# TDECU 2023 Community Inpact Report

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# What's

# Inside?

Welcome to the first edition of TDECU Cares Community Impact Report!

Our Impact Report will celebrate the 2023 launch of the TDECU Cares Foundation – a natural evolution of our credit union's long-standing commitment to engage and support the Communities where we live and work.

# A Message to Our Members

#### A letter from Isaac Johnson

**TDECU President and CEO** 



#### **Dear TDECU Members**

In 2023, TDECU elevated our level of service to our Members and our Community by launching the new TDECU Cares Foundation, a company-sponsored private 501(c)(3) that fosters financial empowerment and Community well-being.

We celebrated this significant milestone in the life of our growing credit union with the Foundation making its first-ever donation in the form of a \$10,000 contribution to Brazosport College's on-campus food pantry known as the Gator Mart. TruStage, a partner of the Foundation that shares our philosophy of people helping people, joined us in the celebration as it made the first-ever donation to our Foundation.

It was a remarkable way to illustrate how our new Foundation will transform the Communities we serve. In fact, our Foundation launch celebration also promoted financial empowerment for our Members as we hosted a Fraud Prevention Seminar.

Although the Foundation will operate as a separate entity from the credit union, TDECU and the TDECU Cares Foundation will share the same values that has guided us for almost 70 years.

#### Transforming the Communities where our Members live and work

The TDECU Cares Foundation will house three programs: charitable grants, student scholarships and financial wellness. Through these programs, the Foundation will support organizations engaged in the areas of education, community enrichment, and health and well-being. We will offer free workshops, and resources to help our Members improve their financial knowledge and skills. We also will continue to partner with local organizations on initiatives that promote economic empowerment and financial well-being in our region.

#### Building on our legacy of service

In 2023, TDECU and its Employees dedicated more than 2,263 volunteer hours to encourage health and well-being, support education and provide Community enrichment. Also in 2023, TDECU and the TDECU Cares Foundation donated more than \$628,000 to the Community by teaching financial literacy, funding workforce development programs, supporting our local schools and universities, awarding scholarships, and revitalizing our neighborhoods.

I'm excited to witness what TDECU and the TDECU Cares Foundation will accomplish in 2024, its first full year of operation. We will undoubtedly see an even greater impact on the financial well-being of our Community. I look forward to sharing more of our success in the coming year.

Sincerely,

**Isaac Johnson** *President and Chief Executive Officer* TDECU



# The Evolution of the TDECU Cares Foundation

#### December 2022

TDECU Cares Foundation was incorporated.

#### January 2023

TDECU Cares Foundation's Board of Directors held its inaugural meeting, and the State of Texas provided the official Certificate of Formation for the Foundation.

#### March 2023

The IRS granted the TDECU Cares Foundation its official 501(c)(3) tax exemption.

#### - November 2023

TDECU Cares Foundation celebrated its official launch during a ceremony at Brazosport College. The Foundation received its first donation from TruStage and granted the donation to Brazosport College's on-campus food pantry, Gator Mart. The celebration was also an opportunity for the Foundation to host its first-ever Fraud Prevention Seminar in which it shared valuable insights on financial fraud prevention with Members.

#### August 2023

TDECU Cares Foundation began implementing a grant, charitable sponsorship, volunteer, financial wellness and donor management system.

#### 2024

The Foundation officially launched its new grant cycle and grants management platform. It also hosted its first Nonprofit Symposium, bringing together nonprofit partners to introduce them to the Foundation and new policies and processes.



### **Community Engagement** and Partnerships in 2023



and funding in our Community.

**ACE Mentor Program** American Cancer Society **Angleton ISD Education Foundation** Aspire Accessories - The HUB Houston Attack Poverty BakerRipley Be the Peace – Be the Hope Bethel's Place Boys & Girls Club of Brazoria County Bovs & Girls Club of Cuero Boys & Girls Club of Greater Houston Boys & Girls Club of Tarrant County Bovs & Girls Club of Victoria **Brazoria County Dream Center** Brazoria County Fair Association Brazoria County Library System **Brazosport Cares Brazosport College Foundation Brazosport ISD Education Foundation BridgeYear Brighter Bites** 

Carl and Mary Welhausen Public Library **Civic Heart Combined Arms** Communities in Schools of Brazoria Countv **Epiphany Community Health Outreach** Services (ECHOS) Education for Tomorrow Alliance (EFTA) Food Bank of the Golden Crescent Fort Bend Education Foundation Fort Bend Women's Center Gathering Outreach **Genesvs Works GMZ Education & Development Center** Harvest for the Hungry Jack and Jill of America, Houston Chapter Junior Achievement of Brazoria County Junior Achievement of the Southeast Keep US Fed Montgomery County **Kids Meals** Latin Women's Initiative

Lemonade Day March of Dimes Montgomery County Food Bank National Organization for Rare Disorders North Texas Food Bank Pasadena ISD Education Foundation Plant It Forward **SERJobs for Progress** Sleep in Heavenly Peace Sweenv ISD Education Foundation The Center for Pursuit The Outreach Program The Women's Resource Group True to Life Ministries (TTLM) Undies for Evervone United Way of Brazoria County United Way of the Crossroads Victoria College Foundation Victoria ISD Education Foundation

# **Financial Wellness**

TDECU is a Member-owned credit union, and we are continuously developing new ways to help grow and protect our Members' hard-earned money. We work to broaden this effort throughout the Community and educate everyone from youth to seniors. Our financial education program covers a broad array of topics, including:



Understanding Credit Reports and Your Credit Score

#### **Resources for Your Educational Journey**

**Options for Financing Your Education** 

#### Managing Your Money

Budgeting, Savings, and Debt Management

#### Keep Protecting Your Identity

**Common Fraud Tactics and Protection Strategies** 

#### Keys to Making Home Happen

**Purchase and Refinance Options** 

#### Protecting What Matters Most

Understanding Insurance Protection Options

# In 2023, TDECU provided 145 hours

of financial education to over 5,000 Community Members.



# 2023 Highlights

#### February 2023

#### Keep Us Fed Montgomery County Food Delivery

TDECU presented a donation of \$7,500 to Keep US Fed Montgomery County to support its mission of providing fresh meals to the Community. This donation will provide over 100,000 meals to people in need. Keep US Fed Montgomery County's mission is to alleviate hunger and reduce food waste by rescuing and redistributing excess nutritional food for hungry neighbors in the Community.

#### April 2023

#### United Way of the Crossroads

TDECU partnered with United Way of the Crossroads and Golden Crescent Habitat for Humanity to sponsor the Tiny Libraries Program in Yoakum (The Learning Tree child learning center), Hallettsville (Hallettsville Health Department) and Victoria (Early Education Center at F.W. Gross). The program aligns with TDECU Cares' focus area on literacy enrichment.

The Tiny Libraries Program fully stocks books for children to promote early childhood literacy. At the events, TDECU gifted every child with a new book to take with them to start their own home library. TDECU volunteers read to children in Yoakum, Victoria and Hallettsville, and the Hallettsville Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the dedication of the tiny library. The tiny libraries will serve approximately 400 youth.

#### **March of Dimes**

On April 23, TDECU and dozens of other companies and organizations joined together to support the March of Dimes' annual March for Babies walk. The TDECU team walked through the beautiful University of Houston campus with one important goal in mind: making a difference for the health of all babies and their parents.

TDECU was seventh in fundraising, with more than \$52,000 raised, which included Employee-led donations and a TDECU sponsorship. A special congratulations to the TDECU Mortgage team who raised more than \$17,500!





#### Harvest for the Hungry

On April 6, TDECU joined forces with Dow employees for a joint volunteer event at Harvest for the Hungry. Employees helped with building, weeding and cleaning the gardens where vegetables are grown for the Community. Over 80 people attended and were invited to connect and TDECU presented the organization with a \$7,500 grant to help with its ongoing efforts.

Harvest for the Hungry is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization fighting for those who struggle with food insecurity. The organization sits on 61 acres in Freeport, where farm-to-table fruits, vegetables, honey, eggs, fish and other healthy foods are grown and provided year-round to those in need.

#### June 2023

#### The Outreach Program

TDECU partnered with The Outreach Program for one of our biggest events of the year. Approximately 70 TDECU Employee volunteers assembled and packaged 15,000 rice and bean meals that were donated to the Houston Food Bank for distribution to partner agencies.

#### Montgomery County Food Bank

Montgomery County Food Bank is a nonprofit organization with the mission to unite the Community to fight hunger. TDECU visited the organization at the start of 2023 and noted that some of the pantry's shelves were visibly bare. Food insecurity was at a high in the Community, and TDECU wanted to help. TDECU established its first year of partnership with the Montgomery County Food Bank by supporting the organization with a \$10,000 gift to provide 40,000 meals.





#### **GMZ Dream Camp**

TDECU Employees volunteered at the GMZ Education and Development Center's annual STEM Dream Camp. The day began with an assembly where TDECU's Financial Wellness Manager delivered a presentation on making good financial decisions. After concluding the assembly, volunteers went into their assigned classroom to teach the Junior Achievement curriculum to more than 400 1st-8th graders. In addition to volunteering at the event this year, TDECU provided a \$15,000 donation to help fund the Dream Camp. The day also included appearances by Houston Texans Legend Fred Weary, the Houston Texans Cheerleaders and Toro.

#### July 2023

#### Back-to-School: Boys & Girls Clubs Backpack Stuffing

Employees across the organization volunteered at TDECU's school supply backpack stuffing event to benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston, Brazoria County, Victoria, Mesquite and Tarrant County. The mission of Boys & Girls Clubs is to inspire and enable all youth, particularly those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. TDECU hosted events in Lake Jackson, Sugar Land, Victoria, Garland and Fort Worth to assemble 700 backpacks filled with school supplies to be donated to students in the Community.

#### **Kids Meals**

For the month of July, TDECU Employees and Members collected donations for Kids Meals' Summer Juice Box Challenge. Every day during the summer, Kids Meals delivered over 9,000 prepared meals to children in Houston struggling with food insecurity. TDECU Employees and Members beat their 2022 record by donating and delivering 12,029 juice boxes. The TDECU Retail team remarkably collected more than 10,000 juice boxes.

#### October 2023 Victoria ISD Education Foundation

TDECU volunteers spent an afternoon reading to students at DeLeon Elementary School in Victoria. This Community service activity supports our commitment to improving literacy in the Victoria Independent School District (Victoria ISD). Earlier in 2023, TDECU awarded the Victoria ISD Education Foundation a \$11,280 grant to provide book vending machines at DeLeon and Shields Elementary Schools. TDECU's grant served 581 students at DeLeon Elementary, of which 57% are economically disadvantaged, and 410 students at Shields Elementary, of which 89% are economically disadvantaged.

#### December 2023

#### **Combined Arms and Operation Santa Wrappy Hours**

In a remarkable display of generosity and teamwork, our organization successfully collected and wrapped more than 1,120 gifts for children of veteran families for the 2023 Combined Arms' 2023 Operation Santa program. The collection drive took place in Member Centers across various regions, including Houston, Victoria, Brazoria and Fort Worth/Dallas that contributed by donating to local veteran organizations. On December 17, more than 200 military and veteran families enjoyed a festive holiday celebration at the 14th annual Operation Santa event hosted by TDECU and Combined Arms at the Veteran Transition Center. TDECU volunteers were there to greet families and help with the logistics of the event. In a substantial show of support, TDECU contributed \$30,000 to aid Combined Arms' mission of assisting military families and transitioning veterans. Mia Garcia, Executive Director of the Texas Veterans Network, along with Tony Warden, our Deputy Chief Information Officer emphasized the importance of such events that provide resources and support to veteran families, especially during the holiday season.





### Watch Our Scholarship Recipient Video



#### TOGETHER, WE MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE!





2023



STEAM ENRICHMENT TO 18,003 K-12 GRADE STUDENTS



**387,491 MEALS** TO THOSE WHO WERE **FOOD INSECURE** 

Contributed more than \$759,089

to Communities where employees live and work

 MONETARY DONATIONS
 IN-KIND DONATIONS
 SCHOLARSHIPS

 (\$545,983)
 (\$13,606)
 (\$199,500)



n Supported workforce development programs to help 12215

ATTAIN GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT

Awarded **73** Community grants AWARDED **133** STUDENT MEMBERS WITH **\$199,500** WORTH OF SCHOLARSHIPS

ASSISTED 20,580 PEOPLE WITH PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

> Helped refurbish **21** Community-serving facilities



necessary supplies for academic success

## TDECU Cares Foundation Grant Cycles\*

\*All cycles close at 5:00 p.m. CST on the due date.



#### **Foundation Board List**



**Contact Information** To learn more about TDECU and the TDECU Cares Foundation or to partner with us, please visit cares.tdecu.org.

### TDECU YOUR CREDIT UNION

tdecu.org

