



Highlights from the **2015 Beecher Terrace Resident Survey**

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DRAFT

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SURVEY PURPOSE AND PROCESS

As part of the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) Planning Process for the Beecher Terrace housing site and surrounding Russell Neighborhood, the Louisville Metro Housing Authority (LMHA) developed and conducted a survey of the heads of household currently living in Beecher Terrace. The survey was conducted by LMHA Resident Services staff during April and May 2015.

The response rate for the survey effort was 78%, or 544 out of 697 households.

Survey question topics included employment; neighborhood safety, resources, and services; transportation; children and youth;

health; housing preferences for future redevelopment; and community involvement. The survey data was supplemented by LMHA administrative data on Beecher Terrace residents (as of March 2015) and 2014-15 school enrollment data from Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS).

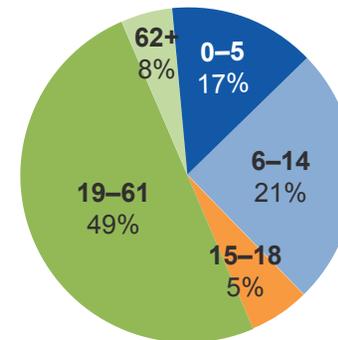
This summary is an excerpt of a larger Existing Conditions Assessment that is being developed for the CNI planning process. These survey results will be used to inform the development of the Russell Transformation Plan.

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

As of March 2015, there were 697 households living at the 768-unit Beecher Terrace, an occupancy rate of 91%. On average, households have lived at the site for 12 years, and 40% have lived there for more than 10 years. A total of 1,331 people live within these households, with an average household size of 1.9. Thirty-seven percent (37%) of households have children, and 80% of households are female-headed.

Beecher Terrace residents are predominantly Black (96%) and non-Hispanic (3 residents are Hispanic). The average age of residents is 28.5. Fewer than half (44%) of Beecher Terrace residents are children and 8% are 62 years or older.

AGE DISTRIBUTION



Source: LMHA Resident Administrative Data

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

Median household income at Beecher Terrace is \$5,885. This is 41% of the median household income for Russell (\$14,209), and 13% of the median household income for Louisville Metro (\$44,159). The most common sources of household income include Supplemental Security Income (22%), earnings from employment (17%), and Social Security (16%).

According to resident survey data, 44% of Beecher Terrace heads of household are not in the labor force, 37% are unable to work and 7% are retired. Only 13% of heads of households are employed full time (35 hours or more); another 15% are employed part-time or seasonally. Among those who are in the labor force, the unemployment rate is 52%.

Just over a quarter (28%) of respondents reported that they are unemployed but looking for work. Among this group, the most common barriers to work include: lack of affordable childcare (35%), transportation (27%), and a lack of a high school diploma or GED (12%). Of those who reported looking for work, the most common fields of interest are health care (24%), restaurant/food services (18%), and hospitality (16%).

Survey findings point to a need for financial education and literacy services. Forty-one percent (41%) of households do not have a bank account, including 16% who use

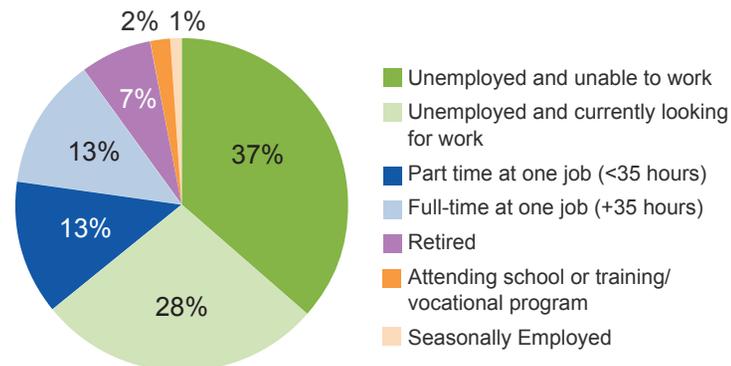
check cashing services with per transaction based fees; 35% of households who are employed report not receiving the Earned Income Tax Credit in their last tax filing, a potentially overlooked source of income or reduction of tax burden for eligible households. Sixteen percent (16%) of respondents indicated a need for budgeting and financial literacy services.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Beecher Terrace	\$5,885
Russell Neighborhood	\$14,209
West Louisville	\$21,699
Louisville	\$44,159

Sources: LMHA Resident Administrative Data, American Community Survey 2013 5-Year Estimates

WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION

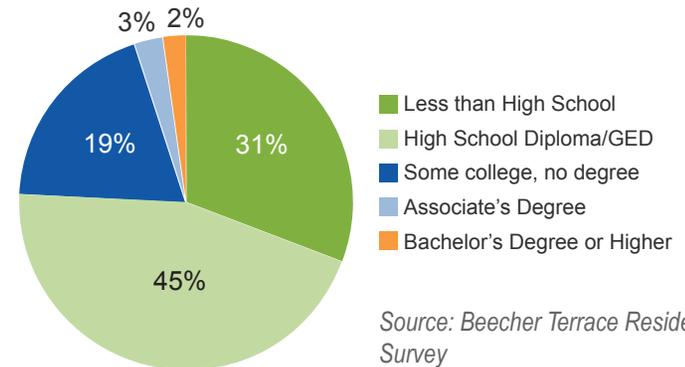


Source: Beecher Terrace Resident Survey

ADULT EDUCATION

Almost a third (31%) of Beecher Terrace heads of household do not have a high school degree or GED. Twenty percent (20%) of heads of household have some college but no degree, and 5% have a postsecondary degree. Two percent (2%) of households are currently enrolled in GED or adult education classes, and 10% of households indicate an interest in future enrollment. Seven percent (7%) are currently enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college, and 16% expressed interest in future enrollment. Fifteen percent (15%) of households report having adults with difficulty with basic math, reading, and/or writing.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



HEALTH

Self-reported health is good for adults and very good for children: 61% of heads of household report excellent or good health, and 95% of parents report excellent or good health for their children. However, adults report high rates of chronic health conditions: 43% of heads of household report high blood pressure or hypertension, 26% have asthma, 27% have arthritis, 15% have extreme stress or anxiety, and 10% suffer from depression. A third of parents report that at least one of their children have asthma.

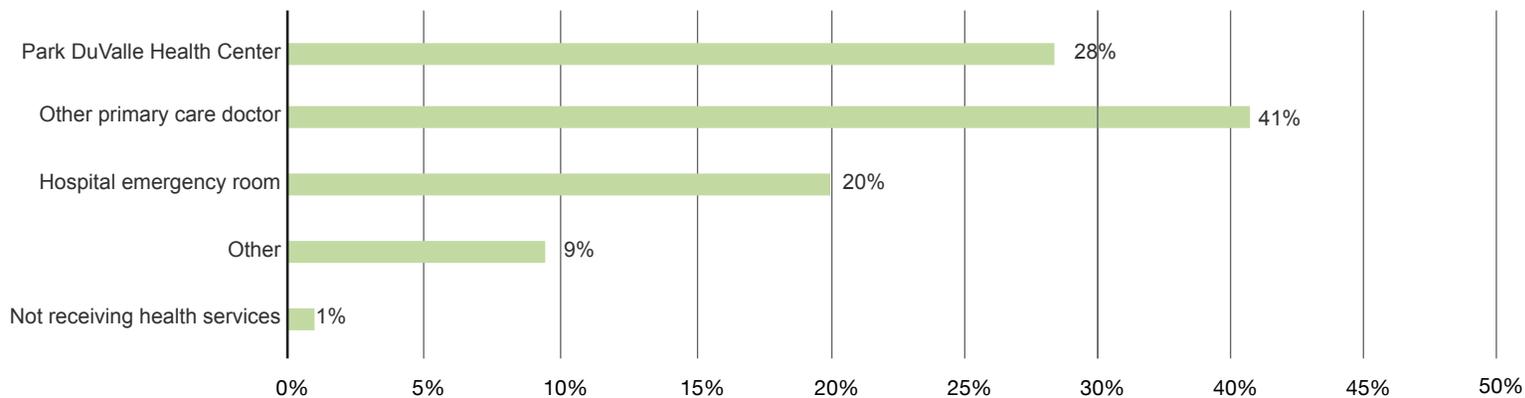
While both adults and children nearly have universal health insurance coverage (97% and 98%, respectively), one in five households most frequently seek care from a hospital emergency room despite other nearby options for health care. Residents report that the most common challenges to accessing quality health care are cost (25%) and transportation (24%), and the most common unmet health

need is dental services (12%).

Eighty one percent (81%) of Beecher Terrace adults and 97% of children report engaging in 30 or more minutes of activity at least three times per week. Almost half (47%) report no barriers to physical activity, 15% report a lack of places to walk or exercise, and 13% express a concern about safety. Twenty percent (20%) report health conditions, and 16% report a physical disability as a barrier to physical activity.

With regards to the recommended guidelines for healthful eating, 11% of adults and 15% of children eat the recommended five or more servings of fruits and vegetables daily, while 49% of households indicate there is no specific reason for not eating more fruits and vegetables, and 27% cite cost as a barrier.

MEDICAL HOME



Source: Beecher Terrace Resident Survey

SERVICE AWARENESS AND UTILIZATION

A majority of Beecher Terrace heads of households are aware of major community partners providing services in the area, including: the Park DuValle Community Health Center (71%), the Baxter Community Center (70%), the Nia Center (63%), the Urban League (60%), and the Western Library (54%). However, only a fourth of families are aware of the Beech after school tutoring program and 22% are aware of the Junior Achievement program. Overall, about half of those who are aware of services used them, and the satisfaction rate among those who used the services is very good.

The services households most report needing are computer training (25%) and transportation assistance (21%); 26% of households indicate they do not need any services. About a third (32%) of households report having at least one person in their household with a special need, most commonly a physical disability (21%). Among households reporting a special need, 43% report they do not need any services to assist them in managing their daily activities, but 21% report needing better transportation options, 17% report needing an accessible housing unit, and 15% report needing access to treatment or medication.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL NETWORK

A majority (75%) of respondents do not participate in any neighborhood associations or organizations, though about half (52%) expressed interest in participating in a Russell neighborhood association. When asked about their sense of commitment and belonging to the neighborhood, households report the following:

- 56% agree they think of their neighbors as good people
- 53% agree most of their neighbors know them
- 48% agree they are working to improve their neighborhood
- 45% agree they feel at home in the neighborhood
- 40% agree people around here are willing to help their neighbors
- 40% agree this is a close knit neighborhood
- 39% agree they feel different than most people in the neighborhood
- 37% agree the neighborhood is a good place to live
- 36% agree that people in the neighborhood get along with each other
- 36% agree they feel included in neighborhood activities
- 35% agree their neighbors are working to make the neighborhood a better place
- 33% agree they feel they belong in the neighborhood
- 32% agree their neighbors are good role models for their children
- 30% agree it is very important to them to live in the neighborhood

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

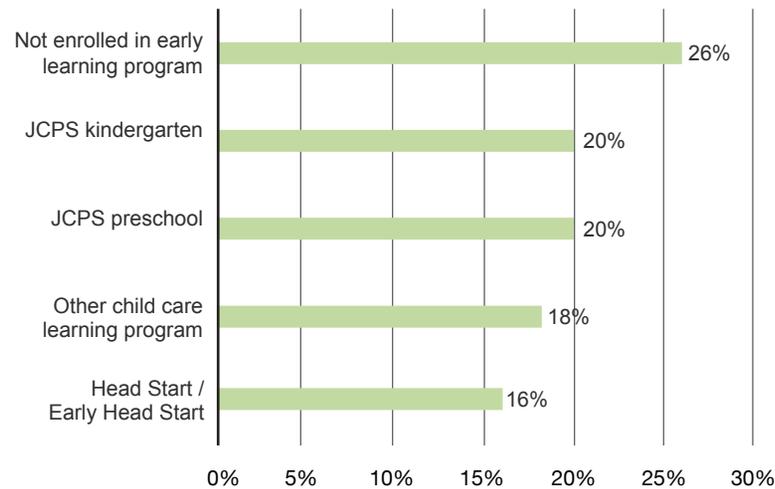
Twenty-two percent (22%) of Beecher Terrace households have children ages 0-5, representing 232 children. While 74% of these children are enrolled in early learning programs, Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) report that less than half of Beecher Terrace children (42%) enter school kindergarten-ready.

The four hundred (400) school-aged children at Beecher Terrace attend more than 50 schools in Jefferson County. The most commonly attended schools are Coleridge-Taylor and Roosevelt Perry elementary schools (in the Russell neighborhood), Highland Middle School, and Ballard

High School in East Louisville. Overall, parents indicate satisfaction with the quality of the schools their children attend, with 83% rating them as excellent or good.

Almost half of parents (48%) report participating in the PTA at least occasionally - 45% cite barriers to increasing their involvement in their child's school, including transportation (23%), times of meetings/events (15%), and the school location being far from home (14%). A large majority of parents (85%) say that they, or someone in their household, regularly reads to their children ages 0-7.

EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM ENROLLMENT



Source: Beecher Terrace Resident Survey

2014-15 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AMONG BEECHER TERRACE STUDENTS, GRADES K-12

ELEMENTARY	
Coleridge-Taylor	25%
Roosevelt Perry	17%
Byck	8%
Other	50%
MIDDLE	
Highland Middle	74%
Other	26%
HIGH SCHOOL	
Ballard High	57%
Central High School	8%
Other	35%

Source: Jefferson County Public Schools

Safety at school and safety while getting to school are common concerns among parents - 59% of parents do not feel that their children are safe walking to school or the bus stop, 47% do not feel they are safe on the school bus, and 36% do not feel they are safe while at school. Among the 14% of parents who indicated concern about their children dropping out of school, many cited concerns about safety at school, on the bus, or in the neighborhood.

Thirty percent (30%) of Beecher Terrace households report that their school-age child has a special need (primarily behavioral), 14% of parents express concern that their child might drop out of school, and 31% of parents have a child that got in trouble at school at least twice in the past year. But students appear engaged in a range of supportive activities during out of school hours, as 79% of youth are enrolled in at least one type of youth program.

NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES

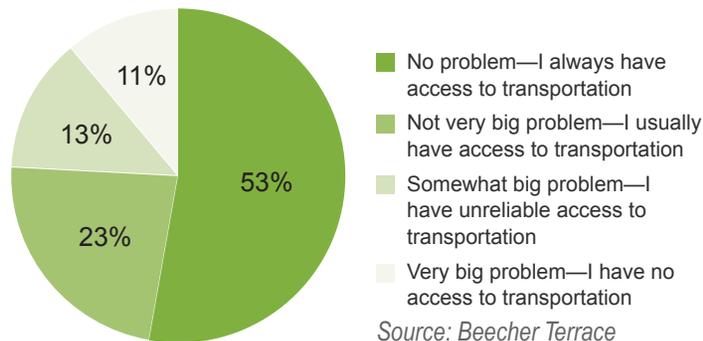
Respondents identified housing affordability (63%), access to public transportation (58%), and location near downtown (57%) as the neighborhood's greatest assets, but expressed overwhelming concern about neighborhood crime and violence (87%). Only a small percentage (4%) felt that parks/recreation are strong neighborhood assets, and when asked what features are needed in nearby parks, the most common responses are picnic/barbeque area (64%), ball court or field (57%), playground/tot lot (48%), swimming pool or swimming lake (44%), and walking/running path (42%).

About a quarter of households (26%) do not have access to the internet, and 38% access the internet via a smart phone. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of households indicate they would be very or somewhat likely to use a neighborhood computer center if one were built.

MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION

About a quarter (26%) of households have at least one drivable car. Most households use public transportation as their primary mode of transportation (64%). A majority (76%) said that transportation is not a problem when trying to get around.

TRANSPORTATION ACCESS



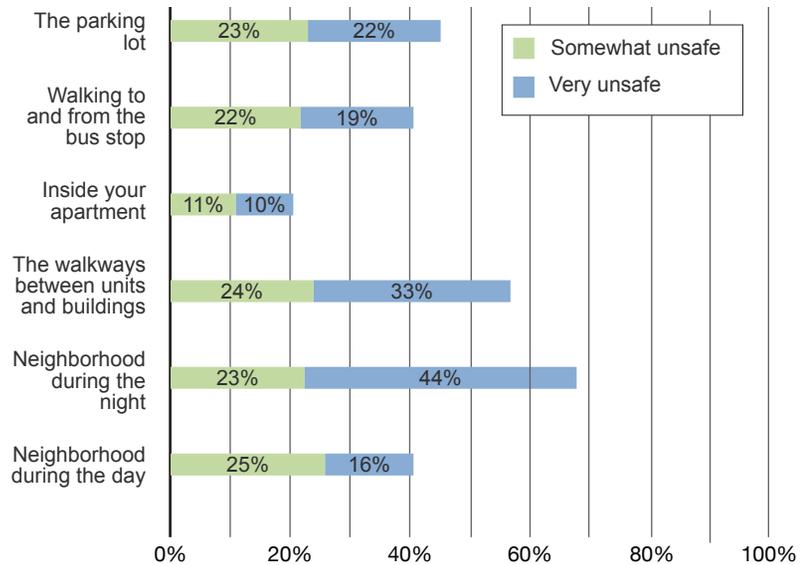
Source: Beecher Terrace Resident Survey

PUBLIC SAFETY

Respondents indicated they feel very or somewhat unsafe: during the day (41%), during the night (67%), in the walkway between units (58%), walking to and from the bus stop (41%), and in the parking lot (45%). Even inside their own apartment unit, one in five (21%) households report not feeling safe.

Most residents (71%) report that crime frequently occurs in the neighborhood (1–2 times per week) and many households report that they or someone they know have experienced the following crime in their current home or neighborhood: gun shots (71%), murder (41%), or sale and/

FEELING OF SAFETY



Source: Beecher Terrace Resident Survey

or use of drugs (37%). Households with children feel less safe in the neighborhood across all measures of safety. Specifically, 62% of households with children say they would be somewhat or very unlikely to let their children play outside in the neighborhood.

When asked what could be done to improve public safety in the neighborhood, residents expressed the most interest in better street lighting (51%), more frequent and/or visible police patrol (47%), and better security systems (47%).

HOUSING

Just over half of respondents (54%) express interest in living in a new unit at the revitalized site.

If relocated, about half (52%) of households indicate they would prefer to use a Section 8 voucher, and 24% prefer to move into another LMHA unit. Sixty-one percent (61%) of households are very or somewhat interested in purchasing a home or condominium.

Households with children are less interested in living at the revitalized site (43%) and more interested in accepting a Section 8 voucher (70%), while senior and disabled residents are more likely to want to live at the new site (61%) and less likely to want a Section 8 voucher (34%).

INTEREST IN REVITALIZED UNIT

