

57 Years and Counting

Who We Are

The Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization that engages community partners and forges strategic alliances in order to educate, equip and empower individuals and families in their pursuit of economic independence.

For almost 60 years, we have remained committed to providing diverse services to the under-resourced residents of Harris County, equipping the community with tools that educate them about the many, often hidden, opportunities available that will empower them on the road to becoming thriving citizens.

Why We Exist

GCCSA, Inc. connects the Houston-area's vulnerable community to greater opportunity. Our varied programs are designed to eliminate the inhibitive conditions of living below a livable wage by assisting:

- Families in earning a living wage
- Individuals striving towards their educational goals
- Communities in gaining economic security

What We Provide

- Head Start & Early Head Start
- Case Management
- Adult Literacy & Education Resources
- Vocational Training
- Continuing Education Aid
- Job Readiness
- Emergency Assistance (rental, utility)
- Food Pantry



Apply for Services

Complete the online *Application for Services*. GCCSA resources are available to income-eligible residents of Harris County. See the income requirements below and visit www.gccsa.org for the application.

2022 Income Requirements

200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family/Household	Income Limits
1	\$27,180
2	\$36,620
3	\$46,060
4	\$55,500
5	\$64,940
6	\$74,380
7	\$83,820
8	\$93,260
Families with more than 8 persons	Add \$9,440 for each additional person



The Portable Gladiator

A handy resource for GCCSA, Inc. community programs and services at your fingertips.



Educate.
Equip. Empower.

9320 Kirby Drive
Houston, TX 77054

(713) 393-4700
www.gccsa.org



Food Pantry

The GCCSA Food Pantry is a Houston Food Bank Partner and recipient of the "Houston Food Bank 'Bandini Award' for Outstanding Food Pantry". We serve an average of 700 - 1,000 individuals and families per month, be it curbside or in-pantry. Our customers go from food insecure to fed because of the generous donations received from retail partners and individual donors. The Food Pantry provides different forms of assistance.

Food for Change Market

In partnership with the Houston Food Bank, GCCSA offers a *Food for Change Market* as part of our Food Pantry. This is a strategy designed to assist those who are facing difficulties in their efforts to further their education or health and well-being.

Food Scholarship

The *Food Scholarship* assists with lowering the financial stress of grocery costs when customers commit to and maintain participation in programs that can improve their lives. By doing so, the individual is in a better position to get the training or education they need to achieve independence.

- Recipients receive groceries twice each month through designated Food for Change Markets like GCCSA, that are strategically located throughout Greater Houston.
- A typical food distribution includes up to 40lbs of healthy food, half of which is produce.

Food Rx

Food Rx participants receive a food prescription from a designated Healthcare Partner or when they commit to a Community Health Program designed to improve their health & well-being.

- Participants redeem their Food Rx twice a month at GCCSA's Food for Change Market, where they can select 30lbs of fruits and vegetables, plus 4 additional healthy items.
- Clients may attend educational events, such as cooking demos, at the GCCSA Food Pantry. Nutrition education material, with new ideas on healthy food preparation, is also available.

Crisis Assistance

Emergency Assistance is provided to customers who are experiencing distress or food insecurity. No appointments are needed. Only identification. Individuals will receive:

- A 3-to-5 day supply of emergency groceries
- Assistance one time per year

Hours: Monday, Wednesday - Friday, 9:00am - 1:00pm



Case Management

Individuals and families seeking to regain their economic footing work closely with Specialists. They are provided an assessment of needs, development and implementation of a Service Plan, and monitoring of goal achievement that helps them address their personal and professional development. Financial assistance is offered to qualified participants.

Emergency Assistance

Emergency assistance is meant to offer meaningful support to individuals while they develop practical plans for meeting their own needs.

GCCSA provides emergency rental payments for customers who have received vacate notices. This program serves approved participants in financial distress by preventing loss of shelter with the help of a monetary disbursement.

Harris County residents who are income-eligible may receive aid that prevents the loss of utilities if they have received a shut-off notice.

Apply for aid via the online *Application for Assistance*.

Adult Continuing Education

The Agency offers a variety of adult educational opportunities - General Equivalency Diploma, Adult Basic Education, and Career, Vocational & Technology Development tracks via community partners Arclabs Welding School and Industrial Welding Academy. We provide scholarships to adults who are interested in pursuing educational or vocational training certifications for career advancement.

Additional services include: financial coaching, credit and budgeting classes, nutrition workshops, workforce development and job readiness, transportation vouchers, and access to community partner programs.

Apply for aid via the online *Application for Assistance*.



Head Start & Early Head Start

The GCCSA, Inc. Head Start & Early Head Start (HS/EHS) Program is a comprehensive, Early Childhood Development program, serving eligible children and families from economically-challenged backgrounds in the Houston, Harris County area since 1964. GCCSA caters to over 1,900 early learners and their families; supporting infants and toddlers (ages 6 weeks to 30 months) and children ages 3 to 5 years.

Operating in 1 Early Head Start and 20 Head Start Centers, the GCCSA HS/EHS Program includes: early childhood education, family involvement, health advocacy, family literacy, fatherhood initiatives, mental health services, disability services, and nutrition for all enrolled children, including in the family homes of those with disabilities. All services, meals and snacks are provided at no cost to families.

Parent/guardians will need the following for enrollment:

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Current Immunizations, up to date
- Parent Identification
- Proof of Address (Harris County)
- Proof of Income (from previous 12 months)

Family must be income-qualified under Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Our Head Start & Early Head Start Centers for the current academic year are as follows:

Early Head Start 77020	Gregg Elementary 77087	Richey Road 77506
Alcott Elementary 77033	Hartsfield Elementary 77021	Rucker Elementary 77017
Bastian Elementary 77033	Kelso Elementary 77033	Thompson Elementary 77004
Bellfort Early Childhood 77061	Pasadena 77506	Pasadena 77506
East End 77011	Patterson Elementary 77017	Woodson Elementary 77041
Foster Elementary 77021	Plum Creek 77087	Young Elementary 77051
Franklin Elementary 77011	Raul Yzaguirre 77017	
Garden Villa 77061	Reveille 77087	

