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CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS



CITY OF DALLAS

Memorandum

DATE: April 22, 2010

TO: Honorable Members of the Quality of Life Committee: Vonciel Jones Hill (Vice Chair), Carolyn R. Davis, Angela Hunt, Sheffie Kadane, David A. Neumann, Steve Salazar

SUBJECT: Quality of Life Committee Meeting

Monday, April 26, 2010, 12:00 p.m.

Dallas City Hall - 6ES, 1500 Marilla St., Dallas, TX 75201

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Approval of March 8, 2010 minutes and April 12, 2010 minutes
(12:00 p.m. – 12:01 p.m.) | Pauline Medrano, Chair |
| 2. 2-1-1 Connecting People and Services
(12:01 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.) | Martha T. Blaine, Executive Director, Debby Thornton, Director of Information & Technology |
| 3. Thriving Minds Success
(1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.) | Gigi Antoni, Big Thought President & CEO, Maria Munoz-Blanco, Director of Cultural Affairs |
| 4. Adjourn
(2:00 p.m.) | Pauline Medrano, Chair |

Please let me know if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pauline Medrano".

Pauline Medrano
Chair

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager

Deborah A. Watkins, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge C. Victor Lander, Judiciary
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
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Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Libro, Public Information Office
Helena Stevens-Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

1. Contemplated or pending litigation or matters where legal advice is requested of the City Attorney. Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
2. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, if the deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person. Section 551.072 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
3. A contract for a prospective gift or donation to the City, if the deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person. Section 551.073 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
4. Personnel matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint against an officer or employee. Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
5. The deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices. Section 551.076 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Quality of Life Council Committee

Meeting Record (DRAFT)

Meeting Date: 3-8-2010

Convened: 12:02 p.m.

Adjourned: 1:29 p.m.

Pauline Medrano, Chair
Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice-Chair
Sheffie Kadane
Dave Neumann
Steve Salazar
Carolyn R. Davis
Angela Hunt

Delia Jasso (non-member)

Briefing Presenters:

- Susan Hoff, Senior VP Community Impact United Way Metropolitan
- Julian Huerta, Director of Programs Foundation Communities
- Cynthia Yung, VP for Grants The Boone Family Foundation
- Yolanda Eisenstein, Animal Law Attorney

Special Guests:

Animal Shelter Advisory Commission Members

AGENDA:

1. **Approval of February 22, 2010 minutes**

Presenter(s):

Information Only: _____

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Motion to approve the February 22, 2010 minutes.

Motion made by: Vonciel Jones Hill

Item passed unanimously: __X__

Item failed unanimously: _____

Motion seconded by: Angela Hunt

Item passed on a divided vote: _____

Item failed on a divided vote: _____

2. **Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Free Tax Preparation Services**

Presenter(s): Susan Hoff, Julian Huerta, and Cynthia Yung

Information Only: __X__

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

The purpose of the briefing was to present opportunities and challenges of earned income tax credit. There is up to \$5,000 in increased credits over the next two years for a family with two or more children. Yet, \$1.4 to \$1.9 billion has been unclaimed in Texas annually. 20-25% of eligible individuals do not file claims because they are unaware that they are eligible or need to file a tax return to receive credit. A single mother with two kids and an annual income of \$18,000 can receive a \$5,000 earned income tax credit, a family with three kids and income of \$26,000 can receive a \$4,500 credit.

VITA community tax centers provide free tax preparation and EITC filing. In San Antonio the number of tax returns filed is an average of 39,000 compared to Dallas which has only about 4,500. Therefore the Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Program was initiated by Mayor Tom Leppert in

Quality of Life Council Committee

Meeting Record

(DRAFT)

the fall of 2008 along with numerous partners and community volunteers. The goal is to serve at least 10,000 families in Dallas and bring more than \$15,000,000 into the local economy. More than 500 volunteers have been recruited to commit at least 25 hours during the tax season, receive IRS certification training, prepare taxes, translate and intake work.

There are four locations in Dallas. Most sites open at least 40 hours per week, including evenings and weekends, have paid site managers and intake specialists, and have bilingual staff. Outreach efforts are advertised through utility bills, Dallas ISD, 2-1-1, *Al Dia*, *The Dallas Morning News*, television and radio. The council can help by telling constituents through newsletters, e-news, speaking engagements and the press.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

3. The Relationship between Animal Cruelty and Human Violence

Presenter(s): Yolanda Eisenstein

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Animal abuse is a crime under the Texas Penal Code 42.09 and 42.092. Potential animal abusers include hoarders, spouse/partner abusers, puppy mill owners, children, dog/cock fighters, criminals, violent criminals, serial killers and next-door neighbors. Many times the abuse by adults is intentional to control the animal, retaliate against an animal, satisfy a prejudice, express aggression through an animal, enhance personal aggressiveness, shock people, retaliate against people, sadism or even because assaulting a human is too risky. Animal abuse by children often times is because of curiosity or exploration, peer reinforcement, forced by a more powerful person, kills to prevent abuser from torturing, phobia, identification with child's abuser, post-traumatic play, imitation, practice before violence against a person.

Whether animal cruelty is intentional or negligent there are human costs to children, families, and the community. The graduation theory says an individual starts abusing animals, then graduates to human violence. Violent criminals were nearly three times more likely than nonviolent criminals to have abused animals as children. Animal abusers were five times more likely to have a violent criminal record.

There is long-term damage to children with exposure to witnessing animal abuse between the ages of three and six years old. This desensitizes and damages the child's capacity for empathy, fosters the idea that animals and people are expendable, damages a child's sense of safety, and leads to acceptance of physical harm and violence. Sexually abused children are five times more likely to abuse animals. By hurting animals, the child may be rehearsing his/her own suicide.

The PREP: Youth Village Dog Training Program uses non-violent juvenile offenders to train dogs as a way to develop personal skills. Professional dog trainers provide training and help the

Quality of Life Council Committee

Meeting Record

(DRAFT)

youth develop new skills while also creating adoptable dogs. Psychological evaluations are taken to measure results. All participants have shown positive changes in their behavior and attitudes toward people and animals. Graduates of the program receive training certificates from Canine Dimensions proving their successful completion of the program.

71% of battered women reported that their abuser had harmed animals, 32% reported that their children had hurt or killed animals. Leading to 25-40% of battered women unable to escape abusive situations because they worry about what will happen to their animals. Incidence of dog bites is 11 times greater in violent homes. 88% of homes with physically abused children also include abuse of the family pet. 62-76% of animal cruelty in the home occurs in front of children. 97% of the public considered “protecting animals from cruelty and abuse” to be important. The public sees animals as helpless victims, often making animal cruelty more disturbing than person-on-person violence.

Strategies include early intervention, public education, investigation, reporting and tracking, training, best practices, enlist and utilize community support, pass stronger laws, better language definitions in the law, collaboration among various entities, greater enforcement of existing laws, strengthen veterinarian reporting, have dedicated prosecutors, judges, courts, law enforcement, and support from all levels of government.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano, Chair
Quality of Life Committee

Quality of Life Council Committee

Meeting Record (DRAFT)

Meeting Date: 4-12-2010

Convened: 12:43 p.m.

Adjourned: 12:45 p.m.

Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice-Chair
Steve Salazar
Carolyn R. Davis

Absent:

Pauline Medrano (chair)
David Neumann - on city business
Sheffie Kadane - on city business

AGENDA:

1. The Quality of Life Committee meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano, Chair
Quality of Life Committee

Memorandum



DATE April 22, 2010

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life Committee: Pauline Medrano (Chair), Vonciel Jones Hill (Vice Chair), Carolyn R. Davis, Angela Hunt, Sheffie Kadane, David A. Neumann, Steve Salazar

SUBJECT 2-1-1 Connecting People and Services Briefing

On Monday, April 26, 2010, you will be briefed on the 2-1-1 Connecting People and Services presentation by Martha Blaine, Executive Director of the Community Council of Greater Dallas and Debby Thornton, Director of 2-1-1 Texas – Dallas Region. The briefing material is attached for your review.

If you have questions or need additional information, please let me know.

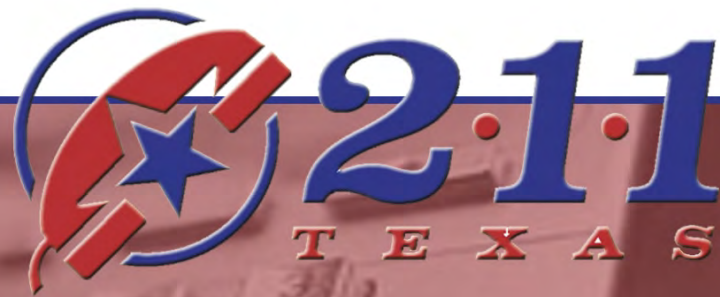


Forest E. Turner
Assistant City Manager

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COMMUNITY
COUNCIL
of GREATER DALLAS



Connecting People and Services

2-1-1 Texas North Central Texas Region -- Dallas



WHERE DO YOU CALL?

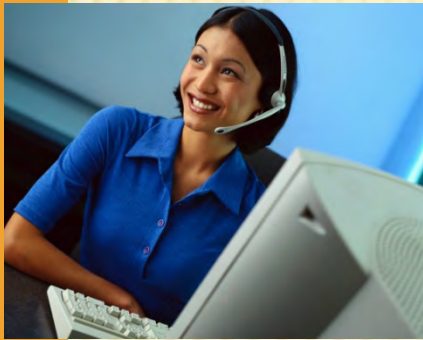
- ✘ Where does Hilda Molina call to find a community food pantry near her home?
- ✘ Where does Emily Smith call to find out how she can help in the search of Elizabeth Smart?
- ✘ Where does D/FW Airport call to find out about available options for distressed passengers?
- ✘ Where do you call to help find resources for one of your clients?

2-1-1 OF COURSE!



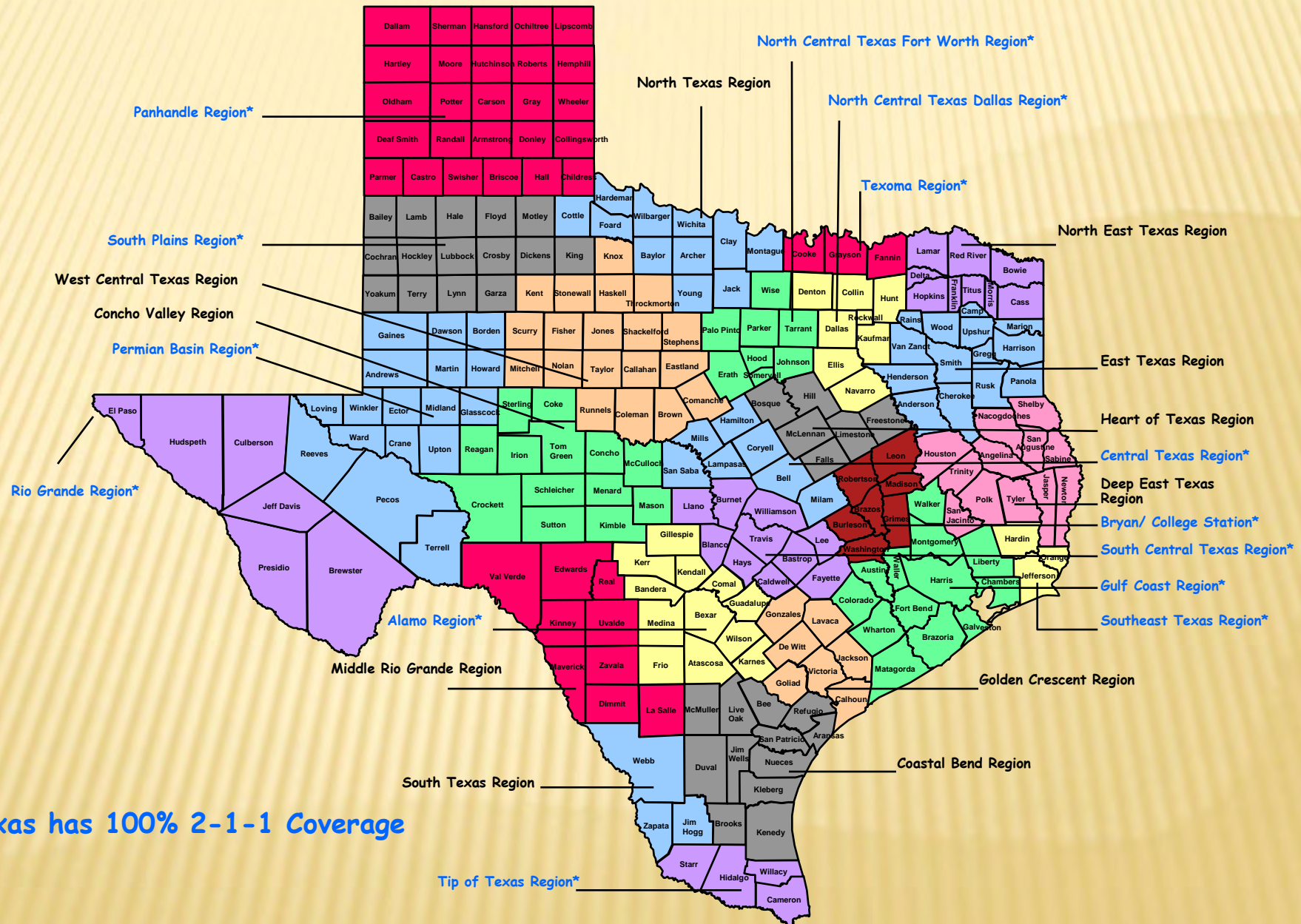
- ✘ Hilda Molina called Connecticut 2-1-1
- ✘ Emily Smith telephoned Salt Lake City 2-1-1
- ✘ David Wilson contacted Atlanta 2-1-1
- ✘ 2-1-1 Texas InfoLine at the Community Council of Greater Dallas

2-1-1 NATIONWIDE



- ✘ 2-1-1 serves over 241 million Americans (more than 80% of population) covering all or part of 46 states, plus Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.
- ✘ More than 28% of the population of Canada have access to 2-1-1.
- ✘ These numbers increase every few weeks.
- ✘ Pending legislation for government support of 2-1-1 nationally.

25 AIC PARTNERS FOR STATEWIDE COVERAGE



WHAT IS 2-1-1?

- ✘ 2-1-1 is a national abbreviated dialing code for free access to health and human services information and referral
- ✘ People who call 2-1-1 in Texas will be connected directly to their regional Area Information Center (AIC)
- ✘ Regionally, Community Council of Greater Dallas is the AIC, serving Collin, Denton, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Rockwall, Kaufman, and Navarro Counties

WHAT IS 2-1-1?

- ✘ 2-1-1 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- ✘ Answered by professionally trained, certified 2-1-1 Specialists.
- ✘ Calls are answered locally.

2-1-1 BENEFITS

- ✘ Easy to remember 3-digit dialing code
- ✘ Always on! 24/7
- ✘ Multi-lingual and TTY/TDD
- ✘ Eliminates confusion about “where to call” for health and human services
- ✘ Provides accurate information to the public
- ✘ Gives Human Resource Management and employees one number to call when in question or crisis
- ✘ Comprehensive database with regional resources and statewide with online access
- ✘ Eliminates inappropriate 9-1-1 calls
- ✘ Statistical reports identify community needs and gaps in services
- ✘ Provides Homeland Security and Disaster support

WHAT ARE THE NEEDS?

Dallas County

Utility Assistance

Food

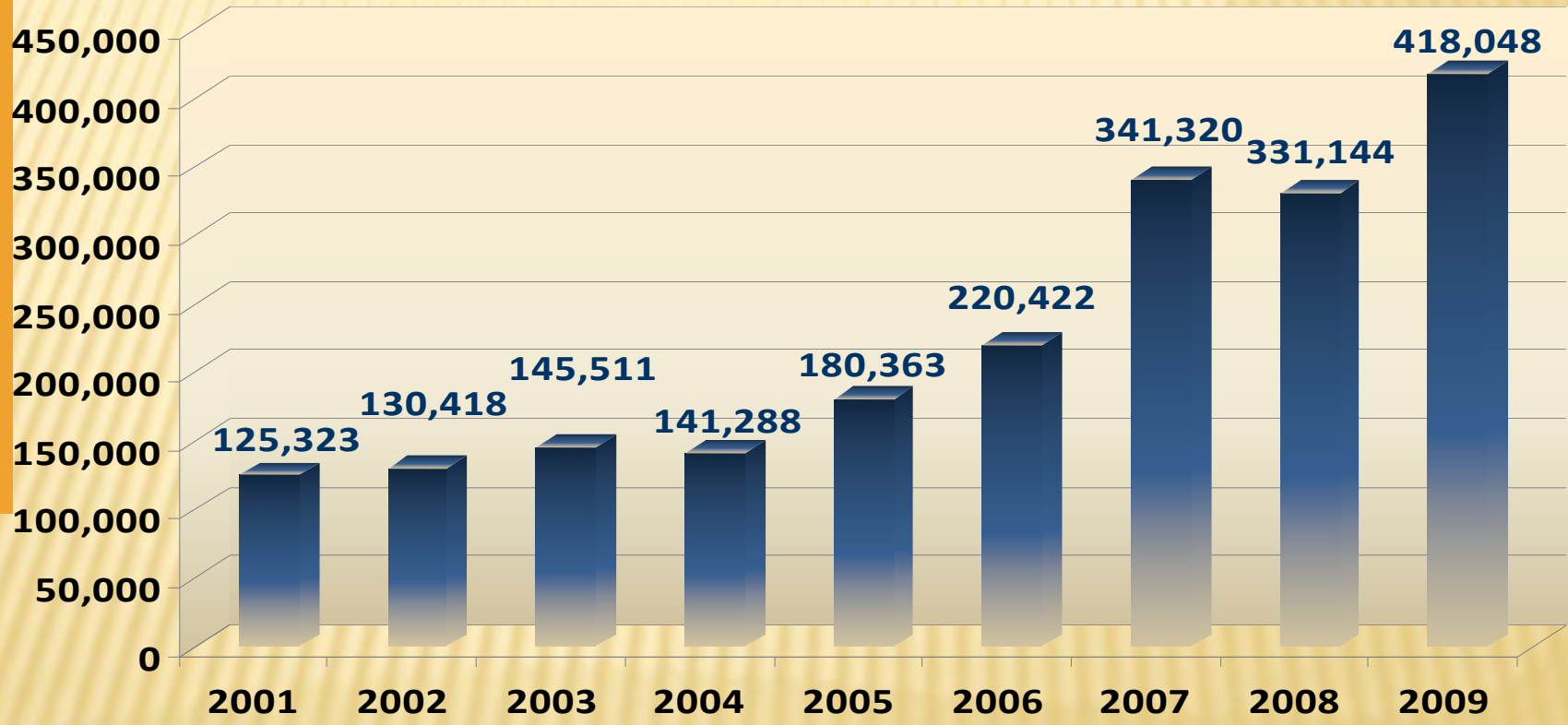
Rental Assistance/Shelter

Affordable Housing

✘ Medical Assistance



Calls To 2-1-1 By Year



DALLAS COUNTY TOP TEN NEEDS

	2009 Requests	% Change 2008
Electric Bill Payment Assistance	108,421	15%
Rent Payment Assistance	74,806	13%
Food Pantries	45,099	20%
Water Bill Payment Assistance	15,934	9%
Gas Bill Payment Assistance	12,764	-18%
Food Stamp Applications	12,528	0%
Homeless Shelters	7,625	41%
Housing Authorities	6,646	34%
Transitional Housing/Shelter	6,279	15%
Medicaid Applications	6,17	-20%

STATEWIDE ROLE OF 2-1-1 TEXAS



- **Disaster and Emergency Management Support**



- **Homeland Security Support**



- Provide Basic Information and Referral

2-1-1 Citizens Link to Critical Information



2-1-1 is Texas' public communications link for assistance in disaster response and homeland security preparedness

2-1-1 TEXAS

Homeland Security & Disaster Response Assistance

- ✘ Authorized Information Dissemination to Public
- ✘ Rumor Control – Accurate Information
- ✘ Regional and Community Response
- ✘ Disaster Response Support
- ✘ Crisis Intervention and Human Services Coordination
- ✘ Volunteer and Donation Coordination

[We] encourage states to establish a 2-1-1 telephone system from which victims can get shelter information, where [Disaster Response Centers] are, what the hours are, locations and telephone numbers."

-- FEMA, 2005 Hurricane Season After-Action Report

2-1-1 COMMUNITY RESOURCES LOCAL DISASTER CAPABILITIES



2-1-1 AIC

Technology & Support Capabilities

Needs of the Community

- Disaster I&R
 - Preventive
 - Response
 - Relief
 - Recovery
 - Mitigation
- Basic Needs
 - Shelter
 - Water
 - Food
 - Clothing
- Emotional
 - Emergency
 - Stabilization
 - On-going
- Medical
 - Emergency
 - Directions
 - Information
- Special Needs
 - Children
 - Elderly
 - Handicapped
- Spiritual/Religious

- 24/7/365 Service
- State-wide 2-1-1 access
- Scalable Telephone Stations
- Auto-Call Distribution System
- Off-site capability
- Multi County Health & Human Services database
- Multi County Community Info. Center
- Links to specialized I&R's
- Call Data Collection capability (Document Need)

Resource Examples

- 311
- 911
- COG
- Chaplains
- County
- FEMA
- Fire, Police & Sheriff
- Food Bank
- Interfaith
- Medical
 - City
 - County
 - Federal
 - Private
 - State
- Military Resources
 - Active Duty
 - Retired
- Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Specialized I&R
 - AAA
 - Battered Women's Shelter
 - Rape Crisis Center
- TDMHMR
- TDSHS
- Other resources by region

QUESTIONS



CONTACT



Martha Blaine
Executive Director
Community Council of Greater Dallas
214.954.4223
mblaine@ccgd.org

Debby Thornton
Director, 211 Texas – Dallas Region
214.954.4222
dthornton@ccgd.org

Memorandum



DATE April 22, 2010

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life Committee: Pauline Medrano (Chair), Vonciel Jones Hill (Vice Chair), Carolyn R. Davis, Angela Hunt, Sheffie Kadane, David A. Neumann, Steve Salazar

SUBJECT Thriving Minds Success Briefing

On Monday, April 26, 2010, you will be briefed on the Thriving Minds Success presentation by Gigi Antoni, Big Thought President and CEO and Maria Munoz-Blanco, Director of Cultural Affairs. The briefing material is attached for your review.

If you have questions or need additional information, please let me know.


Forest E. Turner
Assistant City Manager

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Thriving Minds Success

Briefing to the Quality of Life Committee

April 26, 2010



Purpose of Briefing

- To provide an update on the Thriving Minds initiative, managed by Big Thought, to the Quality of Life Committee
- To provide information on the SLANT45 program partnership with the North Texas Super Bowl XLV Host Committee



Recent Thriving Minds History

2005

- Wallace Foundation gives \$1 million planning grant

2006-2007

- Wallace gives additional \$8 million for implementation
- Big Thought brings creative learning to 157 campuses and 6 neighborhoods in a coordinated system of year-round creative learning

2008

- Dallas ISD and Big Thought team up to support after-school programs funded through the federal 21st Century grant program (Cycle 5) in 22 schools.
- Summer school in 16 campuses & OCA centers

2009-2010

- Receives Cycle 6 grant-34 schools in September
- Coordinates Summer Camps in 28 Dallas schools and OCA centers

Student Outcomes

Students: 96% of students promoted to next grade

Teachers: 91% reported improved behavior and homework completion

TAKS: 70% improved or maintained proficiency

Policy: Weekly arts instruction for **every** elementary student

Community Outcomes

Students receive creative learning through:

- 70 OCA supported arts and cultural organizations and 4 OCA cultural centers
- A dozen parks and recreation centers and services
- 27 public libraries
- Faith-based centers and numerous other community entities
- Neighborhood events



Thriving Minds Phase I

Jobs and Economic Impact for City

- **\$2,182,575** has been redistributed to more than 70 local community organizations for services provided
- **\$624,255** has been paid to individual artists
- **140** new teaching positions have been created and maintained at Dallas ISD (annual salaries total approx. **\$7.6M**)

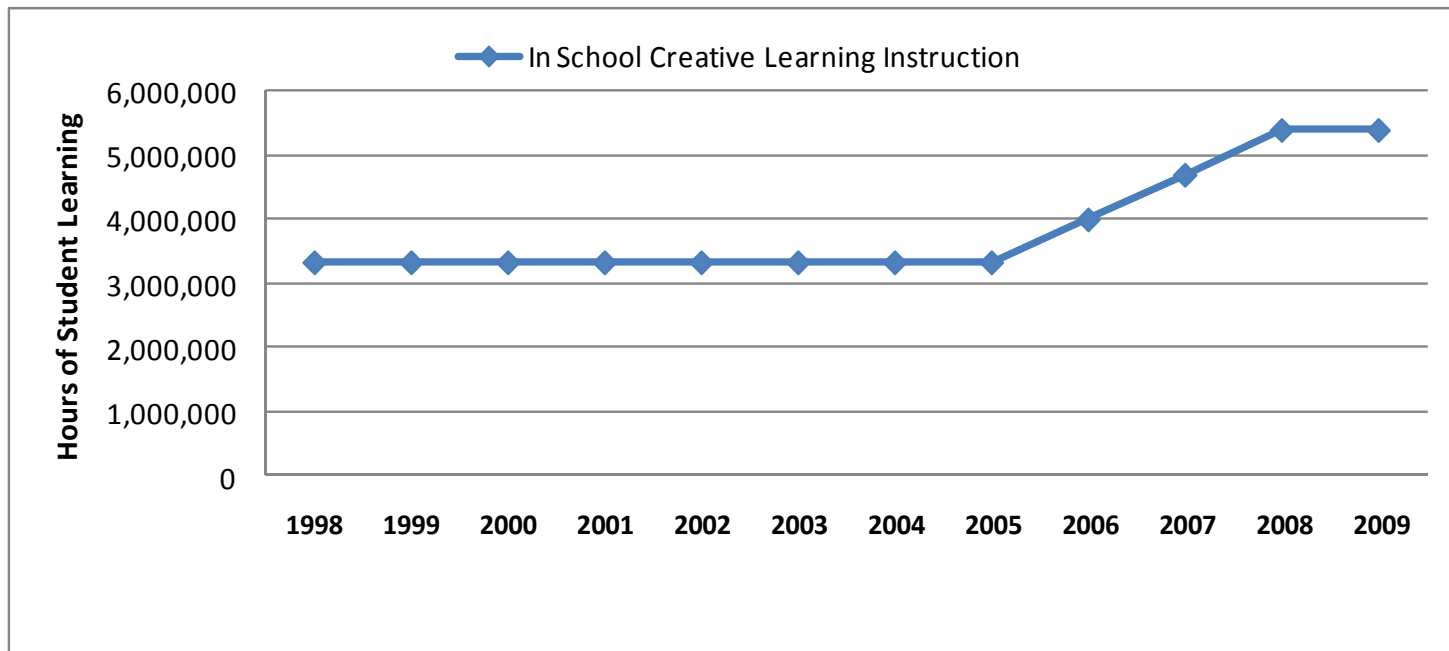


Thriving Minds Phase I

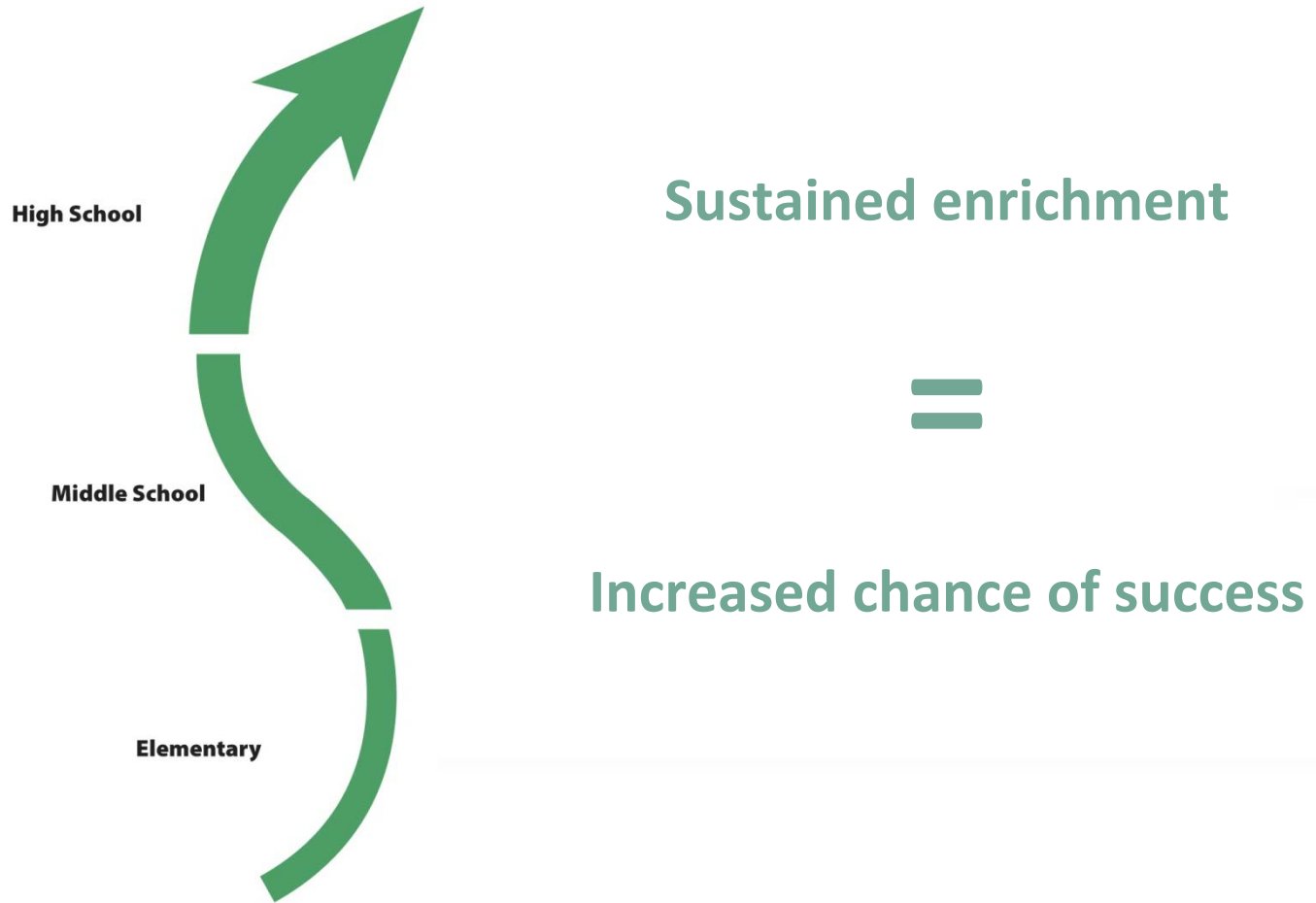
Impact—Supporting Community Connections

- Organized 150 neighborhood leaders
- Coordinated 100+ organizations
- Met with 100's of families to establish need
- Engaged teens in the program through paid apprenticeships in the summer camps and programs for the Dallas Public Library teen centers in all 27 branches

Thriving Minds Phase I

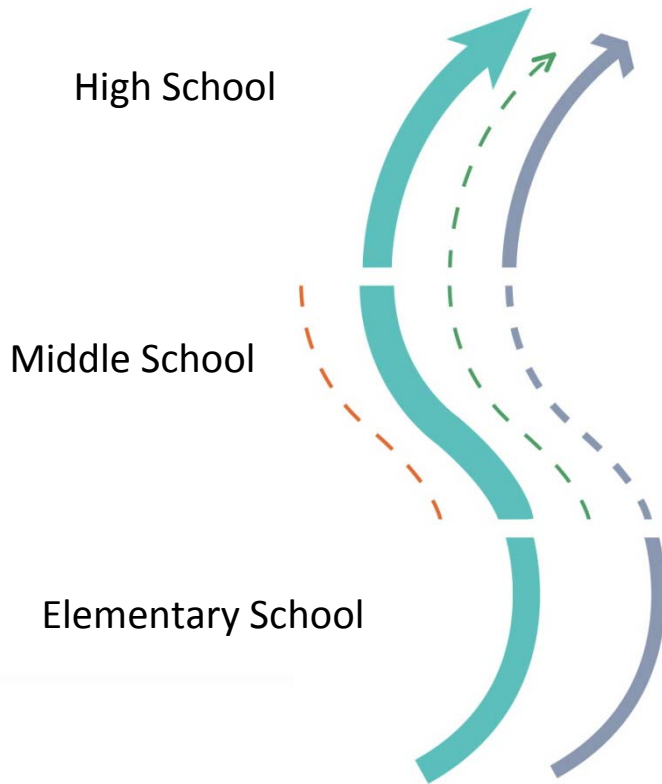


Pathways to Success



Pathways to Success

Pleasant Grove -- 2007



Pleasant Grove -- 2009



Dance ● Music ● Theater ● Visual Art ●



Thriving Minds Phase II

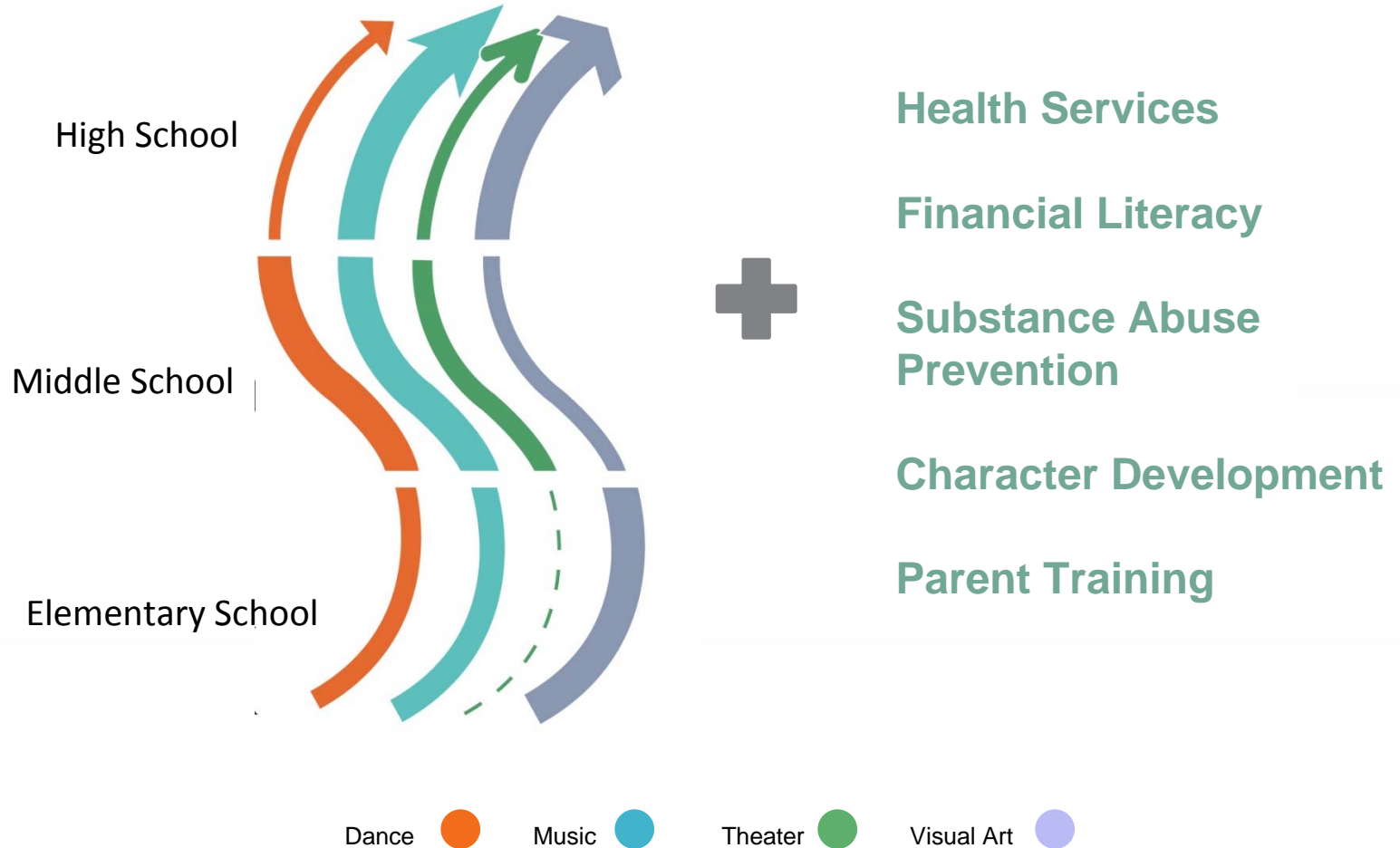
Phase 2 of Thriving Minds will:

- Establish year-round programs serving neighborhoods out of every DISD elementary school
- Begin summer camps in every Dallas neighborhood
- Build 500+ neighborhood leaders
- Provide professional development to 6,000 teachers and 370 fine arts specialists
- Coordinate neighborhood resources

Pathways Plus

Pleasant Grove -- 2009

Pleasant Grove -- 2014





Summer Camps 2010

Overview

- 4 OCA sites open to the public
- 24 Dallas ISD Elementary campuses
- 1 mega middle-school camp @ Booker T. Washington Performing & Visual Arts High School in the Arts District
- Enrichment Opportunities + Academic Classes

Goals

- Reduce summer learning loss
- Preparation for fall
- Increased academic performance
- Engagement of communities across City



OCA Summer Camps 2010

- All centers will host a summer camp in June 2010
 - Bath House Cultural Center (grades 3-5)
 - Oak Cliff Cultural Center (grades 1-3)
 - Latino Cultural Center (ages 11-14)
 - South Dallas Cultural Center (grades K-12)
- All camps will offer visual and performing arts components and will have a “culminating” event at the end of June
- The capacity of each weekly camp will be 25 students
- Registration is open to any child residing in the City of Dallas (first-come, first-served basis)
- Through Thriving Minds, Big Thought has arranged for the participants to be provided breakfast, lunch and a daily snack



20,000 students

45,000 hours of service learning

112 cities across North Texas





Main components of SLANT 45 projects:

- Register
- Brainstorm
- Research
- Develop
- Project
- Implement project
- Reflect upon experience
- Submit final project “stats” and photos ... **Celebrate!**



Timeline For Implementation





Questions/Comments

Thank you!