



Community Grants Program

2025 Grant Recipients

1. Comp-U-Dopt

Program: Workforce Readiness for Opportunity Youth & Community Laptop Distribution

Location: East End

Funding amount: \$49,000

Overview: Comp-U-Dopt will implement two cohorts of their Pathways Program, a workforce-aligned technology enrichment experience that equips young adults with digital skills and professional development to prepare them for high-demand careers in the digital economy. In addition to workforce programming, funding will also support the distribution of 400 refurbished laptop computers to individuals and families who currently lack a working device in the home. These distributions will be hosted at community-based events in partnership with local schools, nonprofits, and housing sites.

2. Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation

Program: 2025 My Home Library

Location: Magnolia Park

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Overview: The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation focuses on closing the gap in book access for young and most vulnerable children and their families through their My Home Library program. Through this program, children in Title I low-performing elementary schools, early childhood education centers, and other schools within high-need communities are gifted six brand-new books to read, share, and love. This year, the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundations aims to empower more than 40,000 children with a home library of six books each. Through a partnership with Port Houston, more than 715 students at Gallegos and Carillo Elementary Schools will receive home libraries.



3. Harris County Cultural Arts Council

Program: A.R.A – Arts Reaching All

Location: Unincorporated East Harris County

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Overview: This program is designed to promote emotional health, mental well-being & social connection through creative expression. A.R.A. aims to offer free, arts-based wellness classes that foster healing, mindfulness and community care for the more than 40 thousand residents of Unincorporated East Harris County. The funding for this program will be used for various sessions such as art therapy, creative writing, culinary arts, music and sound healing which are led by experienced, trauma-informed facilitators who specialize in integrating the arts with wellness practices.

4. BakerRipley

Program: 2025 STEAM Forward Initiative

Location: East End

Funding amount: \$35,000

Overview: Funding is requested to enhance BakerRipley's STEAM programming, workshops, and community outreach for the East End- 2nd Ward community. BakerRipley, with the support of Port Houston, can bring engaging maritime-themed STEAM educational experiences to underserved youth in the 2nd Ward who engage with BakerRipley's Learning and Innovation Center through age-appropriate classes, workshops, and special events, with a dedicated focus on middle school students, planned throughout 2025.



5. Galveston Bay Foundation*

Program: Dolphin Research & Outreach at Seawolf Park

Location: Pelican Island

Funding amount: \$25,000

Overview: The primary goal of the Dolphin Research and Outreach Station is to raise awareness about the impacts of marine pollution on wildlife and increase environmental stewardship in Galveston Bay. The requested funds would support the recruitment and training of a new cohort of volunteers in 2026. This would ensure the continuous empowerment of new volunteers to actively participate in pollution reduction efforts. The grant would also fund bilingual outreach signage and new monofilament recycling bins, contributing to the revitalization of shoreline greenspace.

6. The Arc of Harris County

Program: Camp Spark and After School Care

Location: Harris County

Funding amount: \$20,000

Overview: Camp Spark is a comprehensive after-school and summer program tailored for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This program offers a structured, inclusive, and enriching environment where children with IDD can develop choice-making skills, social competencies, cognitive abilities, and physical well-being in a supportive setting. The Arc proposes to utilize grant funds to provide individualized learning experiences that empower children with IDD to navigate their environments with greater confidence

**denotes previous grant recipient*



7. Pumps & Pipes

Program: Pumps & Pipes Annual Event STEAM Program

Location: Greater Houston

Funding Amount: \$5,000

Overview: Pumps & Pipes will use grant funding to host their annual event, which aims to introduce 60 high school students to careers in STEAM fields. Students will have the opportunity to speak with STEAM professionals and participate in hands-on activities such as flight simulators, diagnostic ultrasound and more, all of which are designed to expose them to STEAM skills.

8. Segundo Barrio Children's Chorus

Program: Voces Unidas Del Barrio: Uniting Communities, Empowering Futures

Location: East Harris County

Funding amount: \$40,000

Overview: Segundo Barrio Children's Chorus (SBCC) transforms the lives of children and families through tuition-free access to music & arts education as well as community building performance opportunities. This program will provide a year-round after-school program for children from under-resourced households. In addition to after school music programs, SBCC offers a summer music camp and engages youth through public performances.

9. The Rose*

Program: Empower Her Health Program

Location: East Harris County

Funding amount: \$30,000

Overview: The overarching goal of the Empower Her Program is to save lives and ensure that uninsured and medically underserved patients receive the same access to care as their insured counterparts. The program covers the cost of preventive care screening services as part of an annual well-woman checkup as well as diagnostic care. While The Rose's Empower Her Sponsorship Program (Empower Her) is geared toward women, they also serve men through the program.

**denotes previous grant recipient*



10. Urban Community Network

Program: Commercial Driver Workforce Development Program

Location: Pleasantville & Greater Fifth Ward

Funding Amount: \$20,000

Overview: The Commercial Driver Workforce Development Program is a pilot workforce initiative designed to provide justice-involved individuals with a direct pathway to sustainable employment in the trucking industry. Grant funds will support offering pre-release CDL permit training, career readiness support, and immediate post-release enrollment in accredited truck driving schools.

11. Energy Education Foundation

Program: Mobile Energy Learning Unit (MELU)

Location: East End & Greater Houston Area

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Overview: The Energy Education foundation uses the Mobile Energy Learning Unit, a traveling STEM education platform, to inspire middle school students to explore careers and opportunities in the energy industry. This mobile classroom is equipped with interactive exhibits, simulations, and activities. Allocated funds will be used to support MELU operational costs and to increase STEM awareness, promote workforce development, and enhance educational equity.

12. Second Servings of Houston*

Program: Pop-Up Grocery Stores

Location: East End & Houston

Funding Amount: \$24,000

Overview: The Pop-Up Grocery Stores program addresses the growing need for food assistance in an effective and efficient way. Second Servings brings high quality unsold groceries rescued each morning, to participating Pop-Up locations. “Shoppers” choose from a vast array of fresh produce, meat, eggs, dairy, meals, and more, at no cost. Shoppers fill 2-4 large bags, generally saving \$50-\$150 each month. The Pop-Ups are conveniently located at affordable housing sites and nearby community centers, to facilitate access, since transportation is often a barrier for low-income people.

**denotes previous grant recipient*



13. Friends of the North Channel Branch Inc.

Program: Community Garden & Outdoor Learning Space

Location: Channelview

Funding Amount: \$5,000

Overview: Gardens are great incubators of literacy and learning for all ages. The North Channel Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Space is designed to be a kid-friendly place where children can learn, explore, and appreciate nature. The goal of this learning space is to offer a unique way to literacy. Children who visit will develop social skills, vocabulary building and conversational skills which are the foundation of literacy.

14. Hearts and Hands of Baytown

Program: The Pasadena Doorstep Blessing Initiative

Location: Pasadena

Funding Amount: \$10,000

Overview: By providing consistent, nutritious food directly to the doorsteps of those with accessibility issues, the Doorstep Blessing Initiative advances food equity, reduces hunger and food insecurity, and improves quality of life for low-income residents, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. These interventions will serve over 75 vulnerable households by delivering monthly groceries to provide a bridge to stability, improved health, and self-sufficiency.

15. Houston East End Chamber of Commerce

Program: Youth Leadership Program

Location: East End

Funding Amount: \$10,000

Overview: High school graduates often enter the workforce without the necessary soft skills to thrive. While these young employees are eager to work, challenges such as time management, conflict resolution, and critical thinking gaps can limit their success and career growth. The East End Youth Leadership Program teaches these skills, while also introducing them to new industries and career exploration, setting them on a path to experience the amazing career opportunities in their own backyard of the East End.



16. Clothed by Faith*

Program: School Partnership Program

Location: Galena Park ISD, Goose Creek ISD, Houston ISD, La Porte ISD, Pasadena ISD, Channelview ISD, Deer Park ISD

Funding Amount: \$10,000

Overview: Clothed by Faith's mission is to provide immediate access to clothing for local families and students in need. Support for the School Partnership program will allow their organization to provide clothing and school uniforms to over 400 children and adults through requests from schools in Galena Park ISD, Goose Creek ISD, Houston ISD, La Porte ISD, Pasadena ISD, Channelview ISD and Deer Park ISD

17. Families in Nature

Program: Place-based Environmental Education Project

Location: Channelview ISD (CISD)

Funding Amount: \$30,000

Overview: Families in Nature and the Channelview Independent School District are partnering to develop a districtwide Place-based Environmental Education Project. This initiative is intended to integrate environmental education and outdoor learning across the district's learning framework. The program provides place-based environmental education for schools, parks, nature centers, and other greenspaces customized for the unique needs of each community.

18. Houston International Seafarers Center*

Program: Houston International Ship Visitor School

Location: Houston Ship Channel

Funding Amount: \$5,000

Overview: The Houston International Seafarers Center hosts and conducts the only training course in North America for Seafarer Ship Visitors, called the Houston School. This 7-day program is hosted by HISC in conjunction with the North American Maritime Ministry Association (NAMMA), and provides classroom and hands-on experience in humanitarian services, mental health awareness training, counseling and emotional support, and various resources and networking opportunities. Additionally, funding will also be used to offset transportation costs, supply daily meals, and provide classroom materials.

**denotes previous grant recipient*



19. The Bridge Over Troubled Water, Inc.

Program: Emergency Shelter Program

Location: Pasadena, Deer Park, Baytown & Houston

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Overview: The Emergency Shelter Program provides victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking the resources to escape abuse and journey to freedom. By offering secure housing, nutritious meals, and ample clothing, The Bridge functions as a comprehensive support system that provides safety, healing, and hope to vulnerable individuals. Support is needed to help cover costs of shelter operations, food, mental health services, legal support and workforce training.

20. Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council

Program: Girl Scouts Mariner's Program

Location: Seabrook

Funding Amount: \$10,000

Overview: The Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council's Mariner's Program, a sailing special interest group, teaches girls valuable maritime skills and STEAM subjects like weather, physics, and mathematics in the effort to promote careers in the maritime industry. In addition, members are required to attend Camp Casa Mare: 10 levels of programming for preparation in various fields from basic sailing to Big Boat First Mate. Grant funds will help cover mandatory sailing season sessions consisting of lessons and goals at each of the levels as they ascend in the program.

21. Community Family Centers*

Program: Magnolia Park STEAM Initiative

Location: East End

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Overview: The Magnolia Park STEAM Initiative equips Latino youth in Houston's East End with the skills needed for high-demand careers in maritime, logistics, trucking, and environmental sciences. With Port Houston's support, this initiative will provide hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) learning experiences, preparing students for post-secondary education, technical careers, and long-term economic stability.

**denotes previous grant recipient*



22. Greens Bayou Coalition

Program: Canoe for a Cleaner Greens Bayou Program

Location: East Houston

Funding Amount: \$5,000

Overview: The Greens Bayou Coalition is an organization devoted to preserving, revitalizing, and enhancing the Greens Bayou: a crucial floodwater drainage corridor with parks, trails, and recreational spaces. Funding is requested to finance guided paddling excursions with the goal of contributing to restoration by removing trash, educating the public on the local ecosystem, teaching water safety and paddling techniques from instructors, and inspiring lifelong environmental stewardship.

23. Exploration Green Conservancy*

Program: 2025 Native Tree Planting and STEM Education

Location: Clear Lake

Funding Amount: \$20,000

Overview: This project will plant 500 native trees and/or shrubs in Phase B of Exploration Green and provide environmental and STEM educational opportunities for students (including students at Title 1 schools). The project location is within Explorations Green's 200-acre nature preserve and plantings will be done in small groups with each group led by an experienced Texas Master Naturalist. The funding for this project will allow procurement of trees/shrubs of various species and maturity levels to provide diverse habitat for native fauna. Ongoing care of the trees and shrubs and maintenance of the irrigation systems will be provided by EGC staff and volunteers.

**denotes previous grant recipient*



24. Wellness on Wheels, HTX

Program: Wellness on Wheels, HTX

Location: East End

Funding Amount: \$22,000

Overview: Wellness on Wheels' community-based cycling and mental wellness program integrates cycling, nature therapy, self-care education, and professional counseling into a holistic model that promotes physical health, emotional resilience, and social connection. WOW hosts weekly group bike rides that offer students a chance to decompress, explore nature, and build peer relationships in a safe and supportive environment. In addition to biking equipment, funds will also be used for hiring licensed counselors and adventure therapy facilitators, supporting administrative and operational costs such as training and wellness supplies, and launching new partnerships with organizations serving students with disabilities.