

A Letter to Our Neighbors

VOLUME 22 | AUGUST 2019

Important Dates:

August 29:

You Can Academy Volunteer Orientation
3-4pm (1305 Clay St.)

August 29:

Community Bible Study, 6-7pm (1305 Clay St.)

August 30:

Zumba Class: 5:30-6:30pm (1305 Clay St.)

August 31:

Immigration Workshop, 10-12 (1305 Clay St.)

September 6:

Computer Classes Start
6:30-8:00pm @ FNR (1305 Clay St.)

September 6:

Zumba Class: 5:30-6:30 (1305 Clay St.)

September 9:

First Day of You Can Academy

September 17:

Jobs for Life, 5:30-7pm (1305 Clay St.)

September 19:

Volunteer Meet & Greet, 6-7:30pm (1305 Clay St.)

September 23:

Community Night of Prayer, 6-7pm (1305 Clay St.)

September 26:

Community Bible Study, 6-7pm (1305 Clay St.)

October 17 & 18:

Kaboom Prep Days, 8am (1305 Clay St.)

October 19:

Kaboom Build Day (1305 Clay St.)

A Word from our Director

At Friends of North Richmond, we believe that poverty is not defined by a lack of money, things, or stuff. We believe that poverty goes deeper - it is broken relationships. Broken relationships with the world around you, the people around you, yourself, and God. That is why we begin all we do with friendship. Friends support one another, believe the best in one another, hold one another accountable and walk beside each other.

Friendship is transformative, and it is an honor to call the volunteers, students, and neighbors in the following pages our friends.



Elise Kaufman, Director

*For more information
on ways to volunteer or
donate, email our
Director Elise Kaufman:
elise@attackpoverty.org*

Community Partnerships

Community members sign up for ESL classes at the Sugar Creek Community Outreach Fair on August 17, 2019



We had the honor of joining the Community Outreach Fair organized by the Spanish Ministry of Sugar Creek Baptist Church on Saturday, August 17. Many community members came to gain valuable information and resources, and over 150 families were served in just two hours' time. We met some wonderful people and listened to many stories of obstacles that people in the

community face due to language and cultural barriers. We were excited to offer information about our classes that will help them, including ESL classes (English as a Second Language), as well as our monthly Immigration Workshops that can help equip individuals overcome these difficulties. Although the Community Outreach Fair is geared specifically toward the Spanish speaking community, all are welcome. The vendors at this fair were there to provide information, prayer, groceries, and dialogue with the families from the community. Friends of North Richmond set up a table offering information that included our adult education classes and many other services that we provide, giving opportunity for people to sign up for classes and workshops. It was a huge success. This Community Fair, falling on the third Saturday of every month, is an outreach of Sugar Creek's Spanish Ministry. What a great connection we made with the local Church and we are looking forward to working together again!

Zumba!

Join us for FREE Zumba classes every Friday from 5:30-6:30 at our Resource Center: 1305 Clay St.



One of the first things we do in our busy society is self-care. Andrea Buchanan-Thompson knows the value of taking time out for personal health. She had driven by our center many times when passing through the community, and one day she decided to reach out to us. After going on her own personal journey to become healthier, she was looking for ways that she could share her gifts and talents to empower others. She has a passion for exercise and cooking, and she loves to inspire people. Understanding the value of fitness in her own life, Andrea decided to share her love for Zumba with us at Friends of North Richmond. A Zumba class was formed on Friday evenings at our Resource Center, and all are welcome. It's been a blast! If you'd like to join us, come on over!

Meet Gail

"I do my best to stay positive. I am most proud of how I've overcome a lot of obstacles in my life."

-Gail



Born and raised in Richmond, Texas, Gail Allen has been a part of the community through many seasons. She attended Lamar High School and later went to work at the Ship Channel for 13 years, working a wide variety of jobs. Some of these included working on loading ships, discharging ships, working the warehouse, driving forklifts and trucks, and being a security guard. Gail is a big fan of fishing and travel. She enjoys spending time with and sharing meals with family members. She also is a great cook, offering support with food prep for many of our programs. Gail has been on the Friends of North Richmond team as Custodian for three years. Not only does she do a great job of keeping our building clean and functioning, she adds kindness and laughter to our team. Gail's dream is to one day retire and travel the country in an RV.

We're Building a Playground!



We are so excited to share that we have been approved for a grant through Rebuild Texas to build a Kaboom Playground right here at our Resource Center! We will have two prep days, on October 17 and 18, and then the big Build Day on October 19. To join in on the fun, sign up here:

<https://helpbuildaplaygroundinrichmond.eventbrite.com/>

Volunteer Classifieds



On October 19, we will be building a playground through an organization called Kaboom.

To register to volunteer, go to <https://helpbuildaplaygroundinrichmond.eventbrite.com/>

Stay in the Loop!

To receive Reminder Texts about upcoming volunteer opportunities, **TEXT @fnrvol to 81010**

To register to volunteer, go to <https://attackpoverty.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

Questions about volunteering?
Email: sarahbeth@attackpoverty.org

- **Kaboom Build Day** | October 19, 8am-3pm. Volunteer to help build our playground. Sign up here: <https://helpbuildaplaygroundinrichmond.eventbrite.com/>
- **Kaboom Prep Days** | October 17 & 18, 8am-Finish. Volunteer to help prepare for build day. Sign up here: <https://helpbuildaplaygroundinrichmond.eventbrite.com/>
- **Spanish Teacher** | Schedule according to volunteer availability. Teach Spanish skills to those wanting to learn a second language.
- **Empowered for Life** | Schedule according to volunteer availability. Teach job readiness and life skills to young adults ages 14-24.
- **You Can Academy** | Monday-Friday, 2:45-4:45pm. Sign up to volunteer one day a week for after school tutoring (1st-5th grade). Speak Spanish? We could use your help with our Spanish speaking students.
- **ESL Teachers**. Help adults learn English as a Second Language. Spanish speaking not required.
- **GED Tutors** | Evening or Daytime
- **Computer Class** | Wednesdays 5:30-7:00pm. Teach intro computer skills for a 6-week class:
- **Nutrition Class** | Schedule according to volunteer availability
- **Prayer Team** | Tuesdays at 1pm. We welcome prayer warriors to come pray weekly at our Neighborhood Resource Center.
- **Recovery Workdays** | September 14 & 28. Register to volunteer here: bit.ly/fnrworkday
- **Mercy Goods**. Opportunities for tutoring, mentoring, woodworking and carpentry. Contact zach@attackpoverty.org for details.

Thank You for Reading!

**From,
The Friends of North Richmond Team**

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AttackPoverty.org/FriendsofNorthRichmond