# LBK Community Newsletter



Some Things Are Difficult, But Not Impossible!

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## LBK Network First Quarter Activity

During January we sent email to Network Users about account reactivation as we prepared for new partners. We continued working with pipeline agencies through the on-boarding process, and in February, we were able to on-board 7 new agencies! We also worked to clean up our community website to make sure all of our

partners were good to go in the platform; and, had our first Advisory Council and Super User meetings and Refresher training. In March, we on-boarded 2 more partners (EEEE!); created a Welcome postcard and Community flyer for your use; engaged in our first tabling event; and, platform activity since January has increased! We are encouraged, and hope you are too!

We love the work taking place in the platform. As I have shared before, "When it (using the platform and incorporating it into your workflow) is normal for you, it will be normal for the people you serve." We are excited about your energy and what it means for our city. Keep up the amazing effort! ~ Sevdia Adkins

#### First Quarter Numbers: Jan - Mar

Contacts Created: 85 Needs Identified: 153 Program Referrals Made: 100 Agencies On-boarded: 9

n the past **22** months, Networl

Total Contacts Created: 287 Total Needs Identified: 519 Total Program Referrals Made: 315 Number of Partner Agencies: 29

- Case Management
- Food
- Housing
- Utility Service Payment Assistance Medical Expense Assistance

## Partner Feedback



When I received my first referral, I was excited about being able to partner with UMC. I received the email that let me know that someone

had a need through the referral system. The referral was for a patient needing resources in the community for food insecurity. I was able to reach out to the patient and invite her to the meal offered by Lubbock Impact on Wednesday evenings and the food pantry offered on Tuesday/ Thursday. This was a person who would not have known about our services if they had not been referred to us. The LBK Community is a great way to link agencies to finding the resources for the people we all serve. '

> ~ Becky Robertson, ED Lubbock Impact



Help. Dignity. Truth

Q: What month and year was the LBK Community Network launched?

#### Q: Where is Waldo?

The first two people who respond with the correct answers will receive a \$10 gift card!

Email responses: sadkins@mylubbock.us



## **PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**

Guadalupe-Parkway Sommerville Centers



Dela Esqueda Executive Director Guadalupe-Parkway Sommerville Centers

Executive Director for the Guadalupe-Parkway Sommerville Centers, and longtime Lubbock resident, Dela Esqueda, came to the city many years ago so she could study education at TTU. After completing her degree she decided to make Lubbock her homestead. Ms. Dela started at Guadalupe-Parkway Centers 16 years ago. She is one of 3 executive directors in the Center's long history. In fact, they celebrate 60 years on September 15, 2022. Interestingly, September 16<sup>th</sup> is recognized by many individuals around the world who remember El Grito, the cry for Mexico's independence from Spain. The city joined forces with the Lubbock Area United Way to help bring the Centers to North and East Lubbock neighborhoods. To date, they remain a non-profit organization with no national affiliations.

To be sure, the Guadalupe-Parkway Neighborhood Centers are NOT daycares. They are after school, academic centers which provide rigorous academic and enrichment programming for children 6 – 17 years old. They also provide pick up services to area schools. Children do not have to live in North or East Lubbock neighborhoods to enjoy services. Ms. Dela maintains, however, that the children should be ready for learning, and if so, would make good candidates for referral to their program. Programming includes academic, art, and etiquette training. This is not an exhaustive list, but provides an idea of what children and their families can expect when they are enrolled. Families? Though the Center does not enroll parents, Ms. Dela says, their parents/families benefit from the training and learning their children receive. For example, one family learned, by way of their child who had received etiquette training, that napkins are to be placed on their laps. The parent told her that they did not know this, and would continue to practice what they had learned. Ms. Dela concluded, *"What we deposit in our children, they take to their families, and in so doing, empowers whole families."* It is about empowering and building self-esteem in the children and in their respective families.

The heart-goals behind what Ms. Dela and her co-workers do every day is to empower the children, and to make positive deposits via enrichment and academic programming so they succeed in school and in life. Ms. Dela humbly shared that they have many alum who have attended TTU, West Texas A&M, and the University of Houston, to name a few. One such young lady, who lost her mother when she was a teenager, is now in her second year at TTU. Ms. Dela said, *"We are so proud of her."* 

Ms. Dela and her co-workers possess a lot of love and passion for the children they serve and work they do. They have found it is about loving them. Children know when they are loved. At one point, after commenting on how fulfilling her work is, she chuckled and said, *"I cannot believe I landed here at Guadalupe-Parkway."* After some restructuring, moving from big and "misaligned" to small and "aligned," Ms. Dela believes they are in a good place. She added, *"We are moving from good to great, and our kids are coming with us."* 

Guadalupe-Parkway Neighborhood Centers served about 1500 children per year pre-COVID, and now, post-COVID, approximately 700. If you would like to learn more about the Centers, their programs and/or how to get involved, please contact Ms. Dela (*Team photo will be included in the next issue*).

Dela Esqueda Executive Director Guadalupe-Parkway Sommerville Centers https://guadalupe-parkway.org desqueda@guadalupe-parkway.org 806-763-3963

## FIRST QUARTER Busy Bee Spotlight NEW

The following Network Users have been busy in the platform. We love to see it l: Jan-Mar



Lexus Stephenson UMC



**Lori Robinson** Broadway Church of Christ

**Tabatha Simpson** UMC

Tommy Willis Stages of Recovery





## QUICK REMINDERS

LBK Super User Meeting - (meets bi-monthly) April 20th @2:00pm

Inaugural LBK Networking Session (open to all Users) - April 22nd @ 11:00am. Guest: Hub City Outreach Center (HCOC), . If you'd like to learn more about HCOC, network, share your agency announcements and more, please tune in!

LBK Community Network Advisory Council: Anyone interested in learning more about the council and/or are interested in becoming a council member OR would like to nominate someone can email me: sadkins@mylubbock.us

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS** NEW

The Parenting Cottage: GO BLUE LUBBOCK 🙎

#### **EVENT DETAILS**



YWCA: Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> the YWCA of Lubbock will host their monthly Women's Leadership Group, Girls Just Want To. This group meets monthly to provide a safe place for open dialogue surrounding key issues that women in our community face. The YWCA invites guest speakers in an open floor concept to allow women from all walks of life to get involved, ask questions, or support one another. Free and open to the public, this group meets once monthly from 6pm-7pm at the YWCA on University located at 6501 University Ave.

Lubbock Boys and Girls Club: ABC Pro-Rodeo VENDOR SHOW, March 31 -April 2; and ABC Pro-Rodeo performance dates, March 30th (Slack), and March 31 - April 2 (competition). For more information please contact Rachel Elbert: relbert@lubbockbgc.org

## RECRUITMENT UPDATES

We have postponed recruiting efforts at this time so to focus on moving partners through the on-boarding process.

#### **Completed On-boarding training in** MARCH, and NEW LBK Community Network Partners!

- Buckner's Family Hope Center
- Literacy Lubbock



#### Close to being scheduled for on-boarding training:

- Catholic Charities: Kinship Program .
- **Covenant Health Systems**
- Life. Inc.
- Parkridge Medical Pregnancy Center
- Ranch at Dove Tree

NOTE: We are working with 12 additional agencies to bring them to boarding training



### To find a current list of partner agencies, please scan:





