



# Tejano Center for Community Concerns

## FACT SHEET

**History & Partnerships.** The Tejano Center for Community Concerns (2950 Broadway) was incorporated by the State of Texas in 1992 for the purpose of improving opportunities for Hispanic children and their families in Houston's Greater East End through the provision of housing and community development initiatives, as well as, educational, social, and health services. Throughout its 15-year history, Tejano Center has developed a number of local, state and national partnerships including support from the corporate and foundation sectors, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), NeighborWorks America, the National Council of La Raza, the City of Houston and Harris County. Tejano Center is a certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) and a HUD-designated Housing Counseling Agency. TCCC is led by a 14 member community-based Board of Directors comprised of community and business leaders having a strong vested interest in the neighborhoods the agency serves. Tejano's Raul Yzaguirre School for Success School (RYSS) open-enrollment charter school is governed by a separate school board comprised of members from the Agency's Board of Directors. Richard Farias, President & CEO, and the Founder of TCCC leads the \$14.3 million agency along with a senior leadership team. TCCC has a combined 196 member staff in Houston & Brownsville.

**Mission.** The Agency was formed as a response to social, economic, education, and housing problems and needs identified by residents of Houston's Greater East End. Community development goals are intended to arrest and reverse conditions of social and economic deterioration through the revitalization and redevelopment of Houston's most important neighborhoods and commercial corridors; to empower residents to function as a major force in the stabilization of their community through programs that provide them opportunities for a long-term stake in its future; and to foster and promote an environment in the community that is conducive to attracting private sector investment.

- ✓ **Programs – Affordable Housing.** English & Spanish language homebuyer/homeownership counseling; delivers quality and affordable housing to families earning between 50 – 80% of the Houston area median income; developed 68 homes (\$5.4 million); 18 homes planned (\$1.5 million); rehabbed 45 homes (\$225,000); developed Nueva Vida Sr. Housing, HUD 202 project, (66 units, \$5.5 million), combining for an estimated total investment as of FY 2005 of \$24.2 million, according to NeighborWorks. Homebuyer classes are held on Saturday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and on scheduled weekdays 6 - 8 pm. Nueva Vida is a critical anchor in the Agency's future campus redevelopment program.
- ✓ **Raul Yzaguirre School for Success Charter School (RYSS).** Primary, Secondary and College Preparatory Academies, Houston (2950 Broadway, 650 students), and Brownsville (300 students) serving primarily at-risk, economically disadvantaged students. The Houston campus is now in its' twelfth year of operation. Drop-out rates average less than 2% and the school has a mandatory parental involvement component; 85% of graduates, with numbers reaching 100%, go on to institutions of higher learning.
- ✓ **Youth Empowerment Program.** The goal of the Youth Empowerment Project is to reduce the incidence of juvenile delinquency through the provision of focused, structured prevention/intervention activities that help youth develop positive self-esteem, high self discipline, increased self respect, and encourage decreased street violence, drug prevention and gang involvement. Target area and population served is primarily Hispanic and African American youth and their families. Services are aimed specifically at preventing and diverting the number of minority youth who enter the juvenile justice system. Program activities include a ROPES course, completion of anger management classes, restitution activities, community service, military and or boot type training that is rigid and intended to be highly disciplined and rigorous in nature. Referrals for our program come from HPD Juvenile Department, HISD Campus Police, existing Teen Courts, and from area Public and Charter schools for children and youth who are at risk of suspension and or expulsion. Additionally, referrals are accepted from Juvenile Probation for juveniles who are at risk of having their probation revoked.
- ✓ **Adult Basic Education Program.** Through partnerships with Houston Community College & Monterrey TECH, the agency provides GED, ESL, and Basic Computing classes to neighborhood residents and parents of RYSS students.



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Program hours: Monday through Thursday (8:30-11:30 am and 6 - 9 pm), starting in September, January, and June semesters; since 1999, approximately 400+ students per semester have enrolled.

- ✓ **TCCC- Emergency Shelter/Child Placing Agency.** Established in 1996, the 32-bed Shelter serves children ages 4-17. The shelter is the only children's facility in Harris County that by design serves primarily Hispanic children. The goal of the Tejano Child Placing Agency is to provide for the placement of abused, neglected, and homeless children in culturally and language appropriate private foster homes.

**Select Demographics.** Tejano Center serves an eleven City of Houston Super Neighborhood area located primarily in Houston's Greater East End, with some neighborhoods extending beyond the immediate East End area. Selected demographics for the service area include: a population totaling nearly 145,000 persons (based on Census 2000 data which is the most recent available data); a median household income that is 72% of the City's median income of \$36,616, or 43% of the area's median income of \$61,000; and 30.9% of the population living below poverty, or nearly twice the number reported citywide. RYSS currently serves 950 students on two campuses, with 650 pupils enrolled in one of three Houston academies (Primary, Middle and College Preparatory), and 300 attending classes at our Brownsville elementary school. Ninety-five percent of the students enrolled are on the free or reduced lunch program and 96% of our students are economically disadvantaged..

Greater East End		Select Demographics			
	Super Neighborhoods (Service Area)	Total Population	Median HH Income	Person Below Poverty %	
	Greater Fifth Ward	22,211	\$14,720	45.3%	
	Denver Harbor/Port Houston	19,684	\$29,846	27.7%	
	Pleasantville	3,564	\$27,138	20.4%	
	Clinton Park/Fidelity	2,437	\$23,267	25.7%	
	Second Ward	14,836	\$23,473	33.5%	
	Eastwood/Lawndale	13,639	\$29,537	25.3%	
	Harrisburg/Manchester	3,768	\$26,989	31.3%	
	Pecan Park	19,230	\$27,214	28.7%	
	Park Place	9,902	\$28,956	23.2%	
	Magnolia Park	21,302	\$14,875	30.6%	
	Lawndale/Wayside	14,132	\$42,012	28.8%	
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>144,705</b>	<b>\$26,184</b>	<b>30.9%</b>		
<b>City of Houston</b>		<b>1,953,631</b>	<b>\$36,616</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	
<b>Service Area vs. City</b>		<b>7.4%</b>	<b>71.5%</b>	<b>160.9%</b>	
<b>2004-07 RYSS District Composition</b>					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	
African American	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	
Hispanic	98.4%	98.4%	98.9%	98.3%	
White	1.5%	1.6%	1.1%	1.2%	
Economically Disadvantaged	91.9%	95.9%	100.0%	95.60%	
<b>TEA Academic Excellence Rating-</b>			<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	
Houston Campus			Academically Acceptable	Academically Acceptable	
Brownsville Campus			Academically Acceptable	Academically Acceptable	



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**Future Agency Development Plans.** As the Agency reflects on its past sixteen years of service, the future has never looked brighter. Construction will begin in June 2008 on the Agency's first phase of a planned \$38 million campus redevelopment program. At completion, the campus will include a state-of-the-art K-12<sup>th</sup> grade educational environment, new administrative space for the Tejano Center for Community Concerns, and a vibrant common that will enhance the neighborhood's greenspace, include a community garden and serve as focal point of community events. The second phase will include the construction of Tejano's Career & Technology Center that will include a neighborhood serving health clinic, secondary education and workforce development training programs focusing on technology and health-related professions.

