

OTHER WAYS TO “INVEST” IN YOUNG LIVES

We thank you for all you have done for the youth we serve daily!

We also like to keep our donors and advocates updated on how they can further help or “invest” in our youth ensuring their commitment to Covenant House Texas lives on for generations. Please see below for Planned Giving Options:

Donor Advised Funds (DAF) - If you have a DAF, Covenant House Texas can show you how easy it is to utilize this method of giving (Using your account to do an ACH transfer is just one example).

Workforce Giving/Employer Matching Gifts - Check with your employer to see if they have a Matching Gift Program and how you can start donating to Covenant House Texas. As the name denotes, the employer matches your gift - usually up to a certain percent or dollar amount. Also, ask your employer if they have a Workforce Giving Program, which allows employees to designate a certain amount to be deducted each pay period and donated to a charity of their choosing.

Charitable Gift Annuities - This refers to a fixed sum of money paid each year through a simple agreement between you and Covenant House Texas. Also known as a charitable gift annuity, a donor transfers cash, security, or assets to a cause in exchange for a partial tax deduction. You can also receive a lifetime stream of annual income from the charity itself. That is, you receive the interest from the annuity, while the principal of the gift is property of the charity, and is normally irrevocable.

Bequests - Often individuals plan ahead and specifically dictate in their last will and testament that they are donating/giving certain assets to Covenant House Texas. This can be in the form of stocks, bonds, cash or personal property, such as land or vehicles.

CONTACT US

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Grace

Notes



Covenant House Texas

I would like to donate to Covenant House Texas.

\$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 Other: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

____ Enclosed is my check made payable to Covenant House Texas.

____ Please charge my credit card.

Card Number: _____ Exp: _____ CVV: _____

Thank you for your support!

Your tax deductible donations can also be made online at www.covenanthousetx.org/donate

Covenant House Texas is a faith-based organization committed to giving homeless youth a safe haven, absolute respect, unconditional love, and a path to lasting independence. In partnership with the community, we are the voice for homeless youth.

Grace

Notes

SEPTEMBER 2021 EDITION



Covenant House Texas

A Publication for Individuals Who Join In Our Mission To Serve Homeless Youth

FORMER RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Marcelio Tatum



It wasn't until **Marcelio Tatum** saw a Covenant House flyer in the late 1990s that he realized he wanted more for his life than couch surfing with family members and doing drugs. After calling the number on the flyer, he decided to go to Covenant House Texas and check himself in.

For the first few months of his stay, he lived in the emergency shelter and then soon moved to the transitional housing program.

"The life and job skills are what helped me the most," said Tatum. "I learned about grocery shopping, having a checking account, budgeting, how to do laundry, and also about computers - filling out job applications and job searching."

"I knew I wanted something more but didn't know how to get it."

Within two weeks of arriving at Covenant House Texas, Marcelio was able to secure a job at the nationally recognized MD Anderson Cancer Center. It was there that his director suggested he get his GED. Ninety days later, he received his GED and was able to get a better position at the hospital as a file clerk and

saved enough money to move out and live in an apartment.

Today, Marcelio works as a truck driver for XPO Logistics - where he has been employed for the last 25 years.

His advice for current Covenant House Texas residents is to "keep trying, don't ever give up, and to trust the Covenant House process because it works!" He also stated, "I don't know where I would be if it weren't for Covenant House Texas. I have been on both sides, and it makes me appreciate what I have and why I want to help the current residents. When I see them, I see myself."

Marcelio currently lives in the Houston area with his wife, and he has a daughter who lives in Michigan. He serves as a deacon at City Cathedral Church where he helps to assemble care bags that include snacks and personal care/hygiene items for Covenant House Texas male residents.

We are so appreciative of Marcelio for sharing his story and serving as a reminder to our youth that anything is possible.



Current pictures of Marcelio Tatum while fishing in Alaska.

Introduction
COMMENCEMENT
SPEAKER
by Devonte

CHW Class of Spring '21



COMMUNITY HEALTH
WORKERS INITIATIVE

YOUTH HIGHLIGHT

Devonte

After the loss of his mother during his pre-teen years, **Devonte** was placed in foster care. Wanting to escape the high crime of his native Chicago, Devonte relocated to Houston after receiving his high school diploma, despite the fact that his life was still fairly unstable.

Shortly after arriving in our city, Devonte became homeless. He found his way to Covenant House Texas and became a member of our Rapid Rehousing Program.

He was soon referred to the Health Fellows program at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work, which provides young adults who have experienced housing instability with training and research opportunities to develop solutions to youth homelessness.

"Devonte is always smiling, respectful, full of energy, and ready to take on any task given to him, so I knew he'd be a great addition to the UH Health Fellows program," said Patricia Williams who works in the Covenant House Texas Rapid Rehousing Program.



Devonte attended this program throughout the spring and now, having completed it, is eligible to be certified as a Community Health Worker by the State of Texas – one of the many aspects of the Health Fellows program.

"His outstanding participation in the program drew the attention of program leaders who selected him to introduce the keynote speaker at graduation, Texas Representative, Sheila Jackson Lee," said Dr. Sarah Narendorf, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development at UH Graduate College of Social Work.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Lee Bouldin

Congratulations to our 2020 Volunteer of the Year, **Lee Bouldin!** Since 2005, Lee has led the weekly Bible study at Covenant House Texas, where his experience has provided opportunities to mentor young men and women in developing a biblical worldview, a greater capacity for leading independent lives, and becoming both socially and economically responsible citizens in their community.

"Eleven years ago, a troubled young man named Emmanuel joined my Bible study. We have stayed in touch since he left Covenant House Texas, and I am blessed to have witnessed his growth into a responsible, Christ-centered 30-year-old," said Bouldin.

In addition to volunteering with us, Lee serves as the Director of Spiritual Formation for the College of Biblical Studies - Houston Campus. There he administers the spiritual formation



programs and helps to create an environment that reflects the CBS mission and contributes to personal and organizational transformation.

"God reminds us throughout Scripture that, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you' (Joshua 1:5b)," said Bouldin. "I am so grateful to Covenant House Texas for the opportunity to routinely impress upon these young people that, by trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, they enter into an eternal, reliable, loving relationship with their heavenly Father. (John 3:16; 14:6; 17:3)."

Thank you, Lee, for all you have done and continue to do for our youth at Covenant House Texas.

PREVIEW OF UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV
18
SLEEP OUT:
Executive Edition

Save the date! We're excited to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Sleep Out: Executive Edition on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at Minute Maid Park. Sleep Out is an international movement where participants raise funds and awareness about homelessness for Covenant House.

Houston area executives will give up their beds for one night to raise funds so that youth experiencing homelessness can sleep safely at Covenant House Texas. Sleep Out is not about pretending to be homeless, but an act of solidarity and a demonstration to homeless young people that you care – deciding that you can't stay indoors while so many kids remain outside.

10th Anniversary



We're thrilled to have **Steve Biegel** and **Sean Maher** serving as Executive Co-Chairs of this year's Sleep Out: Executive Edition, with Houston Astros Manager **Dusty Baker** joining us as Honorary Chair.

If you want to learn more about Sleep Out and how you can get involved, join us for one of our next virtual Sleep Talks on September 1st, September 29th, and October 27th at 5pm.

For more information on Sleep Out and Sleep Talks, visit www.sleepout.org or contact Erika Green, Special Events Manager at 713-630-5610 or egreen@covenanthouse.org

Young Professionals 6th Annual *Playing with a Purpose* Kickball Tournament

OCT
17



On Sunday, October 17th, the Covenant House Texas Young Professionals will host their favorite fundraiser, the *Playing with a Purpose* Kickball Tournament, at Houston Sports Park at 1:00 pm. During the tournament, our young professional supporters will divide into corporate teams and compete for trophies, bragging rights and the accomplishment of raising awareness and resources for youth who are overcoming homelessness. Register your team today at covenanthousetx.org.

Coffee Talks



Interested in learning more about the mission of Covenant House Texas and the work we do in the Houston community? Join our leadership staff for one of our virtual Coffee Talks! Upcoming Coffee Talks are Wednesday, October 13, 2021, and Thursday, December 2, 2021, both at noon.

To RSVP to an upcoming Coffee Talk, contact Felicia Broussard at fbroussard@covenanthouse.org

Night of Broadway Stars

MAY
26

Mark your calendars for May 26, 2022 as we celebrate a Night of Broadway Stars! Held at the Wortham Theater Center, this annual event supports the work we do in the Houston community for homeless and trafficked youth daily. This year's energetic show will be produced and hosted by well-known composer and lyricist **Neil Berg** and feature performances by some of Broadway's best. And the real stars of the show – our own Covenant House Texas youth.



Stay tuned for additional details!

Guts + Glory – Spring 2022

SPRING
22

Love the challenge of a good obstacle course and the opportunity to support youth who are overcoming homelessness? Guts + Glory is the event for you! This new Covenant House Texas event will bring together corporate teams to compete in a challenging obstacle course where points are awarded and egos rage. Scheduled to debut in Spring 2022, Guts + Glory is a great opportunity for Houston corporations to sponsor an employee team to show their agility and their commitment to social responsibility.



Thank you for your support!

We appreciate your support of Covenant House Texas and want to ensure we offer opportunities for you to remain connected with our mission. Your interests and opinions are always valued. Thank you for sharing your perspective by completing the survey at the QR code below.



Scan the code with your phone to access the survey.