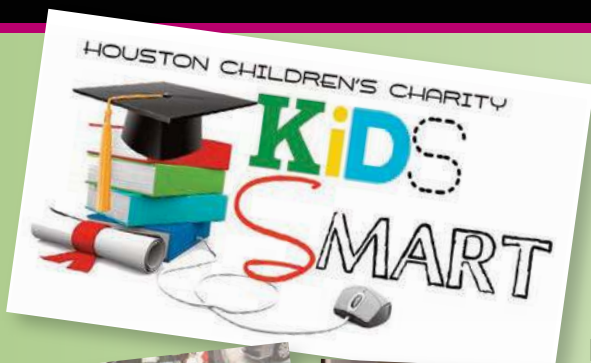


# Model

HOUSTON CHILDREN'S CHARITY

"OUR KIDS ARE EVERYBODY'S KIDS"



## KIDS SMART

Laura S. Ward, President & CEO of Houston Children's Charity, presented a \$35,000 check to Susan Sarofim, Co-Founder of TEACH – To Educate All Children. This is the second donation in 2 years for the sponsorship of Blackshear Elementary School. These funds provide limitless possibilities for the scholars, teachers, faculty and the entire Third Ward Community.

School climate is a critical factor that determines the overall success of a campus. TEACH is helping this campus create calmer and safer classrooms, which is a recipe for increased student engagement and academic achievement. TEACH provides the skills and coaching that allow teachers to preserve their energy and focus on what matters most: relationship building, teaching and learning.

Educators are provided intensive training in de-escalation and conflict resolution to promote calmer and more productive classrooms, decreasing disciplinary referrals and improving student achievement. Blackshear Elementary School has 400+ students that are enriched beyond measure by this continued training and coaching. Houston Children's Charity is proud to partner with TEACH to provide these bedrock services to Blackshear Elementary School.



1. Laura Ward, Susan Sarofim
2. Grant Guthrie, Bob Ogle
3. Jocelyn Mouton, Susan Sarofim, Talam Simmons, David Spragve, Bob Ogle, Nory Angel, Laura Ward, Grant Guthrie
4. Talam Simmons

## A Pandemic Couldn't Stop This Day!

As events all over our city, state, and the world are being postponed, rescheduled, or even canceled, **Houston Children's Charity** has brought positive momentum and smiles to faces during a dark time. On **Tuesday, May 19, 2020, Tilman Fertitta, HCC Chairman of the Board** and owner of **Landry's, Inc.**, opened the doors of **Willie G's Seafood** and hosted a **Chariots For Children** van distribution instantly transforming the lives of Houstonians.

Practicing social distancing, **HCC President & CEO, Laura S. Ward**, personally welcomed everyone on this very special day. She proudly announced each family and introduced **SIX** wonderful children. During each presentation, van sponsors handed over the keys to the brand new wheelchair-accessible vehicles. One of the most unforgettable moments jump-started our day when the entire audience sang Happy Birthday to van recipient Christopher – who joyously celebrated with us a few days early. Simply **AMAZING!**

These **SIX** vehicles awarded were through partnerships with **Adaptive Driving Access** and the individual van sponsors: **Amy & Gary Becker Foundation, Briggs Equipment, Donne Di Domani, Stewart Title Commercial, TD Securities, Texas Mattress Makers, Valero Benefit for Children** and **Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity**. Laura announced that even after today's distribution, our **Chariots For Children** program will still have a wait list that we must meet head-on.

This program has been dedicated to providing the freedom of mobility to those who have had restricted access to transportation since 1997. Recipients obtain an efficient and safer way to travel, as a family, to much-needed treatments and doctor's appointments, but also to travel to new places that were once unattainable. Since its inception, **Chariots For Children** has raised over **\$7 million** and awarded **91 passenger vans, 132 wheelchair-accessible vehicles, 3 box trucks, 1 car, and 2 vehicle modifications** to **95 agencies** and **132 individual families**.

In The Crowd: **Lora & Jason Adams, Doreen Anderson, Lydia Goins Blackwell, Lu Caltagirone, Betty Castillo-Smith, Rachael Gordon, Youval Meicler, Alexis Peltier, Bullett Ramirez, Carol Sawyer, Michael Walter, and Dr. Mary Ann Reynolds Wilkins**. Also in the attendance were **HCC Board Members Gary Becker**, and his wife **Amy, Rob Pierce**, and his wife **Amy**, and **Bob Ogle**.

We would also like to extend our thanks to our **TREMENDOUS** volunteers who helped us with this event: **Allen Hord, Kim & Craig Finnigan, and Stevie Merrill**.



1. "Chariots"
2. Laura Ward, Amy & Rob Pierce
3. Bullett Ramirez, Jimena De La Cruz & Family, Michael Walter, Doreen Anderson
4. Lora & Jason Adams, Juan Cavazos & Family, Betty Castillo-Smith
5. Jesus Axel Flores & Family, Youval Meicler, Rachael Gordon, Alex Penland, Alexis Peltier, Caitlyn Holub
6. Dr. Mary Ann Reynolds Wilkins, Lu Caltagirone, Ann Woodroof, Christopher Coreas & Family
7. Amy & Gary Becker, Glenn Gordon III & Family



– Continued on Page 4

# Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler

On the evening of **Tuesday, February 25, 2020** sponsors, donors and friends of the charity gathered to celebrate the underwriters of **Houston Children's Charity's 23rd Annual Gala**. **Hallie Vanderhider**, Gala Chair, opened her home on Fat Tuesday to host the **Underwriter Party**. The festivities began with **HCC President & CEO, Laura S. Ward**, welcoming everyone and praising the efforts of this year's Gala Chair.

While introducing **Title Sponsors** from **BMW of West Houston** (General Manager **Maria Moncada Alaoui**) and **Momentum BMW Southwest** (General Manager **Tommy Kuranoff**), Hallie enlightened everyone that, upon arriving, they walked past the all-new **BMW Z4 M40i**. She thanked them for their unprecedented generosity as **Title Sponsors** for the **12th year** in a row.

Hallie presented awards to the Underwriters in attendance **Sue Smith, Amy & Gary Becker**, and **Betty Castillo-Smith**. Laura, expressing gratitude to Hallie, presented her a beautiful Kosta Boda vase. Awards were presented to **Rachael Gordon**, Past Chairman and Co-Founder of **Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity**, and longtime volunteers **Kim Finnigan** and **Maricella Reed**.

In The Crowd: **Margaret Alkek Williams, Ilene Allen** and **Doug Vrooman, Fady Araminous** and **Bill Baldwin, Lu & Tom Caltagirone, Michele & Bob Christe, Sandra Smith-Cooper & Michael Cooper, Chita Craft, Grant Guthrie, Tracy & Harry Faulkner, Cyndy Garza Roberts, Brigitte & Bashar Kalai, Bill King, Donna & Norman Lewis, Rania & Dr. Ramy Mankarious, Youval Meicler, Dr. Lois Moore, Ruchi Mukherjee, Elizabeth & Tom Netting, Judy Nichols, Debbie & Bob Ogle, Shelley Reeves, Peter Remington, Rachelle Rowe, Carol & Dr. Tom Sawyer, Sanford Steinberg, Dr. Mary Ann Reynolds Wilkins, Gaye Lynn & Stuart Zarrow** and **Sherri Zucker**.

Photographer **Daniel Ortiz** captured the night's memories. **Tony's** catered the event of nearly **100 guests**. Awards were donated by **Neiman Marcus**. Every guest left excited and understood that the focus was to help eliminate the wait list for our **Chariots For Children** program.



1. Hallie Vanderhider, Margaret Alkek Williams, Laura Ward
2. Amy & Gary Becker
3. Dr. Bob Wilkins, Dr. Mary Ann Reynolds Wilkins
4. Ignacia Garcia, Carol Lawler, Betty Castillo-Smith
5. Gaye Lynn & Stuart Zarrow
6. Doug Vrooman, Ilene Allen
7. Hallie Vanderhider, Sue Smith, Laura Ward
8. William E. (Bill) King, Hallie Vanderhider

9. Michael Cooper, Tracy & Harry Faulkner, Tom Netting
10. April & Dr. Jorge Salazar
11. Dr. Tom & Carol Sawyer
12. Fady Armanious, Hallie Vanderhider
13. Omar Alaoui, Maria Moncada Alaoui
14. Tommy Kuranoff, Veronica Nemeth
15. Sherri Zucker, Sanford Steinberg
16. Lu & Tom Caltagirone, Grant Guthrie
17. Hallie Vanderhider, Dr. Lois Moore, Michael Williams

18. Chita Craft, Ruchi Mukherjee
19. Chris Kase, Elizabeth Netting
20. Donna & Norman Lewis
21. Rachael Gordon, Youval Meicler
22. Dr. Susan Blaney, Sue Smith
23. Sandra Smith-Cooper, Brigitte Kalai, Rania Mankarious
24. Lori Ginsburg, Dan D'Armond
25. Debbie & Bob Ogle
26. Maricella Reed, Kim Finnigan



Awards



Robin Young-Ellis, Penny Loyd, Edna Meyer-Nelson, Maria Moncada Alaoui, Laura Ward, Dr. Lois Moore, Melissa Juneau, Grant Guthrie, Debi Tengler

During the *Overcoming the Darkness* program, our **President & CEO Laura S. Ward** was honored with **The Nikki Richnow Freedom To Fly** award. During her speech she reminded us that, "you choose your path."

Through working with Freedom Place, Laura became aware that these traumatized teens needed additional therapy and wanted to give them an easier road to choose their own path. With this point of view, Laura and the **Houston Children's Charity Board Members** in attendance presented a **\$50,000** check to Arrow's Freedom Place for much needed therapeutic resources. But the surprises didn't stop there. A brand new golf cart was presented to ensure that the staff and girls on campus would have a safe, reliable way to get around their 110 secured acres.

HCC Board Members in attendance: **Grant Guthrie, Melissa Juneau, Penny Loyd, Edna Meyer-Nelson, Maria Moncada Alaoui, Dr. Lois Moore** and **Robin Young-Ellis**. Faces in the crowd: **Tony Buzbee** and **Frances Moody, Twila Carter, Tina Faust, Gina Gaston, Jacqueline Gitschel, Brigitte Kalai, Rania Mankarious, Rachelle Rowe, Carol Sawyer, Sue Smith, Tina Strickland**, and **Dancie Perugini Ware**.

## Overcoming the Darkness

On **Thursday, February 6, 2020** the **River Oaks Country Club** was the backdrop for the **8th Annual Freedom To Fly Luncheon** benefitting **Arrow's Freedom Place**.

Arrow's Freedom Place is a Christ-centered care and recovery center for commercially sexually exploited young girls. It is the first long-term, comprehensive care facility of its kind in Texas, and is one of only five such facilities in the United States. Their mission is to offer a successful path to freedom for American children who have been victims of commercial sexual exploitation.



*Congrats*  
to HCC Board Members



**EDNA MEYER-NELSON**  
(TREASURER)  
Named a Director for Agility Bank, the first woman-owned bank in Houston.



**LAURA S. WARD**  
(PRESIDENT & CEO)  
The Nikki Richnow Freedom To Fly Award

## Letter from the President and CEO



Dear Friends,

As we entered 2020, we were riding on the high of our 2019 accomplishments. Flipping through the highlights, it was one of our best years ever! In facing a new decade of commitment, to continue the journey we began in 1996, nobody could have predicted we would be amid a global pandemic. Even though we must brave the new "normal,"

we are dedicated to serving the underprivileged and special children of the Greater Houston area.

We are grateful for the generosity of our sponsors and donors, as well as the

the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers. Without each of you our various programs would not have seen such a success!

We would like to thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of our mission. We are looking forward to much more in 2020 when COVID-19 begins to release its hold on us. We are so happy to have you on our team.

The leadership of Houston Children's Charity – our Board of Directors and myself – thanks you for joining us as we move forward and plan great things.

*Laura*

Laura S. Ward

# COVID-19

## Safety Tips



### WASH. YOUR. HANDS.

Your hands carry germs you can't see!

- Wash your hands with soap and water regularly.
- Wash for at least 20 seconds.

### COUGH & SNEEZE ETIQUETTE

Practice Proper Etiquette -- Save Yourself and Others

- Cover your cough or sneeze... AT ALL TIMES!
- Use a disposable tissue to cover your mouth or nose.
- Discard the tissues immediately in the trash bin.
- If there is no tissue, use the bend of your elbow NOT YOUR HAND.
- IF you sneeze or cough into your hands, wash as soon as possible.



### DON'T TOUCH!

Avoid Touching Eyes, Nose or Mouth with Unwashed Hands.

- Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up many viruses.
- Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth.
- From there, the virus can enter your body and make you sick.

Never put your fingers in your



### KEEP YOUR DISTANCE



Avoid Close Contact With People Who Are Sick

- SOCIAL DISTANCING is used to slow down the spread of an illness and reduce deaths.
- Create a space, AT LEAST 6 FEET, between people.



# SAFETY PLAN

REDUCING RISK OF HARM DURING COVID-19

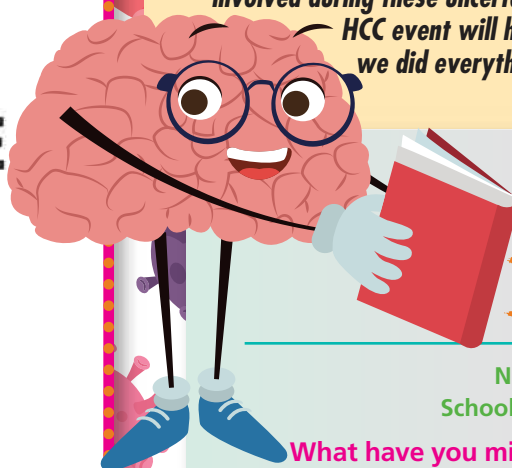
## Protecting Ourselves and Others

Everyone can help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses with protective actions. Houston Children's Charity has taken steps to protect Board Members, Staff, Volunteers and Clients during our scheduled events.

## Stopping the Spread of Germs

- Protective Masks
- Gloves
- Hand Sanitizer Stations
- Avoiding Close Contact
- Informational Signs
- Drive Thru Bed Distributions
- Smaller Events
- Social Distancing

*We have altered the way we provide services to our clients. Our distributions have become "No Contact" events. This is for the health and safety of all involved during these uncertain times. Hopefully each client who attends an HCC event will have peace of mind and will leave knowing that we did everything possible to protect them during that distribution.*



## Kids Tell It Like It Is

Name **ALEX M.** Age **8**

School/District West Memorial Elementary / Katy ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** Going to the stores, mostly the toy stores.

**What is the best advice for people during this pandemic?** SIX FEET AWAY!!! Oh, and wear a mask.

Name **AUBREY M.** Age **9**

School/District Terrace Elementary / Spring Branch ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** I have missed my friends and teacher.

**What is the first thing you want to do/ place you want to go once the quarantine is over?** I would like to go do Flyball because it is one of the things that I love.

Name **LAYLA P.** Age **11**

School/District Creech Elementary / Katy ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** I miss getting to see my friends at school and I also really miss visiting my grandma and grandpa in Brownsville.

**Have you been exercising? What have you been doing?** Yes bike riding. I just learned how to ride a bike without training wheels and now I go every day.

Name **ASHLEE M.** Age **14**

School/District West Memorial Junior High / Katy ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** Going out and doing things with my family.

**Have you picked up a new hobby or interest during this time?** Yes. I am drawing in more inspiring ways towards advocating human rights.

Name **HARRISON A.** Age **15**

School/District Klein Collins High School / Klein ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** I miss seeing all of my friends. I miss the structure that school gives you every day.

**What is the first thing you want to do / place to go once the quarantine is over?** I want to play football with my friends. I would really like to visit my grandparents.

Name **ANDREW P.** Age **15**

School/District Slocum High School / Slocum ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** I have missed my friends.

**What are you doing to keep your mind healthy?** Schoolwork. Working on AG equipment. Fishing. I'm trying to do a little bit of everything.

Name **Rosemary M.** Age **18**

School/District Northbrook High School / Spring Branch ISD

**What have you missed from your normal routine during this COVID-19 quarantine?** Going to the hospital to help out the nurses and learning from them since this is my major in college.

**How are you adjusting to the "new" homeschooling?**

Turning in assignments without deadlines. More flexibility.



1. YHCC Chair Alexis Peltier, YHCC Co-Founder Alyx Penland, Youval Meicler, YHCC Co-Founder Rachael Gordon, Jesus Axel Flores & Family, Laura Ward  
2. Juan Cavazos & Family  
3. ADA Representatives: Mike Murphy, Beau Conner, Karen Maldonado, Jeff Mulloy, Jeff Garbison  
4. Allen Hord, Bob Ogle, Gary Becker  
5. Jimena De La Cruz & Family, Laura Ward  
6. HCC Volunteers Kim & Craig Finnigan  
7. Miguel De Jesus Ramirez & Family  
8. Rob Pierce, Miguel De Jesus Ramirez Family, Laura Ward  
9. Jimena De La Cruz & Family driving away in new Chariot

# Thank You!

## 2020 Van Sponsors

Providing Life-Altering Freedom of Mobility to Houston's Underserved Children.

During a worldwide pandemic, our **Chariots For Children** program awarded **SIX** vans to children in need. *Exceptional!* This was made possible by the generosity of several Houstonians who came forward to donate and underwrite these vehicles.

- Amy & Gary Becker Foundation
- Briggs Equipment
- Donne Di Domani
- Stewart Title Commercial
- TD Securities
- Texas Mattress Makers
- Valero Benefit for Children
- Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity



### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Rhonda Burrage

# OF YEARS VOLUNTEERING – 20+ years

- **List the HCC programs that you have volunteered for.** All of them! My favorite program is giving handicap adaptable vans to those families that struggle with caring for children with disabilities (and serving as Mrs. Claus of course).
- **Why did you decide to become a volunteer?** The slogan "Our Kids Are Everybody's Kids" and since they are our future, they all deserve a helping hand and assistance with meeting their needs.
- **What do you like best about serving as a HCC volunteer?** I love being a small part of such a big impact in the lives of so many children who, without the assistance of HCC, would go without the bare essentials every child deserves.
- **Do you have any advice for someone who is considering becoming an HCC volunteer?** JUST DO IT! Though it pulls at your heartstrings, there will not be a more rewarding experience than giving your time and talents to such a worthy cause – you are making a difference in the lives of those who, due to circumstances beyond their control, truly deserve a hand up!

### 2020 SPRING VAN RECIPIENTS

Since 1996, HCC has awarded 91 passenger vans, 132 wheelchair-accessible vehicles, 3 box trucks, 1 car and 2 vehicle modifications to 95 agencies and 132 individual families.

Chariots for Children



HOUSTON CHILDREN'S CHARITY



**Christopher Coreas – Age: 18**  
Christopher, diagnosed with Chronic Static Encephalopathy and Epilepsy, is the youngest of 3 children. Both of his older siblings, Eric (23) and Katherine (19) adore and help take care of him. He often smiles when his siblings talk to him. Christopher loves to watch cartoons on TV. His favorite thing to do is laugh along with his family. Sometimes it bothers Christopher that he is unable to express himself or go outside. This wheelchair accessible vehicle will be life-changing for this family.



**Miguel De Jesus Ramirez – Age: 11**  
Miguel, diagnosed with Spastic Quadriplegia, is the only child of a single-mom, Elda Garza. He enjoys music and dancing; both make him burst out laughing. He loves to take rides in the car and always looks forward to listening to music he can clap his hands to. He is very affectionate and enjoys hugs, kisses and even being tickled. Miguel is a happy child at heart because he is always smiling.



**Jimena De La Cruz – Age: 14**  
Jimena, diagnosed with Cerebellar Hypoplasia and Cerebral Palsy, has a great relationship with her two brothers, Anadely and Alejandro. They all adore each other. She is their princess. Jimena smiles when her mom, Rafaela Torres Herrera, sings to her. Listening to Christian

music and watching Bible stories for children is her favorite pastime, but one thing she doesn't enjoy is getting dirty. Jimena's favorite toys are talking dolls or toys that play music. She loves going to the zoo with her family to see the animals and ride the train.



**Jesus Axel Flores – Age: 13**  
Jesus was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy and Global Developmental Delay. He is the oldest of four children. Andy, Mariana, and Mateo have a loving relationship with their brother and they all look after Jesus. They like all kinds of music that have danceable rhythms in Spanish or English.

Jesus will often be mischievous and play jokes on his siblings. He is a happy-go-lucky child that likes spending time with his family.



**Juan Cavazos – Age: 8**  
Juan was born with a Chromosomal Abnormality and Global Developmental Delay. He loves eating his favorite meal of macaroni and cheese. Juan lights up when his older sister, Gloria, takes him for walks. They pretend they are going to be astronauts and run for take-off into orbit. He doesn't really enjoy music as much as his sister, but they both like learning games. While inside, Juan can play with his toy cars and ambulances all day. He family often fondly looks at photos of their father who passed and whom they miss very much.



**Glenn Gordon III – Age: 15**  
Glenn was diagnosed with Hypertonia, Polycythemia, and Developmental Delay. His favorite foods are sweet potatoes and meatloaf. Glenn listens to all types of music, especially all of the Disney songs from movies. He likes toys that make noise and sitting outside on the porch. Overall, Glenn is a happy boy enjoying life as best as he can.

# DID YOU KNOW?

## YOU CAN APPLY FOR ALL HCC PROGRAMS



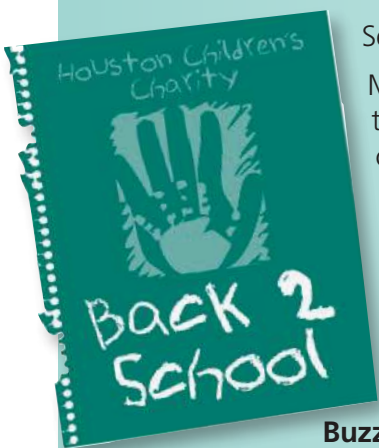
# ONLINE?

# 2020

APPLY  
NOW

[www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org)

## READY OR NOT – it's Back2school time!



Set the alarms. Make lunches. Put out the clothing. It's school time again!

Most students in our area haven't been inside of a school since they left for their Spring Break vacation. School buildings abruptly closed to forestall the coronavirus pandemic in March and turned to online learning.

Everyone might even feel nervous or a little scared about the first day of school because of all things "new" since COVID-19: new teachers, new friends, a new school, new guidelines, and new precautions for everyone.

On **Saturday, August 8, 2020**, **Houston Children's Charity** will present backpacks containing age appropriate school supplies to approved clients.

Teaming up with **Rod Ryan** of **The Rod Ryan Morning Show** and **94.5 The Buzz**, along with volunteers, HCC will host its annual **Back2School** backpack distribution day.

Excellence in education begins with preparation...Thanks to all of our partners for collaborating with us to equip students, with the necessities, to make a difference. Our kids are NOW prepared to succeed!

## CARMAX FOUNDATION



We are excited to share that **The CarMax Foundation** has approved support for **Houston Children's Charity** in the amount of **\$10,000.00**. The grant funds will support our **A Better Night's Sleep** program operating needs due to COVID impacts.



## PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT:

### Maddy's Annual Children's Book Drive: Vanessa Streavel

- **It has been 6 consecutive years since this partnership began. How did you first become involved with Houston Children's Charity's and the "Back2School" program?** I was looking for charities to donate books to in and around the Houston area. I came across Houston Children's Charity and started donating books in 2014. The following year it was communicated to me that the books were being given out during the *Back2School* drive. This is what spurred our involvement.



- **How many books have you donated to HCC's "Back2School" program in the years involved?** 10,752



- **Is there a moment during the years that stands out to you?** The first year that I had the pleasure of witnessing the *Back2School* drive. It was amazing to see so many people volunteering their time to give to children in need. I remember thinking, "This is where we'll be donating all of our collected books. It's perfect!"



- **What is the mission behind Maddy's Annual Children's Book Drive?** The book drive has been held annually since 2013 in memory of my daughter, Maddy. It is done on or around her birthday in celebration of her life and her love for books. The mission of the book drive is to get a book into the hands of every child regardless of their circumstances, a book they can keep...a book of their very own.



- **Where do you see the program going in the future?** We are in this for the long haul! It is a beautiful way to honor Maddy. And as long as there is a need for books at HCC, we will continue giving as many as we can collect to this great charity. It is a great honor and privilege to be able to give out books at the *Back2School* program, and Maddy's Annual Children's Book Drive is looking forward to participating in all the years to come.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

### Rosemary Lozano

# OF YEARS VOLUNTEERING – 10+ years



- **How did you first learn about volunteering for Houston Children's Charity?** After overhearing me speak Spanish & English to a friend, I was asked by an HCC employee, Mike, if I would like to volunteer for HCC. I said sure so he gave his business card to me and I called him the next day to ask about the volunteering.



- **Why did you decide to become a volunteer?** I love helping out the community and working in anything that I can help out.
- **What do you like best about serving as a HCC volunteer?** I love helping HCC during the events. I can also teach my kids what volunteering means and how to help.

# Catching some zzzzzzzzz's

A few too many, or not enough? How many hours did you get last night? Where did you sleep? Did you know that there are countless children sleeping on make-shift beds – either sharing with multiple siblings, or worse, sleeping on the floor?

With the launch of the innovative program, **A Better Night's Sleep**, Houston Children's Charity aimed to provide beds to children, many of whom have never had a restful place to lay their heads. **President & CEO Laura S. Ward** introduced the idea that a **\$100 donation** enables HCC to purchase the basics for a good night's sleep: a twin bed (box springs and mattress), frame, pillow, blanket and complete set of sheets for a deserving child.

Since the first beds were distributed, HCC has provided beds to **over 25,000 children** in and around the Greater Houston Area through our **monthly bed distributions**. This program not only provides every child with a bed, but also the opportunity to awake every morning well-rested and prepared for the day that awaits them.

Together we can provide the foundation to help kids rise each day – rested and equipped – to undertake any challenges that lie ahead. If you are interested in learning more about this program and helping us ensure SWEET DREAMS for our children, please contact us at **713-524-2878** OR visit **www.houstonchildrenscharity.org**. Applications are online all year round.



**LIKE MOST BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS THIS YEAR,** YHCC found itself in a peculiar place with the rise of COVID-19 and the impact it had on the entire community. **The Leadership Board** came together virtually in the midst of the pandemic to strategize how YHCC could still provide a home for young professionals trying to navigate a new world while also maintaining funding for Houston Children's Charity programs.

A calendar of **Virtual Events** was born! In May, YHCC kicked off a new, social-distancing-approved way to mix and mingle with **"Quar-ingo"** (Quarantine Bingo). The two hour event was hosted through Zoom and saw nearly **100 active participants** coming together to sip a cocktail and play a game all for a great cause. Thanks to generous donations from **Armando's, Whataburger** and **Six Flags Fiesta Texas**; the event raised over **\$1,200** in support of Houston Children's Charity's **Back2School** program!

For a full list of events or for more information on how to become a YHCC member, visit **www.yhhcc.org** and follow along on social media for the latest updates.



## Our Mission Statement:

Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity (YHCC) is the premier Young Professional organization for Houston's next generation of philanthropic leaders seeking to improve the quality of life of Houston's underprivileged children. YHCC members enjoy exclusive access to quarterly networking mixers, volunteer opportunities, and the chance to make an impact on Houston Children's Charity's special children. Since 1996, HCC and its supporters have played an important role in improving the lives of more than 3.5 million local children.



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Jonathan Holub

# OF YEARS VOLUNTEERING – 2+ years

### • How long have you been a volunteer for HCC? What programs?

I have been volunteering for 2 and a half years. *A Better Night's Sleep*, Christmas Toy Distribution, Easter party, *Back2School*, Gala and Run for a Reason.

### • Why did you decide to become a volunteer?

I have always seen my parents and family give back to their community around them and wanted to myself. I was very lucky and fortunate that I found someone so close to my heart that was so involved herself. It was easy to jump into after seeing all the good that HCC does.

### • Do you have any advice for someone who is considering becoming an HCC volunteer?

Yes! Do it, jump in fully head first and enjoy every second of it. It's absolutely worth the time, effort, sweat and joy you put in.



## SEPTEMBER 1ST

Houston Children's Charity will start accepting applications for

# CHRISTMAS

## APPLICATIONS

can be mailed, faxed or completed online.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Shar Levin

# OF YEARS VOLUNTEERING: 8+ years

### • How did you first learn about volunteering for Houston Children's Charity?

My beautiful sister!

### • Why did you decide to become a volunteer?

To help others any way I can.

### • What do you like best about serving as a HCC volunteer?

I love the Christmas program and knowing the kids will be so excited for their toys.

### • Do you have any advice for someone who is considering becoming an HCC volunteer?

Open your heart and see the joy you are giving a child in need.



## TICKETS:

Earlier this spring, HCC was the generous recipient of **650 tickets** to **Rice University** athletic events. **Tanner Gardner** delivered Owls' 2020 baseball tickets to be played at the famous **Reckling Park**. This generous gift is valued at **\$2,706.33**.



## MAKE YOUR MILES MATTER!

Are you interested in running the **Chevron Houston Marathon, Half Marathon** or **5K**? Support **Houston Children's Charity** while you run!

Contact HCC at **713-524-2878** or **hcc@houstonchildrenscharity.org**

# Q&A with YHHCC Board



Name: **ALEXIS PELTIER**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Chair**  
Employer / Title: **Amegy Bank / Treasury Management Sales Officer**  
Membership: **3 years**  
Positions held on YHHCC Board: **Treasurer (2 years)**

## What is your favorite HCC program to be involved with?

*The Easter party! It's tons of fun seeing the kids run around and pick up eggs – plus I get tons of joy out of wearing a funny animal costume and making the kids laugh.*

**Favorite or most impactful memory during your time on YHHCC?** During our YHHCC mixers. Everyone in attendance is learning about HCC and the community at the same time. Sure, we're raising money for the cause, but what I love most is that we're planting seeds for the future – future donors, advocates, and leaders in our community!



Name: **HELEN KAMALI**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Vice Chair**  
Employer / Title: **The Houston Chronicle / Senior Marketing Specialist**  
Membership: **6 months**

## With all of the Young Professionals Groups in the Houston community, why have you

**chosen to be a part of Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity?** There are plenty of Young Professional Groups that anyone can join – but HCC is the epitome of what a parent charity/group should be. With its dedication to children, YHHCC paired philanthropy with professional networking to create an organization that benefits the lives of children, but also works to enrich the lives of its members.



Name: **RACHAEL GORDON**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Immediate Past Chair**  
Employer / Title: **Texas Mattress Makers / Chief Marketing Officer**  
Membership: **founding member since 2017**  
Positions held on YHHCC Board: **Chair (2 years)**

**Favorite or most impactful memory during your time on YHHCC?** Honestly, my favorite memories are watching the children's faces as they receive their beds or vans and knowing I am helping to make a difference for them and their families.

**With all of the Young Professionals Groups in the Houston community, why have you chosen to be a part of Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity?** When I heard that there was a wait list in this city of thousands of children who were sleeping on the floor or in cardboard boxes, I was heartbroken. I knew that there was no way I could walk away knowing this without trying to do something about it.

*So, I along with two other girls, helped found YHHCC. When we founded YHHCC we were hoping*

*to reach a younger generation of professionals so that they too can see how they can make a difference. On a "normal" day-to-day basis this charity and their supporters work tirelessly to help children have a better life. I could not be more proud to see how the organization has evolved and continues to grow to help bring awareness and support to HCC and the children they support.*



Name: **ALISON LANDIS**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Secretary**  
Employer / Title: **Postlane Partners / General Counsel**  
Membership: **5 months**

## With all of the Young Professionals Groups in the Houston Community

**why have you chosen to be a part of Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity?** YHHCC's community outreach and focus on helping the children of Houston was instrumental in my decision to join the organization.



Name: **CAROLINE E. SHERBROOK**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Membership Director**  
Employer / Title: **Pennington Wealth Management Ameriprise Financial Services LLC / Marketing Specialist**  
Membership: **3 years**

## Have you volunteered at any

**events? If so, please list the events.** A Better Night's Sleep, Toys for Tots, Annual Christmas Party, and Back2School distributions.

**Favorite or most impactful memory during your time on YHHCC?** My most impactful memory during my time in YHHCC would have been at our 2018 Christmas distribution, and a grandmother who was taking care of her grandchildren teared up and hugged me thanking me. I will never forget that moment.



Name: **TAPAJYOTI GUHA**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Volunteer Executive Employer / Title – EY / Tax Senior**  
Membership: **6 months**

## With all of the Young Professionals Groups in the Houston Community why

**have you chosen to be a part of Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity?**

*I joined YHHCC as I am passionate about giving back to the society and believe the youth will shape our future and thus it needs to be given the best of opportunities. Given that YHHCC works for Houston's underserved kids it naturally appealed to me and seemed a good fit.*



Name: **CAITLYN HOLUB**  
YHHCC Board Position: **Community Outreach Director**  
Employer / Title: **Texas Mattress Makers / Marketing Manager**  
Membership: **founding member since 2017**  
Positions held on YHHCC Board: **Charity Liaison (2 years)**

**With all of the Young Professionals Groups in the Houston Community why have you chosen to be a part of Young Houstonians for Houston Children's Charity?** I've been able to see first-hand how much good HCC has done for our community. The number of lives touched is immeasurable and something I'm so proud to be a part of.

**What are some short-term goals for YHHCC Board in 2020?** I really want to see the organization continue to grow both in membership and leadership opportunities. It started out with just 3 people deciding they wanted to do more and in less than 3 years we now have 7 Leadership Board Members and 4 Committees. I can't wait to see what we'll accomplish in 2020.



Name: **ALYX PENLAND**  
YHHCC Board Position – **Advisory Leadership Board Member**  
Employer / Title: **SHOP Companies / Commercial Real Estate Broker**  
Membership: **founding member since 2017**  
Positions held on YHHCC Board: **Vice Chair (2 years)**

**Favorite or most impactful memory during your time on YHHCC?** Meeting Edgar Pacheco, Jr. at one of the Chariots for Children events 3 years ago.

JOIN TODAY.  
CHANGE  
TOMORROW.

SIGN UP

Purchase  
Your Membership  
**yhhcc.org/join**  
takes you right to  
membership  
information

## DID YOU KNOW

that you can support Houston Children's Charity by shopping on Amazon? **THAT'S RIGHT!**

- Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
- Once prompted, search for Houston Children's Charity & select HCC as your charity of choice
- SHOP!

Bookmark the AmazonSmile website to make sure proceeds from EVERY purchase go directly to caring for Houston's special children!



## OUR MISSION

Houston Children's Charity is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for Greater Houston's underprivileged, abused, and disabled children who have been otherwise left behind. The scope of our support is limited only by the availability of resources. Our goal is to leave no legitimate request for assistance unanswered.

## OUR VISION

### "Our Kids Are Everybody's Kids"

Houston Children's Charity, with the support of dedicated sponsors and committed volunteers, works to create a world where every child has their very own bed, clothing, school supplies, transportation, health services, and joyful holidays. We are making progress, assisting one child at a time and measure our success by the number of children's lives that are touched.

## OFFICERS

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Gary D. Becker, *Vice Chairman of the Board*  
Laura S. Ward, *President & CEO*  
Tad Brown, *Past-President*  
Grant W. Guthrie, *Vice President / Funding Co-Chair*  
John B. Johnson, *Vice President / Funding Co-Chair*  
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Penny Loyd, *Secretary*

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David H. Ward



"OUR KIDS ARE EVERYBODY'S KIDS"

1600 West Loop South

Suite 610

Houston, Texas 77027



## 2020 & 2021 Upcoming Events

### "A BETTER NIGHT'S SLEEP"

Bed Distributions – Every Month (Saturday)

### "HCC CLOSET"

Semi-Monthly visits (Tuesday – by appointment only)

### "CHARIOTS FOR CHILDREN" Fall

ADOPT – A – FAMILY October – December

TOY DISTRIBUTION December TBA

24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA February

## Volunteer Corner

WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF CARING VOLUNTEERS.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

Please visit us at [www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org) to register.

## Stay Connected



[houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://houstonchildrenscharity.org)



[facebook.com/houstonchildrens](https://facebook.com/houstonchildrens)



[linkedin.com/company/houstonchildrenscharity](https://linkedin.com/company/houstonchildrenscharity)



[Instagram.com/houstonchildrenscharity\\_](https://Instagram.com/houstonchildrenscharity_)



[twitter.com/houcharity](https://twitter.com/houcharity)

## Out in the Community

We are always looking to reach more families in need. If you have a community event that you would like us to attend OR if you would like to start a fundraiser on behalf of HCC, please contact us.

Phone **M-F 9am to 5pm: (713) 524-2878 ext. 202**

Email: [hcc@houstonchildrenscharity.net](mailto:hcc@houstonchildrenscharity.net)



# 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala

## January 19, 2021

THE POST OAK  
HOTEL AT UPTOWN HOUSTON

*Chairs*

**Tony Buzbee**  
&  
**Frances Moody**



*Title Sponsors*

**BMW of WEST Houston**

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*Entertainment* – **To Be Announced**