

Dear NIA friends,

Thank you for making 2018 yet another remarkable year for Neighbors in Action! Our dedicated staff and volunteers have done an incredible job at expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services that benefitted more than 500 people!

We have put together a few of our highlights to show you how your donations made a difference in the lives of so many people in Port Houston. Looking back at all the blessings that have happened in Port Houston over the last months, I want to give you my heartfelt thanks! All our work would not be possible without your contributions, volunteer time, and prayers.

Financially, this year has been more challenging than usual. Many foundations and donors still focus on Harvey recovery efforts and were not able to support Neighbors in Action in 2018. In the past 6 years, however, we had been able to end each financial year with a surplus, so we used part of our savings to make up for the difference in 2018.

Please continue to support the families of Port Houston with your prayers, time and donations! Come and volunteer any weekday evening with one of our children's programs or set up a recurring monthly donation on our website! Thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of Neighbors in Action. We are looking forward to much more in 2019!

Sincerely,



Kathrin Meier
Executive Director



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We would like to thank everybody who contributed to our building campaign in 2018! Despite fundraising being a challenge in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, NIA has raised more than \$920,000 in gifts and pledges so far. We had to raise our overall goal to \$1,300,000 due to rising labor costs after Harvey and steel tariffs, but we are still much closer to breaking ground than 12 months ago!

And the best part: Your donation in 2019 will be matched! The Mabee Foundation has given us a Challenge Grant of \$100,000 for 2019. If NIA reaches \$1,100,000 in gifts to the Campaign by the end of the year, Mabee will contribute an additional \$100k. Currently, we have received gifts and pledges to be paid in 2019 totaling \$880,000, so we need to raise an additional \$220,000 to receive the challenge grant.

Why do we need a bigger space?

NIA is renting its current facility, a single family house with 1,200sq. ft. of space. After opening our center in the community five years ago, we have greatly outgrown the facility. In the evenings, 30 - 40 children come to our programs in a space that was designed for 5 - 10 people. In the mornings, we must limit adult education programs to 15 - 20 people due to the lack of space. The teenagers who come to our center can only gather on Wednesdays and Thursdays because of children's programs on the other evenings. We do not currently offer educational courses for parents in the evenings because of the youth programs taking place at that time.

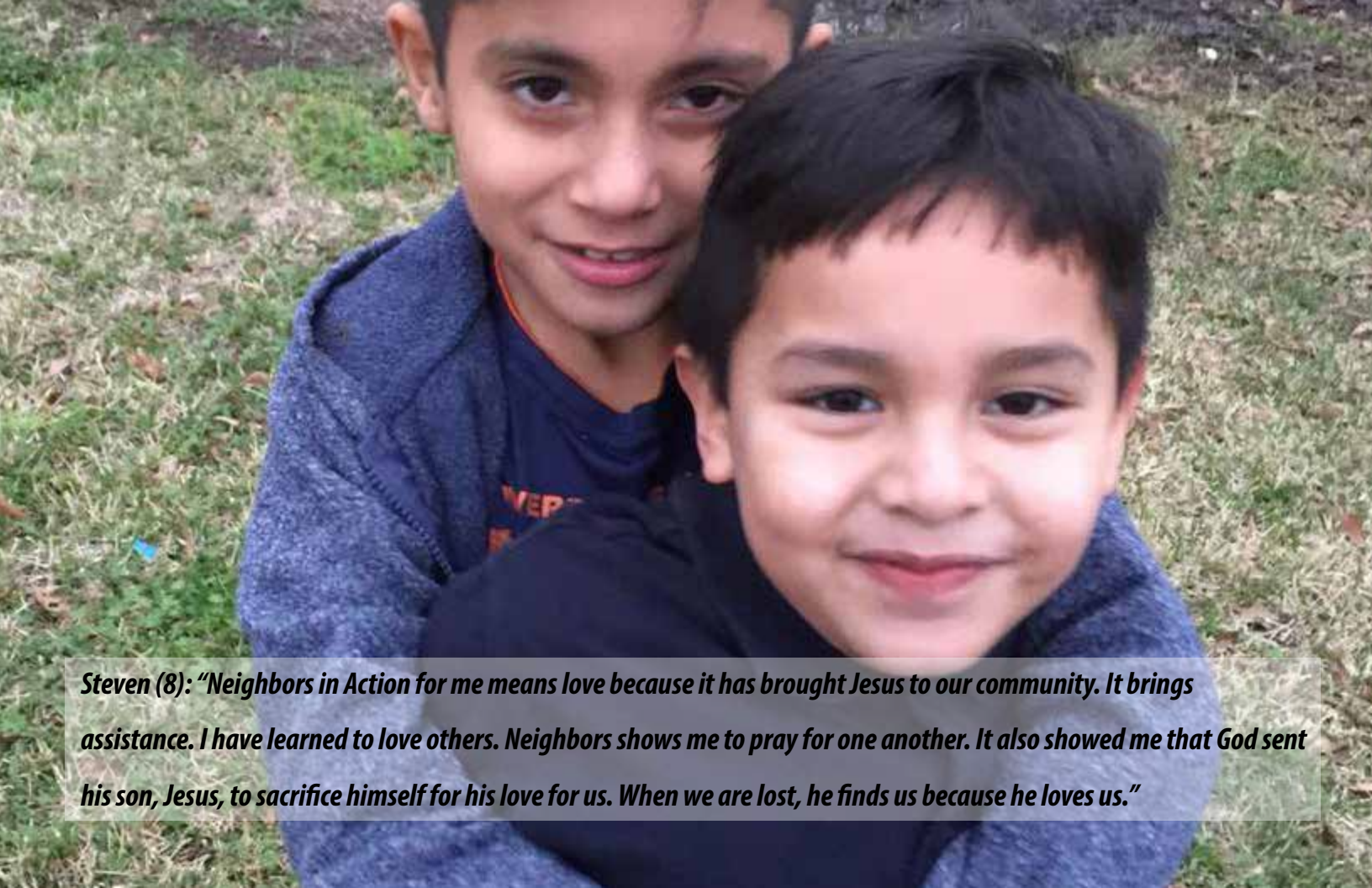
Without building a new community center, Neighbors in Action cannot reach more people than it currently does. We have no space to invite more families, and no larger events are possible, such as a Christmas party or a worship gathering. Also, NIA can only host one program at a time: For example, we do not currently have the capacity to offer adult education programs in the evenings because of children's programs. Building a new community center will allow us to reach out to new families and triple our daily attendance. It will also provide room for hosting different groups and programs simultaneously.



OUR MISSION IS TO HELP THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF PORT HOUSTON

G R O W ...

Part of our mission is to support the families of Port Houston as they grow and strengthen their relationship with God. NIA offers weekly Bible studies and worship times for children, teenagers, and adults. Port Houston teenagers attend First Methodist Houston every Sunday for worship and participation in youth activities. Summer 2018 was packed with extraordinary experiences, as children attended Student Life Camp, Vacation Bible School at First Methodist, and our own Neighbors in Action Vacation Bible School. Our teenagers deepened their faith through their participation in several weekend retreats. Inseparably connected with spiritual growth is service to others. Our children, teenagers and adults participate in service projects, such as writing cards and visiting people in nursing homes, picking trash in a state park, hosting garage sales for people in need from the community, and selling meals to raise money for children from Central America who got separated from their parents at the border and put in child detention centers. Six of our teenagers also went on a mission trip to Peru during summer, serving families in the slums of Lima.



Steven (8): "Neighbors in Action for me means love because it has brought Jesus to our community. It brings assistance. I have learned to love others. Neighbors shows me to pray for one another. It also showed me that God sent his son, Jesus, to sacrifice himself for his love for us. When we are lost, he finds us because he loves us."

...**PHYSICALLY**

in meeting basic needs such as food and shelter



Neighbors in Action supports families through unusual circumstances, helping them pay bills and with home repairs. We also connect Port Houston residents to other organizations with differing services. In addition, NIA hosted various community-wide events in 2018. Our annual Thanksgiving Feast served meals to more than 250 Port Houston residents and provided them with food bags, cash cards and gifts. At our Christmas party, we handed out gifts and meals to 170 children and parents. For many children, this was the only gift they receive for Christmas. NIA also hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for more than 150 children and their parents. During the summer months, we worked with the Houston Food Bank and provided more than 500 meals at our center. With the support of the Junior League of Houston, we were also able to support 4 widows who lost their husbands during Hurricane Harvey.

A major success story for us in 2018 was the "Harvey House Project." Neighbors in Action identified a single mom with three small children in dire need of a new home after the hurricane. We reached out to the Home Repair Team of First Methodist Houston, who searched for partners and teamed up with First United Methodist Church of Bryan, The Rock Church of Sandown New Hampshire, Avenue CDC, and the City of Houston to build a brand new home for this family. The Rock Church and FUMC Bryan came together for 6 days, to build the exterior of a house. First Methodist Houston finished the interior of the home during months of work with the help of hundreds of volunteers!

500

meals
provided
in summer

4,000

meals
and snacks
during school year

6,000

Easter eggs
hidden

\$10,000

support for
widows after
Harvey

...EMOTIONALLY

by developing self-esteem and providing support

Some children who attend Neighbors in Action have undergone severe trauma in their lives, such as: physical and sexual abuse, witnessing domestic violence; a parent in jail, foster care, violence in their countries of origin, and more. Children suffering from traumatic stress symptoms generally have difficulty regulating their behaviors and emotions. Because our regular program settings do not always work for those children, our NIA staff also does one-on-one meetings for children ages 3- 10. This is a special hour in addition to the regular programs, when our Children's Staff spends time with only two or three children at once. In a similar way, the Neighbors in Action youth group benefitted from weekly Small Groups that were offered by our Youth Staff in 2018. Our Small groups offered a safe space, where teens shared about their struggles at home, school, dating and sexuality, and got loving advice and support from staff and volunteers. Another one of NIA's priorities for teenagers (and also adults) is to grow in self-esteem through participation in mission trips and service projects. In addition to strengthening their faith through giving back to the community and assisting others, participating in service projects also impacts the confidence of those who serve. They realize God's calling for each of us; that He needs all of us to be there for others in need, no matter our own background and resources, and that He has a specific purpose for each of our lives. In addition, we trained teenage volunteers to be leaders at our programs for children ages 4 – 11.





...INTELLECTUALLY

through education in literacy, language and technology



Education is key to helping people overcome poverty and dependency, which is why we offer educational opportunities for children and parents. In 2018, we offered several educational opportunities, such as tutoring at Port Houston Elementary for Pre-K through 4th Grade children who are much behind their peers. In addition, NIA offered a weekly guitar class on Saturday mornings. During the summer months, Neighbors in Action hosted three week-long camps: Arts and Crafts, Drumming and Dancing, and Sports. Our goal was to provide a summer program in a rich, vibrant, and stimulating atmosphere that provides children with unique learning and recreational activities that foster each child's intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being. Neighbors in Action is also an Open Door Partner of the Children's Museum of Houston, which allows us to take students to the museum at no cost. In 2018, we took more than 100 children to the Children's Museum, and offered several other educational field trips. Parents participated in classes on financial literacy, self-esteem, computer skills, and healthy nutrition. We also offered our second CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Course! The women took this 8-week program offered by the City of Houston. The course educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

50
children
attended
summer camps



22
women
completed
CERT Training



10
women
completed
computer class



... RESULTING IN A COMMUNITY THAT IS

SELF-SUFFICIENT AND OUTREACH FOCUSED.

We could not do what we do without our amazing and committed volunteers! In 2018, volunteers worked a total of 2,050 hours, worth \$30,750. Thank you to all who come faithfully every week to build up relationships with our children, teenagers and parents!

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Cavemen Cookers
David Weekley Homes
Evangelical Lutheran Church
First Methodist Houston
Focolare Movement
Friendswood UMC
Girl Scout Troops
Grace Fellowship UMC
Harvest UMC
Lakewood UMC
Kingwood UMC
Memorial Drive UMC
Redeemer UMC
St. Peter's UMC both campuses

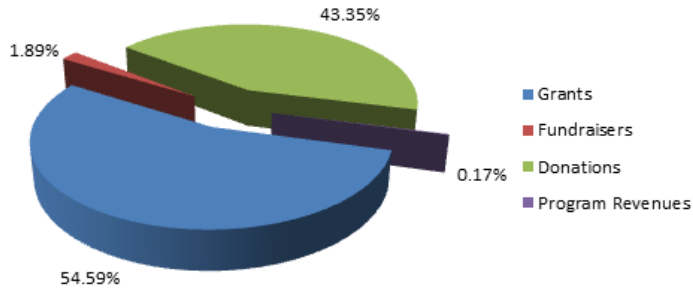
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

AA Diesel
Abrego Properties
Children's Museum of Houston
Communities in School
Connor's Gas and Diesel
Don Chile Restaurant
Councilwoman Karla Cisneros
Senator Sylvia Garcia
Congressman Gene Green
State Representative Ana Hernandez
Houston Dynamo
Houston Food Bank
La Divina Providencia Catholic Church
MetroBus
Pedro Morales
Palletized Trucking
Pleasantville Elementary School
Port Houston Elementary School
Port of Houston Authority
Sam's Body Shop
Superate y Triunfa
Supermercado SuKsa // El Rey

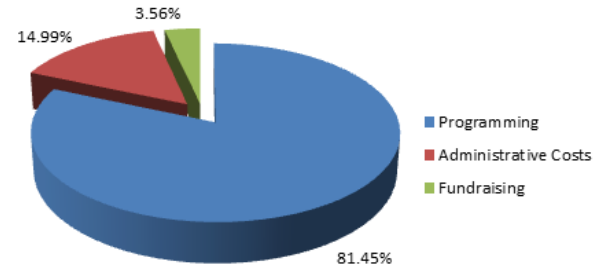


FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PROGRAM REVENUES: \$235,408.13



PROGRAM EXPENSES: \$249,592.51



Due to Hurricane Harvey, many organizations – NIA included – faced fundraising challenges in 2018. Thanks to a \$120,000 surplus accumulated over the last six years, we were able to cover the revenue deficit. 2019 looks promising with several grants already secured.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNITY CENTER

By the end of December 2018, Neighbors in Action had raised a total of \$932,833 in gifts and pledges for its Capital Campaign, and spent \$202,913.17 on the purchase of the land, architect fees and civil engineer fees. The new goal is \$1,300,000.

NIA Capital Campaign Donors

\$75,000 and up

McClure Charitable Fund

Ronald Sledge
Sandra Stevens
Lawrence Walton
Byrom Wehner

\$20,000 - 50,000

Russell and Christie Harrison
Silver Eagle Distributors Charitable Fund

\$500 - 999
Ben Brumlow
Logos SS Class
Peter Muessig
Peggy Scheel

\$10,000 - 19,999

John and Terri Gugenheim
Joan Capps Foundation
Bill and Carol Marshall

up to \$500

Margaret Allen
Barbara Baetz
David Brooks
Cindy Brown
John and Amy Caldwell
Ellen Castillo
Bible Discovery SS Class
Clayton Compton
Hugh Cozart
Christopher George
Jesus Gonzalez
Rachel Gummattira
Shirley Hartmann
Leslie Herbst
Jan Imig

\$5,000 - 9,999

Laura Griffenberg
Albert and Elizabeth Kidd
Ward and Iris Ann Schmidt
Steve and Karin Wende

\$2,500 - 4,999

Bill and Pattie Allen
Milton Hanks
Ed and Sherry Murphree
Kurt and Marlene Nondorf

\$1,000 - 2,499

Donald Ast
Lakewood United Methodist Church
Vera Dunlop
Eric Viehman and Nancy Jenkins
Abdul Kargbo and Kathrin Meier
LLC METALAB
Don and Mary Julia Macune
Harry Okabayashi

Harvey Relief Fund

\$10,000
Junior League of Houston



IN-KIND DONATIONS

We received in-kind donations worth \$35,337.29 in 2018, and would like to thank:

AA Diesel
Danny Abrego
Jim Adler and Associates
Jack Aulick
Cavemen Cookers
Emmaus Reunion Group at St. Peter's UMC
Evangelical Lutheran Youth Association
MaryAnn Fanty
Bea Garza
First Methodist

Christie Harrison
Shirley Hartman
Representative Ana Hernandez
H.E.B.
Houston Port Authority
Robert and Melissa Kaufman
Kingwood UMC
Lakewood UMC
Don and Mary Julia Macune
Memorial Drive UMC
Pedro Morales
Nicole Murphy

Kurt and Marlene Nondorf
Philip and Tamir Pena
Alan Radwanski
Redeemer Church
Alberto Rocha
Sandra and Joe Roberson
Sarah Saldana
Amie Shorter
St. Peter UMC
Supermercado Suksa
Viva Lopez!
Jan Whitehead

General Fund Donors

\$60,000 and up

Gugenheim Foundation

\$20,000 - 59,000

First Methodist Houston
Helm Foundation

\$10,000 - 19,999

Memorial Drive United Methodist
Church

\$5,000 - 9,999

David Blockhus
Christ The Servant Lutheran Church
John and Terri Gugenheim
Milton Hanks
Albert and Elizabeth Kidd
Kurt and Marlene Nondorf
Shell Oil Company Foundation

\$2,500 - 4,999

Jack Aulick
Memorial Drive UMW
Alan and Evelyn Radwanski

\$1,000 - 2,499

Alpha & Omega SS Class
Donald Ast
Athena Cajas
John and Amy Caldwell
Oscar and Linda Civallero
Vera Dunlop
Ruthie Estes
Scott & Maryann Fanty

Exxonmobil Foundation
St. Foundation
Christopher George
Jesus Gonzalez
Abdul Kargbo & Kathrin Meier
Lakewood United Methodist
Church
Logos SS Class
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Ronald & Ann Sledge
Donna Tomlin
AA Diesel Truck
Byrom Wehner
Jan Whitehead

\$500 - 999

Daniel & Teresa Abrego
Cathy Airola
David Brooks
Vanguard Charitable
Grace Church
Harrold Fellowship
Network For Food
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Carolyn Gray
Donna Gyles
Jim S Adler & Associates
LLC YourCause
Teresa Montgomery
Andrew Noel
Peter & Jo Linda Papadakis
Phillip Pena
Lawrence Walton
C J & Virginia Werlla

up to \$500

Adelphi Sunday School
Class
Margaret Allen
Karen Avery
Clayton Boldt
Pat Bonner
Judy Bowers
Susan Bradley
Ben Brumlow
Rodney Buell
Richard Cardenas
Mariana Castillo
Divas Class
Clayton Compton
Conners Gas And Diesel
Claude Cooke Jr
Mary Coombs
B. Crichton
Lynette Daffin
Grace Davis
David Day
Paul Donnelly
Brandy Flores
Aleykutty George
Blake Gipson
Jeannie Gomillion
Clara Gonzalez
Gene Green
Rachel Gummattira
Shirley Hartman
Christie Higgs
William Hilton
Susa Hogge

Brandi Horton
Houston Arts Alliance
Jan Imig
Kimberly James
Alex Johnson
Aaron Lee Jones
Michael Kenny
Dorcas Kibanya
Howard Kidd
Lea Kiefer
Jennifer Kirk
James & Betty Krause
Margaret Lam
Krystal Lewis
Don Macune
Cortlan Maddux
Beverly Masters
Dot Matthews
Lisa McDavid
Bob McDowell
James McGrew
Michael Metzdorf
Nancy Moore
Linda Morgan
Morris Export Services
Deborah Nixon
Network For Food
Cheryl O'Brien
Diane O'Brien
Kevin & Jane O'Brien
Linda Orrick
Bishale Patel
Kathryn Perry
Rita Proctor

Lois Reese
Robert & Janice Reynolds
Joe Roberson
James Roper
Jean Rupert
Darleen Schauer
Reed Schmidt
Betty Shaw
Robert Shelley
Sam's Body Shop, Inc
Amy Sluis
Stephanie Stainback
John Stevens
Sandra Stevens
Janis Stevenson
John Robert Stroehlein
Nancy Taylor
Kristy Trueheart
Nancy Walker
Hope Webber
Stephen Wende
Retha Wilson
James Windham
C.M. Wittman
Eliza Wright
Bonnie Yezak



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Mission Statement

Neighbors in Action is committed to helping the neighborhood of Port Houston grow

Spiritually: in relationship with God;

Physically: in meeting basic needs;

Emotionally: by developing self-esteem; and

Intellectually: through education in literacy, language, and technology,
resulting in a community that is self-sufficient and outreach-focused.