



Annual Review 2015-2016

www.fortbendcares.org

2015—2016: A Year of Successful Fundraising Events

Fort Bend Cares hosted its 11th annual **Road Trip** (through the Wild Wild West) on February 6 and its 3rd annual **Doggone Fun Run** on April 16. A record attendance of nearly 615 people came out to the Road Trip, almost 100 more than in 2015. The event netted close to \$200,000—slightly less than the previous year. The Fun Run was successful with 180 people and 100 dogs in attendance, netting nearly \$17,000. A third event was added—**Golf Open Championship** and was held on September 18 where 100 golfers (50 2-person teams) helped raise a net



of nearly \$17,000 as well. And just when you thought we couldn't do any more events—Cigar Cigar, with the help of Men for Change, hosted a small poker tournament on May 12 that secured \$2,000 for Fort Bend Cares.



Other Fundraising Efforts

Individual monthly donations. Corporate matching gifts. Rewards programs that give cash back to Fort Bend Cares: www.fortbendcaresrewards.com, Kroger, Randalls and Amazon Smile. Friends of Fort Bend Cares auxiliary

group remains strong with just over 120 members in 2015-2016. Third party fundraisers were also beneficial: Texas Instruments Bake Sale, Off the Vine Bistro, Xoco-Latte to name a few.



Dear Friends,
Please take a moment to read through our activities and accomplishments from July 2015—June 2016. We are working hard every day to put donors' dollars to work supporting vetted and valuable nonprofits serving disadvantaged children in our community!

And thank you to everyone who furthers Fort Bend Cares' mission.

—Angie Wierzbicki,
Executive Director
angie@fortbendcares.org
832-819-2005

Board of Trustees News

Fort Bend Cares welcomed six new board members in July 2015—Sonal Bhuchar, Christopher Breaux, Lisa Cohen, Aarti Jain, Mary Joyce and Allison Wen. We said “See ya” to these board members (whom we miss and love having stay involved!); Robert Coffman, Kevin Kohl and Al Namey. Rick Conley, Jill Curtis and Gail McClendon were re-elected for another 3-year term.

Board Retreat—At the 2015 Board Retreat, Strategic Planning came out as a priority. The

Strategic Planning Committee recognized four primary topics that have their own task forces outlining goals and action plans: Branding, Fundraising, Additional Programs/Resources, Operations. Additionally, Fort Bend Cares updated its Mission and Vision Statements to reflect our work more accurately.



Playground Project

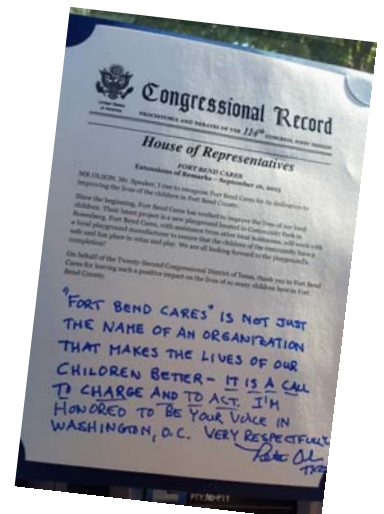
Fort Bend Cares worked with the Rosenberg Parks Department and Friends of North Rosenberg on its exciting playground project. Having to postpone twice due to the weather, the playground was built by approximately 50 community volunteers in November 2015 at Tony Becerra Park in Rosenberg. Through generous donations, Fort Bend Cares was able to invest \$60,000 into the playground, shade structure, benches and picnic table at the park. We are excited about the impact this will have on the neighborhood for years to come.



In the News and Recognition

Fort Bend Cares was spotted in newspapers and magazines at least 40 times from 2015-2016, with two different special spreads in magazines—Living and Sweetwater Style. We had our voice heard on the radio and in two videos produced by Stafford METV. Our social media efforts continued to climb and increase participation by another 100%.

Special Award - Fort Bend Cares is honored every year to be recognized for various support our organization is able to bestow upon local nonprofits. This year, we received a special award from our friend, U.S. Congressman Pete Olson, that we weren't expecting. In the fall of 2015, Congressman Olson recognized Fort Bend Cares at the U.S. House of Representatives. We are proud to have Congressman Olson's support!



Grants

Fort Bend Cares announced \$160,000 in grants to 29 different nonprofits serving Fort Bend. These grants will assist thousands of children in our county, bridging the gap for many.



We love our volunteers!

Volunteer Recruitment—Two volunteer recruitment socials were held in late summer 2015—one in Sugar Land and one in Fulshear. Both brought out several new, key volunteers.



Referrals and Resources

While everyone may know about Fort Bend Cares' grants, not everyone may know that we field requests weekly from potential donors and volunteers, as well as people in need in our county. Because of our increased presence in the community, we are experiencing an increase in the

number of requests. Due to our large network and behind-the-scenes knowledge of many organizations helping disadvantaged kids, we are able to refer people to the right places (if it isn't us!).



Fort Bend Cares
P.O. Box 17748
Sugar Land, TX 77496
832-819-2005
www.fortbendcares.org

2016 Key Supporters

- ◆ **Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital**
- ◆ **Fairmount Santrol**
- ◆ **Grant Thornton**
- ◆ **Silver Eagle Distributors**
- ◆ **Fluor**
- ◆ **Finnegan Auto**

Vision: Disadvantaged children in Fort Bend County will have access to a better quality of life.

Mission: Fort Bend Cares provides our community non-profits with resources to meet the needs of disadvantaged children.

Values: Continuous improvement, Excellence, Integrity, Purposeful collaboration, Dedicated service

At a Glance

Approximately **25,547** children were served in some capacity through Fort Bend Cares support from 2015-2016

- ◆ **29** Non-Profit Organizations Served
- ◆ **40** articles in local publications
- ◆ **95** active volunteers (board, events and grants)
- ◆ **\$157,500** in Grants
- ◆ **100%** increase in social media engagement

