



MISSION HOUSTON

CHANGING GREATER HOUSTON FOR GOOD

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 131074
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www.missionhouston.org



Whole & Healthy Children INITIATIVE

FACT SHEET

Who?

Mission Houston is an inter-denominational ministry that mobilizes the whole Body of Christ in geographic neighborhoods across the city in order to change Houston for good. We seek nothing less than the spiritual and social transformation and revitalization of greater Houston - each person, neighborhood, and community.

What?

On March 5, we are launching a decade long initiative to bring transformation to the public school systems of our city. We are calling this initiative **Whole and Healthy Children**. We believe that the administration and faculty of our schools are overwhelmed with tasks that are beyond the scope of teaching. It is our intent to serve the leaders of our educational systems. We will identify the three schools in each Community Service Area (CSA) that have a high percentage of at-risk and economically disadvantaged children, and in these schools we will seek to provide:

- Mentoring – we will recruit 100 mentors to mentor 100 children in each school
- Money – we will raise \$10,000 from the community to fund and support the school's academic priorities
- Makeover – we will recruit volunteers who will complete an annual school beautification project including painting, landscaping, repairing equipment, etc.
- Mobilizing Prayer – we will provide a prayer covering for each school, its faculty and administration, those who mentor and the children who are being mentored.

When?

We will launch the **Whole and Healthy Children** initiative at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. In year one, six CSAs will launch this initiative in six schools across the city. In year two, these original six CSAs will launch in a second school in their CSA and a new group of six CSA teams will launch in one school in their CSA. In year three, the original group of six will launch the initiative in a third school, the second group of six will launch in a second school, and a new group of CSAs will launch. This process will continue until every CSA has launched the initiative in the three schools in their CSA with a high percentage of at-risk (Title 1) children.

Where?

In the 2008-2009 school year we will launch the **Whole and Healthy Children** initiative in six of these CSAs: Alief/Sharpstown, Atascocita/Humble/Kingwood, Bellaire/Southwest Loop, CyFair, Missouri City/Fresno/Arcola, Sugarland/Stafford, and West Memorial/Westheimer.

How?

The Mission Houston staff is developing relationships with individual believers, congregations, and ministries in order to identify and recruit volunteer teams for each CSA. Individuals on these teams are equipped through our leadership development process called Faithwalking (<http://www.faithwalkingonline.org>). The volunteer leadership team:

- Establishes partnerships with the administration of the target schools
- Recruits, trains, and deploys mentors from congregations, ministries and the marketplace sectors in their CSA
- Mobilizes prayer for each child and his/her mentor and for the school administration and faculty
- Reports progress on goals to all stakeholders



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Others like Urban Alternative, Houston Area Pastors Council, and Kids HOPE (to name a few) are working on similar initiatives. How does Mission Houston relate to these groups?

A: We hold a core belief that transformation comes when we look to see what God is doing in the city and join Him in that activity. The fact that a growing number of ministries and local congregations are attempting to serve the public schools and at risk children is evidence to us that God is calling the whole Body of Christ to this task. We will cooperate with, encourage, and affirm other initiatives like these.

Q: Are there any distinctive things about the Mission Houston initiative?

A: We are uniting the Body of Christ to accomplish this task. We believe that unity brings the commanded blessing of God to a community. We are also building a volunteer leadership team in each community that connects mentors in the schools to other resource groups in that same community. These teams make it possible for believers, congregations and ministries, who don't have enough human resource by themselves, to participate in the Body of Christ. It really does take a village to raise a child. Mentors will encounter issues and concerns in the life of the student he/she is mentoring and will need to turn to other care givers and resource providers to provide assistance. The ongoing nature of our geographically based team approach will make these additional needed resources readily available.

Q: How can I volunteer to be a part of this initiative?

A: By contacting the Mission Houston staff at info@missionhouston.org. If you are in one of the CSAs where we will launch in school year 2008/2009, we need mentors, intercessors, volunteer work teams, and corporate contacts. If you are in one of the CSAs that will launch in future years, please contact the Mission Houston staff for additional information.

Q: How is Mission Houston funded and is the \$10,000 goal for each school in this initiative include in Mission Houston's annual budget.

A: Mission Houston is funded through the offerings of individuals and congregations in the Greater Houston area. We are recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3. We have not included the \$10,000 for each school in our annual budget. Our CSA teams will work to encourage individuals, congregations, and corporate sponsors to help provide these resources in actual cash or through in-kind gifts.

Whole &
Healthy
Children
INITIATIVE

YES, You can count on me! I'd like to volunteer for the following:



To Give



To Pray



To Mentor



To Do
Work Projects



To Provide
Corporate
Sponsor Contacts

Name

Address

City/State

Zip

Phone

Email



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I commit to **give**:



A monthly gift of \$_____ for _____ months.



A one-time gift of \$_____

I commit to **serve**:

Please contact me by: Email



Phone # _____

Best-time of day to contact me:

Morning

Afternoon

Evening



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