



Families picking up their Back To School packages at Faith Lutheran Church in 2019. This year, due to COVID health concerns, all 6,500 grade-level academic packages and vouchers to buy new clothing/shoes will be distributed through CCSC's partner schools.

Youth Services Programs Adapt to Changes and New Spaces

When you think of Christian Community Service Center's three youth serving programs, you may not think of our building as the hub of these activities—each program takes place in offsite locations to deliver help to approximately 10,000 youth annually.

Traditionally, hundreds of families gather at Bellaire United Methodist Church in early May and October to register for the Back To School and Jingle Bell Express programs. Then, in December, that space is transformed into a Christmas wonderland as the site of Jingle Bell Express. Faith Lutheran Church bustles with summertime fun yet always makes room for our Back To School community event on its campus. Throughout the academic year the University of Houston welcomes busloads of school children to the University Eye Institute to address their vision care needs through CCSC's Louise J. Moran Vision Care Program. And during CCSC's yearlong construction phase, St. Philip Presbyterian Church has stepped up and offered warehouse space to store supplies for all three youth-serving programs.

Adapting to varied locations is an integral part of the Back To School, Jingle Bell Express and Vision Care programs. However, CCSC's new building will allow for a welcome, stable difference: space under one roof to connect CCSC clients to the many available services for adults and their children. We will have greater ability to collaborate between programs. For example, JobNet clients in skill-building classes will be able to more readily access help from Emergency Services as well as Back To School and Jingle Bell Express. The modern, well-designed campus will also have the storage capacity to plan for and manage programs more efficiently.

"This past year, we adapted to the construction project, turned to remote workplaces in light of the pandemic, utilized temporary storage spaces, adjusted to school closings, and we're still on track to serve thousands of kids through Back To School, Jingle Bell Express and Vision Care. We are immensely grateful to our community partners who continue to host our programs," said Youth Services Manager Cathy Brown. "We're also extremely appreciative of our building donors for providing the hub where youth service planning will occur. It's nice to know that, very soon, all CCSC programs will have a presence under one roof."

Building Update

We are happy to report that construction of the new J. Dean Robinson Building remains on schedule.

Exterior metal panel installation and restroom tiling is ongoing, along with painting. The ceiling grid is nearly finished. Millwork begins this week, and flooring will start as soon as the building has permanent power.

[View Building Photos](#)



Campaign Update



All involved are diligently working toward the finish line for CCSC's new building.

Completing construction of the building—now slated for Fall 2020—is a critical goal so that we can *serve more and serve better*, especially during this unprecedented time of increased need among Houstonians.

Finishing the *A Time to Build* Capital Campaign is another critical goal. We need \$1.3 million to reach our \$14.2 million goal. We would very much appreciate your help in this final push to the finish line.

Would you consider an additional gift at whatever level of generosity you can? All gifts will make a difference toward reaching the campaign finish line. Thank you for your support thus far!

For more information, please contact Development Director Sharon Current at scurrent@ccschouston.org.

To make a donation, click [HERE](#).

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