help. Since attending our classes, she is speaking basic English, knows the basics of all Microsoft Office applications, and is looking forward to improving all of her skills, so to earn her GED in the future! We are so proud of her and out many other students!

Be part of the story and volunteer! Not a teacher? No problem, we have everything you needs to get you started and plugged in! Contact sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org or call Lucinda 832-945-3770



Christmas Wishes Update

This past year, a program called Christmas Wishes was geared toward helping families affected by Harvey during the Christmas season. Through relationships, we matched up families and small groups who wanted to provide basic needs and gifts to families whose homes had been damaged by the flood. Through several generous donations, families received blankets, gift cards, groceries, household items, tools, furniture, clothing, gifts, and even some household repairs! What a beautiful picture of the hands and feet of Jesus. We are so thankful for the volunteers and donors that helped make all these wonderful program run so smoothly in December. Many new relationships were built between Christmas Wishes volunteers and the families they supported and continue on today!



A Night To Remember Recap...



Each December, the children and teenagers of North Richmond come together and perform in the annual Christmas program at the Neighborhood Resource Center. Rehearsals were organized by an awesome and talented team of volunteers for the children and teens who wanted to participate. The kids worked hard on a presentation of Las Posadas, a Spanish tradition that portrays the journey of Mary and Joseph looking for a place to stay for the birth of Jesus. Love Ministries, a local congregation, also performed a beautiful worship dance. Some of the teenagers danced to a song they choreographed, and even created their own costumes. And of course we can't forget the annual grand finale of the show with the whole cast singing "Feliz Navidad"!

Following the program, friends and family were invited to stay and have their pictures made with Santa and have some delicious desserts, including a fabulous cake by a local bakery Margarita's Bakery.

HOPE AFTER HARVEY

Need prayer? Right in front of our building a prayer wall where you can write your prayers on, or write them down and put them in our prayer box inside our office. All prayer requests are prayed over by our Prayer Team and local ministers. If you have the gift of compassion and prayer and would like to join the Prayer Team, contact Sarah Beth at Sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org for more details.



The Volunteer Classifieds

Email our Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Beth for more details:
sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org

Community Walk Through – This Saturday Feb. 17th

Saturday, February 17, from 9am-12pm, we are having a community walk through in North Richmond! This is a great way for you to reach out to neighbors and connect. You will go door to door and talk with residents and listen to their perspective on their community. So come to our Resource Center at 9am Saturday, February 17. The address is: 1305 Clay St., Richmond 77469.

Not sure what to say? Don't worry! We will have an orientation and give you a list of questions to ask residents to make sure you are well equipped.

Sign up at the link below and invite anyone interested!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4bada723a2fa7-community>

Contact sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org with any questions.

YOU CAN ACADEMY

Monday through Friday 3-5pm we host our You Can Academy that tutors and mentors 1st through 5th grade students. They receive a snack, hear a bible lesson, work on their homework, and then have some free time to play! Relationships form from volunteers showing up consistently week after week and encouraging the students! We currently have 30 students on our waiting list and cannot accept more until we have more volunteers! Email us if you would like to volunteer just one day a week or maybe all five:

sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org



FEELING LED TO DO SOMETHING?

We would love to hear what you are passionate about and what program you are interested in starting! Email Elise at: Elise@attackpoverty.org



Where Will You Volunteer?

You Can Academy (*Monday – Friday | 3-5pm*) – directed after school tutoring for 1st through 5th grade

ESL Tutor (*Monday and Wednesday | 9:30am – 11:30am*) – help adults learn English

GED Tutor (*time and day vary*)– tutor adults as they earn their GED

Childcare (*Saturday 8-11am*) – Helping with kids of ESL and Computer Class students.

Jobs for Life Assistant - help adults in this jobs readiness class put together resumes, train for interviews, and discover what they are passionate about

Computer Class Teacher (*Saturday | 8:30am-11am*)– teach adults basic computer skills

Computer Class Teacher and Assistant (*Wednesday | 5-6:30pm*) – help answer questions for adults learning computer skills and the teacher leads the students through the curriculum

Prayer Team – receive emails with prayer requests for residents in North Richmond

Harvey Recovery – Volunteer teams skilled in construction or demos, or provide lunches for volunteers

Street Church (*Tuesdays | 6:15-7:45pm*) - Kinder-5th grade children from the North Richmond community gather for a family style Bible study

Data Entry – support our staff and programs by helping enter data into our systems

Sunday Lunches – Provide a meal for 40+ kids and teens after church on Sunday

Run to Attack Poverty (*April 21*) – Volunteer to organize or help on race day

Email Sarah Beth to get involved: sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org

powered by



attackpoverty.org

CONTACT US:

*Friends of North Richmond
Neighborhood Resource Center
Phone: (281) 762-2068
1305 Clay Street, Richmond, TX*