



September 2020

NEWS & NOTES

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.



The J. Dean Robinson Building on the W.T. & Louise J. Moran Campus is almost ready for occupancy.

New Building Here We Come!

The dedication, hard work and generosity of so many is reaching fruition, Christian Community Service Center will move into the J. Dean Robinson building on the W.T. & Louise J. Moran campus the week of September 28.

"This move into the new building is built upon 5+ years of commitment to a vision that calls for CCSC to *serve more and serve better*. Thanks to our community, we are on the brink of living into that vision," said Executive Director Michelle Shonbeck.

"No one could have predicted CCSC would take this momentous step during our 40th anniversary year, and no one could have predicted how a pandemic would drive so many new clients to our door," Shonbeck added. "The timing of our move-in seems ordained, and many of us who have

worked on this project have felt God's gentle guidance throughout these last few years. We look forward to dedicating the building and rededicating ourselves to this important Christ-based mission in early 2021 when the full project is complete."

Phase 2 construction will begin soon after CCSC's move to the new building with demolition of the Mercer building and continuing work on the parking lot and outdoor areas. Phase 2 construction is scheduled for completion in December and we will then be ready to celebrate with you at a 2021 building dedication event.

CCSC's administration office and programs will be closed the week of September 28. Offices and programs will reopen the week of October 5.

CCSC's new physical address will be 3434 Branard, Houston, TX 77027. The mailing address will continue to be P.O. Box 27924, Houston, TX 77227-7924.

The main phone numbers will not change:

CCSC Main Number - 713-961-3993

Emergency Services-Central Client Number - 713-871-9741

JobNet Client Number - 713-626-8320

Vocational Training Number - 713-906-8421

Emergency Services-Southwest Client Number 713-871-9741

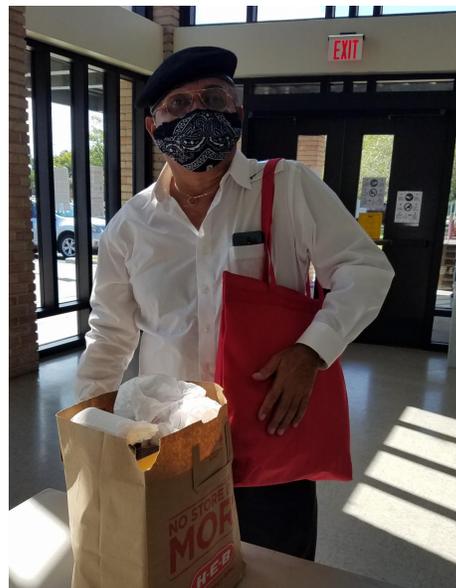
CCSC's *A Time to Build* Capital Campaign is \$1.2 million away from accomplishing the goal of \$14.2 million. If you would like to contribute to the campaign, please visit CCSC's secure website at www.ccschouston.org/capitalcampaign/

Helping Clients Prepare for Houston's Hurricane Season

When serious predictions for this year's hurricane season came out in the midst of the already challenging pandemic, the Christian Community Service Center staff knew we needed to take action to help prepare clients for a potential storm.

"Community members who are lacking groceries often also go without other basic necessities including hygiene items, cleaning products and medical supplies. Investing in storm preparation can be seen as a luxury," said Pat Weatherspoon-Hall, Program Manager at Emergency Services-Southwest.

Just as it appeared that Greater Houston might sit directly in the path of Hurricane Laura, a handful of volunteers helped assemble 200 water-



Emergency Services-Southwest client Roberto receives food and a hurricane kit.

resistant totes containing more than a dozen storm-related items including flashlights, batteries, first-aid kits, collapsible 5-gallon water containers, duct tape, trash bags, snacks, a can opener and a Hurricane Preparation Guide. For pandemic necessities, hand sanitizer, bandannas and gloves were also included.



These totes were then distributed to Emergency Services clients at our two food pantry sites, where they were gratefully received. Clients came in expecting a nutritious grocery bag but received far more. "This is a great surprise. Thank you," said Roberto. Another client remarked, "These bags are great. I'm on the bus and I can put this on my shoulder. Y'all be safe."

While we are grateful that Hurricane Laura spared Houston, we pray for resilience and strength for our neighbors in Louisiana and East Texas as they put their lives back together. And we feel fortunate to have the resources to equip some CCSC clients for the next storm.



Save the Date: Cheers to 40 Years on November 12!

CCSC, like so many others, is adapting its traditional fall event to allow for social distancing as the pandemic continues. While the format is different, our goal remains the same: to gather CCSC friends and supporters together, celebrate our shared vision of service, and raise funds to equip men, women and children in need in our community.

This year, we will be celebrating CCSC's 40th Birthday and rejoicing over all God has done--and will continue to do--through CCSC. By purchasing a ticket, you will receive a hand-delivered birthday cupcake and information on area restaurants offering special CCSC promotions.

You will also have access to the virtual event on the day of the luncheon, which will be filled with stories, anecdotes and memories of CCSC over the years. You'll also get a sneak peek into our brand-new building!

Please save the date for our virtual event on Thursday, November 12 at 12:00 p.m., and be on the lookout for more information on how you can purchase a ticket and participate in our online auction.

We hope to "see" you in November--a celebration of CCSC wouldn't be the same without you!



Is This Volunteer Spot Right for YOU?

Greeter/Guides: In our new building we will need a variety of greeters to volunteer four hours one day each week to provide information and physical guidance to volunteers, guests and clients. We'd love to have you on the team!

To learn more about these and other CCSC volunteer positions please contact Erin Donohue at volunteer@ccschouston.org.

The mission of the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled, and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences.



3230 Mercer; Houston, Texas 77029 · 713.961.3993

To donate nonperishable food to CCSC's food pantries, LIKE us on [Facebook](#) to find out when and where drive-thru food drives are happening, and then share that information with your friends via social media. You may also drop off donations at 3230 Mercer St., Monday-Friday 9 a.m to 2 p.m. or Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.(until September 28), or at 6856 Bellaire Blvd. Mondays and Tuesdays or Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. THANK YOU!

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Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) | 3230 Mercer | Houston | TX | 77027