

AUGUST 2024

NEWSLETTER



Petra Cares Summer Update

Greetings from all of us at Petra Cares! What a summer it has been. If you're a fellow Houstonian, you recently dealt with a devastating hurricane. Like so many people across the city, our students too, were affected. Two had to be moved an hour north to an alternate housing unit. Others were without power for over a week. Through it all, we are thrilled to report that all of our students from Cohort Six have successfully completed their course! They demonstrated tremendous grit and tenacity to overcome the challenges brought on by Hurricane Beryl, and they were determined to finish.



Despite these setbacks, this class accomplished two milestones that are worthy of applause. **This was our first class with 100% completion; everyone who signed up finished!** This was also the first class to have perfect attendance with no unexcused absences. This is a remarkable accomplishment! Looking ahead, we have already placed several of these latest graduates at Parkway Chevrolet and River Oaks Chrysler, while the remainder are in the process of securing interviews.

None of this would be possible without your kindness, generosity and continued support. You make it possible for us to come alongside our students and offer them guidance and pathway towards a brighter future. Together, we are truly changing lives and generations to come!

Sincerely, Brian Meza | Executive Director

Fall Class Begins August 26th

Our next class begins August 26th. We currently have 10 students enrolled from all over the Houston area (Pearland, Atascocita, Downtown, Texas City, and more). One exciting element of this class is that three of our students are younger siblings of previous graduates. It's so encouraging to see this program truly changing not just individual lives, but now entire families!



UNLOCKING PURPOSE FOR THE VULNERABLE

Student Story



Above and beyond

Marie was in between group homes when she graduated from Petra Cares this past May. She soon found herself couch surfing for several weeks while trying to get her paperwork to apply for new housing.

We used our relationship at The Tejano Center to help get her placed at the new Sunrise Lofts in East Downtown (EaDo). Sunrise Lofts is a brand new 89-unit beautiful apartment complex built by Camden Builders solely to house youth aging out of foster care. Marie recently moved into her beautiful new apartment and is enjoying life.

“I really love living at Sunrise Lofts. The place is really nice and the staff are kind. I’m grateful for Petra Cares for helping me find this place.”

Marie has a job interview lined up in the coming weeks. We believe the sky is the limit for Marie!

Click here to hear to learn more about Maria’s story!



Your gift of \$10,000 to Petra Cares will help make a life changing impact in the life of 1 student for generations to come!

\$10,000 pays for a student’s tuition, books, toolbox, uniform, transportation, and meals.

Donate online now at Petra-Cares.org





Special Message from the Founder of Petra Cares

On behalf of everyone at Petra Cares, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your generous donations throughout the year. Your support plays a crucial role in helping us change the lives of foster, homeless, and disadvantaged young adults. Your contribution has enabled us to provide essential services, resources, and opportunities that empower these young individuals to build their lives. Thanks to your generosity, we have seen countless success stories where young adults have transitioned from the streets to stable, fulfilling lives with God given purpose.

I am thrilled to share some exciting news with you. Petra-Cares is proposing expanding its reach to Los Angeles! This new chapter allows us to bring our programs and support to even more young people in need. However, with this expansion comes the need for additional resources. We are committed to ensuring that every young adult in Los Angeles receives the same level of care and support that we have provided in Houston. And this is just the beginning, more cities to come!

As we embark on this new journey, we need your continued support more than ever. Your donations are vital to our success and directly impact the lives of those we serve. By giving again, you will help us:

- » Establish safe and welcoming facilities in Houston & Los Angeles.
- » Provide essential services such as education, job training and placement.
- » Create community programs that foster a sense of belonging and purpose.

Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of homeless and disadvantaged young adults. Every donation, no matter the size, brings us one step closer to our goal of providing a brighter future for those in need.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and generosity. We are incredibly grateful for your partnership in this mission. Please consider making another donation today and help us transform more lives in Houston and in Los Angeles and beyond. When I say this, please do not take it lightly, you, our partners, with God's help are changing the lives of young adults and their generations to come.

With heartfelt thanks,
Arnold J. Gacita, Sr. | Founder, Petra Cares

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