



PEOPLE PLAN

Despite a number of amenities, anchor institutions, jobs, and services within the Laney Walker-Harrisburg Choice Neighborhood, residents of Allen Homes and the larger neighborhood generally are not thriving – as measured by overall low literacy levels, high poverty, food insecurity, and resident concerns about safety.

Overall household incomes are very low, as are levels of employment. Only a small percentage of neighborhood residents have education beyond a high school degree. In addition, low literacy levels are a challenge in the Choice Neighborhood where approximately 30% of Choice Neighborhood residents do not have access to the internet.

An overarching objective of the People Plan is to find ways to assist residents in taking advantage of all the neighborhood has to offer, including training and support for neighborhood-area jobs that provide livable wages, guidance to residents regarding health and supportive services, and educational services that build on fundamentals such as literacy.





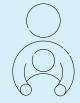
There is a very high percentage of children at Allen Homes, where the median age is 14. 62%

of residents have at least 1 child under 18

vs. **34%** of neighborhood survey respondents

of Allen Homes residents have children under 5

47% of Allen Homes residents have children age 5 to 19



There is a very high percentage of single parent households in the Choice Neighborhood.

Of all Allen Homes survey participants, **none** are currently married.

Of all the Neighborhood survey participants, **only 24%** are currently married.

In addition, many Allen Homes residents are unable to work and have special needs.

21% of Allen Homes households have special needs

17%

of Allen Homes heads of households are unable to work

Community Vision

In the future, the Laney Walker-Harrisburg Choice Neighborhood will be...

A thriving and resilient community with equitable access to resources that empowers residents to achieve their personal and professional goals.

Goals

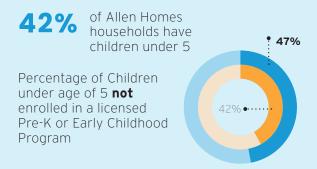
- 1. Increase participation in quality multigenerational educational programs.
- 2. Support academic performance for children in grades K-12th grades.
- 3. Promote a neighborhood that possesses physical and mental health literacy and the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to achieve healthy living.
- 4. Increase access to physical and mental health services, as well as fresh, healthy foods so residents in the Choice Neighborhood can utilize their health literacy to receive the supports necessary for healthy living.

- 5. Increase ability of residents to be successfully employed to increase resilience skills so residents can better absorb/overcome/recover from trauma or barriers.
- 6. Identify and partner with area providers to align job training and tech programs with jobs in the neighborhood.

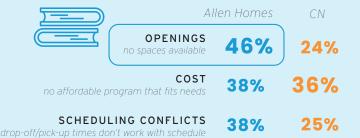
Education

There are currently many nonprofit organizations, along with public and private institutions, that are developing, or already have existing pathways for all ages to have the building blocks necessary for quality educational experiences and educational supports. An outcome of the Choice Neighborhood Plan will be to integrate the best education programs (growing those that are already established and performing well) and developing a sound communication process between the resources that exist and the residents who need access. Our People plan includes strategies to reduce known barriers to program access, such as transportation, childcare, and program times and locations.





WHAT ARE SOME REASONS THAT YOUR CHILDREN DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN A PRE-K OR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM?



47%

of Allen Homes households have children between 5 and 19

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT
THE QUALITY OF YOUR
CHILDREN'S EDUCATION?

My child receives a high-quality education at school 56

My child is engaged, motivated, and/or inspired at school

58%

Goal 1

Increase participation in quality multigenerational educational programs.

Strategy A

Increase collaboration between existing partners and programs (e.g., Back on Track Recovery Program, HUB Child Watch, AU Literacy Center) to increase adult educational opportunities and overall educational achievement.

There are several existing opportunities for young adults to gain the educational and technical skills needed to increase employment options and household incomes. Richmond County School System's Back on Track Workforce Recovery program is designed for students who are at least 19 years old, but do not yet have a GED and are less than seven credits away from completing their high school diploma. Additionally, the People team will build on the partnership between AU Literacy Center, Augusta Tech GED Program and HUB Child Watch that provides free child-care while parents are in class. Our needs assessment found that 47% of children under age five were not enrolled in an early childhood program due to lack of open spots, cost, or scheduling. With increased awareness and access to free childcare, parents will have a more viable opportunity to enroll and complete their programs.

Currently, a small number of Allen Homes households have high-school aged children. However as younger children grow, there are increased opportunities to encourage student participation in the Augusta Technical College Dual Enrollment Program - allowing 10th through 12th grade students an opportunity to work

towards a technical degree at no cost. The STRIVE program (RISE Augusta) staff will reach out to and connect directly with Allen Homes families with high school aged children to talk one-on-one with teens about current opportunities, fundings, and wrap-around services.

Beyond the Choice planning period, the Education sub-committee will continue to meet quarterly to problem-solve, increase coordination, and share resources for raising educational achievement, ultimately improving employment and career pathways for residents. With this increased coordination and resource sharing, community outreach/facilitators will go directly to Allen Homes to provide workshops and answer questions about available resources working with the STRIVE Coordinator and local Benefits Cliff program (partnership of nonprofits to connect residents and map out a path to living wage employment). Outreach and in-person workshops will include building a profile on Metro Chambers Talent to Work program for Allen Homes residents, financial literacy workshops, and youth career and financial programming added to existing on-site programs.



Strategy B

Build a Mothers Morning Out program using local churches and volunteers with the goal of preparing children to enter school ready to learn.

Fewer than half of children under five at Allen Homes are currently enrolled in an ECE program due to too few open spots, cost, and scheduling challenges. With a desired outcome of increasing participation in quality ECE programming, the Education sub-committee will build on a growing partnership between Richmond County School System, RESA, and numerous non-profits called "The Basics" - targeted for early learning with children five and younger to prepare them for

kindergarten and beyond. The program uses movement, music, and stress management in a loving setting to support a community-based learning environment for young children. The Family Y will provide a "Mothers Morning Out" template for local churches that will host programming. Three-hour time slots will be available, and priority given to Allen Homes residents at no cost.

Goal 2

Support academic performance for children in grades K-12.

Strategy A

Increase reading integration and literacy in after-school programs.

Nearly 70% of residents feel that additional summer programming would help their children do well in school. For those who completed the needs assessment survey and in follow up conversations, cost and awareness of summer programming are seen as barriers. Through partnerships with key stakeholders and a nonprofit task force for education, we plan to integrate literacy education into all after school programs. AU Literacy Center and Rise Augusta will work with the nonprofits to provide literacy education curriculum. Community volunteers will provide tutoring at existing sites.



According to SchoolGradesGeorgia. gov, only 50% of 8th graders in Richmond County were reading at or above grade level and only 25-29% of students attending Laney High School were reading at the standardized level for their grade.



(Source: RISE Augusta Instagran

BUILDING BLOCKS

RISE AUGUSTA

RISE Augusta is a nonprofit organization committed to supporting children, schools and educators to create a culture of success and expectation that every student - no matter their circumstances - deserves to be prepared, encouraged, and literate to be successful in life. With a goal of breaking the cycle of poverty, RISE Augusta offers: tutoring and remediation in schools, wrap around support services for families (eyeglasses, technology, utility bill payment), school services, book fairs, and summer school. RISE Augusta also supports high school-age children through a High School to Work Program and STRIVE at the HUB, which nurtures soft skills to succeed in the workplace. For young mother and fathers and moms to be, there is a BASICS at the HUB program to nurture early language nutrition at home.

EDUCATION

Strategy B

Engage the community to build on organizational volunteer capacity.

There is community interest and support for increased K-12 and adult educational programming, both during the summer and after-school. Through RISE Augusta, the Education sub-committee will spearhead an online volunteer network system that allows the larger community to "sign-up" for opportunities within nonprofits and school system focused on educational support. Potential topic areas include: reading, math, and financial literacy. Additionally, local churches and community leaders from Allen Homes, Harrisburg

Laney Walker, and businesses within the HUB Community Advisory Council will be recruited as volunteers to help with services, and in securing in-kind wrap around supports in coordination with local schools. Health partners AU Health and Harrisburg Family Health Care will provide integrated health, vision, and dental checks in local schools – a need identified by residents.



Public Schools in the Choice Neighborhood are among the lowest performers in the State

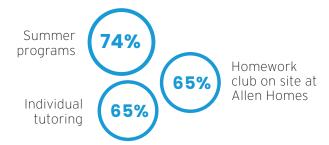
> "Kids have lots of time and there are no positive things to engage in"

"No mentorship is being offered"

Only 73% of Allen Homes adults and only 84.2% of CN survey respondents have a High School Degree or GED or higher

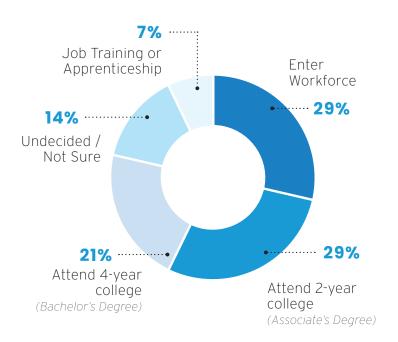


WHAT ADDITIONAL SERVICES WOULD HELP YOUR CHILDREN DO WELL IN SCHOOL?



WHAT DO YOUR CHILDREN PLAN TO DO **AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?**

Only 38% of AH survey respondents feel their children's current schooling is preparing them to achieve their after high school plans





Strategy C

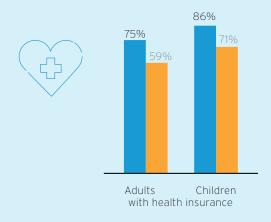
Build strong coordination between the school system, both public and private and existing nonprofit organizations.

Of residents who participated in the needs assessment, only 38% feel their child's current schooling is preparing them for post-graduation and the majority feel that they need safe places for their children to be engaged in out of school activities. In order to create a stronger bridge between residents of the Choice Neighborhood, schools, existing nonprofit service organizations, the Education Sub-Committee will host guarterly roundtable with community educators to talk through wrap around services needed for our schools and develop additional strategies for securing resources and volunteer coordination. This may involve pulling in "non-traditional" nonprofits and business to expand the reach and working with Jr. Achievement to connect young people with job opportunities through the Jobs Simulator Program.

Health

There are several nonprofit partners who are ready to implement the goals of the People Health Task Force. They include Augusta Locally Grown, Harrisburg Family Health Care, Christ Community Health, the Public Health Department, AU Medical School, Family Counseling Centers of Augusta, Druid Hills Clinic, and RISE Augusta.

DO YOU HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE?



WHAT WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO EXERCISE?



IF NOT, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE REASONS?

Cost

Not sure how to get insurance

Difficult getting approved

46%

of Allen Homes adults and 57% of children jog, walk or ride a bike outside a few times a week

50%

of Allen Homes adults exercise at home with apps, videos, or home equipment 61%

of Allen Homes children NEVER participate in organized sports only 29%



of Allen Homes residents

& 27% of CN residents

feel there are many places to exercise in the neighborhoods (gyms, parks, playgrounds)