



Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc.

A Community Action Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

GCCSA, Inc Provides more than \$56,000 of Immediate Relief for families impacted by Winter Storm Uri

Published: April 20, 2021

Disaster Relief Assistance is part of an ongoing commitment to be on the side of Harris County communities and vulnerable populations.

HOUSTON, Texas (April 20, 2021) – In its commitment to doing its part in alleviating the pains of disasters affecting Harris County communities, Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc. (GCCSA) provided \$56,225 in emergency relief assistance to households adversely impacted by February's Winter Storm Uri. One hundred seventy-three households were awarded gift cards in the amount of \$325 for Wal-Mart, so that they may start the process of replacing items lost or destroyed from the historic freeze. These families live in Harris County, have median household incomes within [200% of the federal poverty line](#) (think a family of 4 with a total income of \$53,000 or less), and have children enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start Programs.

Head Start & Early Head Start families who suffered water and/or roof damage, a loss of power and/or water, loss of food and supplies, and missed needed work hours were invited to apply to the GCCSA, Inc. Winter Storm Uri Relief Assistance Program in late March 2021. Of the 183 applications received, all but ten (10) were deemed eligible. Five were over-income and 5 were duplicate entries. From the start of the outreach window to the approval and release date (only 23 days!), GCCSA was able to put 173 gift cards in the hands of all families in a single day, providing the release of much stress that was experienced by so many.

While the Agency has seen a sharp increase in demand over the past year since the start of the pandemic, GCCSA continues to provide unique relief opportunities that meet each moment of crisis affecting the vulnerable populations of Harris County. When the Houston-area was most recently impacted by the Tax Day Floods, Memorial Day Floods, and the worst storm in an age, Hurricane Harvey, GCCSA rose to the challenge, assisting several thousand of Harris County's devastated households per disaster.

###

About Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc: As Harris County's Community Action Agency, the purpose of Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc. (GCCSA) is to strengthen the educational, social and economic well-being of individuals and families as they move toward economic independence and self-sufficiency. Founded in 1965, GCCSA provides diverse programs designed to eliminate the inhibitive conditions of the under-served and un-served populations of Harris County. Through programs such as Head Start/ Early Head Start, Rent and Electricity Assistance, Food Pantry, Adult Literacy and Education, and Vocational Training and Education Scholarships, GCCSA is able to assist families in earning a living wage, individuals in the advancement of their education, and communities in gaining economic security. To learn more about GCCSA's programs and services, visit: www.gccsa.org.

The Corporate office and all Head Start/Early Head Start Centers are closed to the public at this time.

For more information, contact:
Ja'Milla C. K. Lomas
Marketing & Community Relations
Office: 713.393.4746 | Mobile: 832.754.3001
Email: lomasj@gccsa.org