



SPRING 2025 BUSINESS/CIVIC LEADERSHIP FORUM





# Welcome



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# CLASS of Spring 2025



**Dr. David Abraham**  
Rice University

**Dr. Kimberly Baker**  
UT Health Houston

**Linda Beeman**  
Aurora Grants & Consulting

**Val Betancourt**  
Genesys Works

**May Cahill**  
BakerRipley

**James Cargas**  
Texas PACE Authority

**Kimberly Carpenter**  
NRG

**Amy Castillo**  
Houston Forensic Science

**Wendy Cooper**  
BakerRipley

**Sophia Corovessis**  
March of Dimes

**Kelly Donawa**  
Comcast

**Cicely Dove**  
Communities in Schools of  
Houston

**Tonya English**  
Shearwater GeoServices

**Jared Fuller**  
Federal Reserve Bank

**Augustin Garcia**  
Amegy Bank

**Kristine Gentry**  
Culture Grove

**Jenna Haviland**  
MyCHN

**Bailey Herbst**  
Daikin Comfort Technologies  
North America

**Tiffany Hicks**  
Harris County Precinct 2

**Derek Holmes**  
Harris Health Systems

**Elizabeth Howley**  
SPARK School Park Program

**Sajal Javid**  
Alley Theater

**Robert Jolly**  
Silver Eagle Distributors

**Angie Lane**  
Houston Ballet

**Yolanda Lopez**  
Lone Star College

**Jennifer O'Neal**  
The Woodlands Chamber of  
Commerce

**Pierce Prater**  
CenterPoint Energy

**Clarissa Rackley**  
Greater Houston Partnership

**Gleeson Ryan**  
Future 500

**LaToya Shields**  
The Network of Behavioral  
Health Providers

**Katie Stewart Anchondo**  
New Hope Housing

**Rushka Tcholakova**  
LISC

**Renae Vania Tomczak**  
Mental Health America

**Timothy Wampler**  
Merrill Lynch

**Leia Wilson**  
Port Houston

**Cynthia Wolff**  
Beth Wolff Realtors

**Richard Young**  
RJY Group

**Ashley Zummo**  
Shell

## CHF STAFF

**David Gow**, President & CEO

**Russell Richard**, SVP - Leadership Initiatives,  
Alumni Engagement, Community Outreach

## FACILITATION TEAM – JDGAdvisors

**Joni D. Goodman**, CPTD – Facilitator

**Kristen McLean** – Graphic Recorder

**Sharon Nasr** – Admin & Virtual Producer







# Welcome Reception Day 1

We first met on March 20, 2025, for a Welcome Reception with the Spring 2025 Leadership Forum at the Center for Houston's Future offices. Russell Richard, the Center's SVP of Leadership Initiatives, Alumni Engagement, & Community Outreach, welcomed the class and thanked everyone for their participation. Cindy Yeilding, Board Chair, and David Gow, President & CEO, informed us about the great work of the Center.





## Day 2: Galveston

On Thursday, March 27, we kicked off the forum at the Tremont House in Galveston, with dinner, introductions, and a visit from former board member and BOI, Shrub Kempner, who gave us a brief history lesson on Galveston.





# Understanding the Houston Region

After dinner, Russell Richard, the Center's SVP of Leadership Initiatives, Alumni Engagement, & Community Outreach, took us on a journey through the Houston region's development from the bold and improbable founding of Houston by the Allen brothers in 1836 to the current day as the fourth largest and most culturally diverse metropolitan area in the nation. Russell, guided the discussion and together we examined the role civic leadership has played in the growth and success of the region, and noted the patterns, values and guiding principles that are in evidence throughout our history.







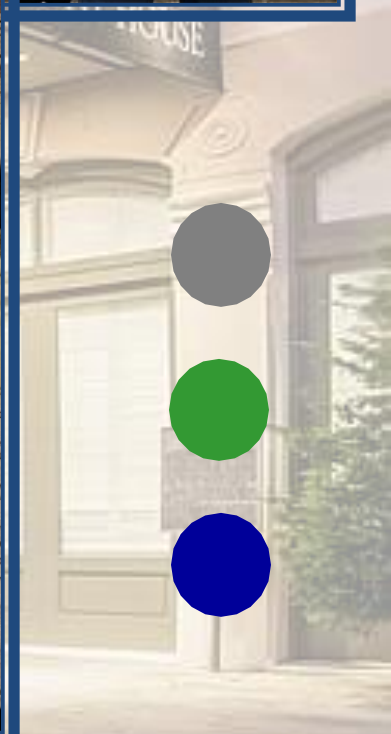
## Day 3 – Morning Reflections







# Day 3 – Speed Networking







## Day 3 – Speed Networking







## Day 3 – Galveston Excursions

25 YEARS CENTER FOR HOUSTON'S FUTURE

### Galveston Discovery Excursions







# Excursions Presentations Group 1







# Group 1 - Highlights







## Group 2







## Group 2 - Highlights







## Group 3







# Group 3 Highlights





## Group 4







## Group 4 Highlights







Group 5







# Group 5 Highlights







Group 6





## Group 6 Highlights







# Day 4: Amegy Bank

## Steve Stephens, CEO





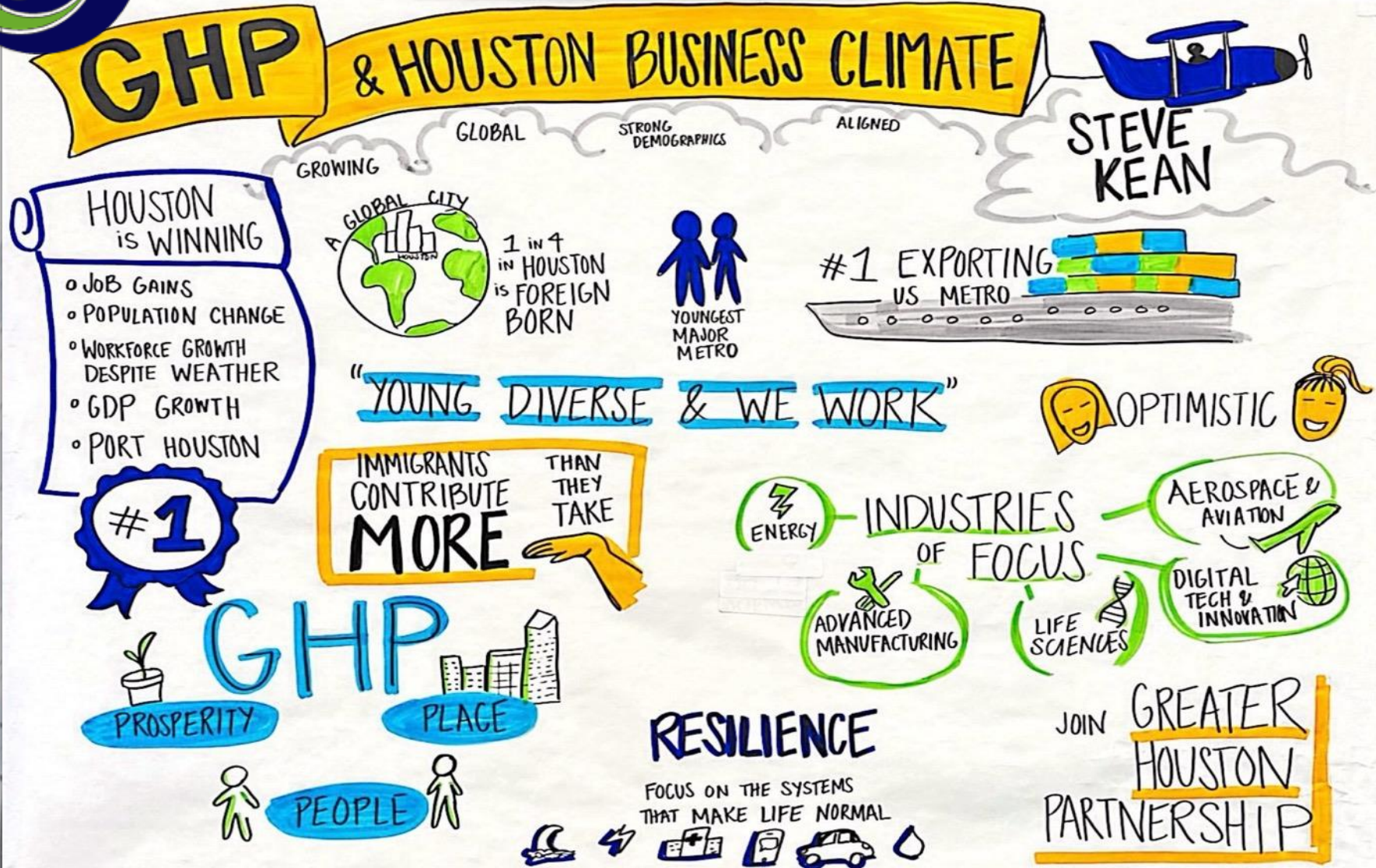


# Advancing Opportunity

Steve Kean: President & CEO  
Greater Houston Partnership







VISUAL NOTE BY : KRISTEN MCLEAN



# Harnessing the Power of Diversity:

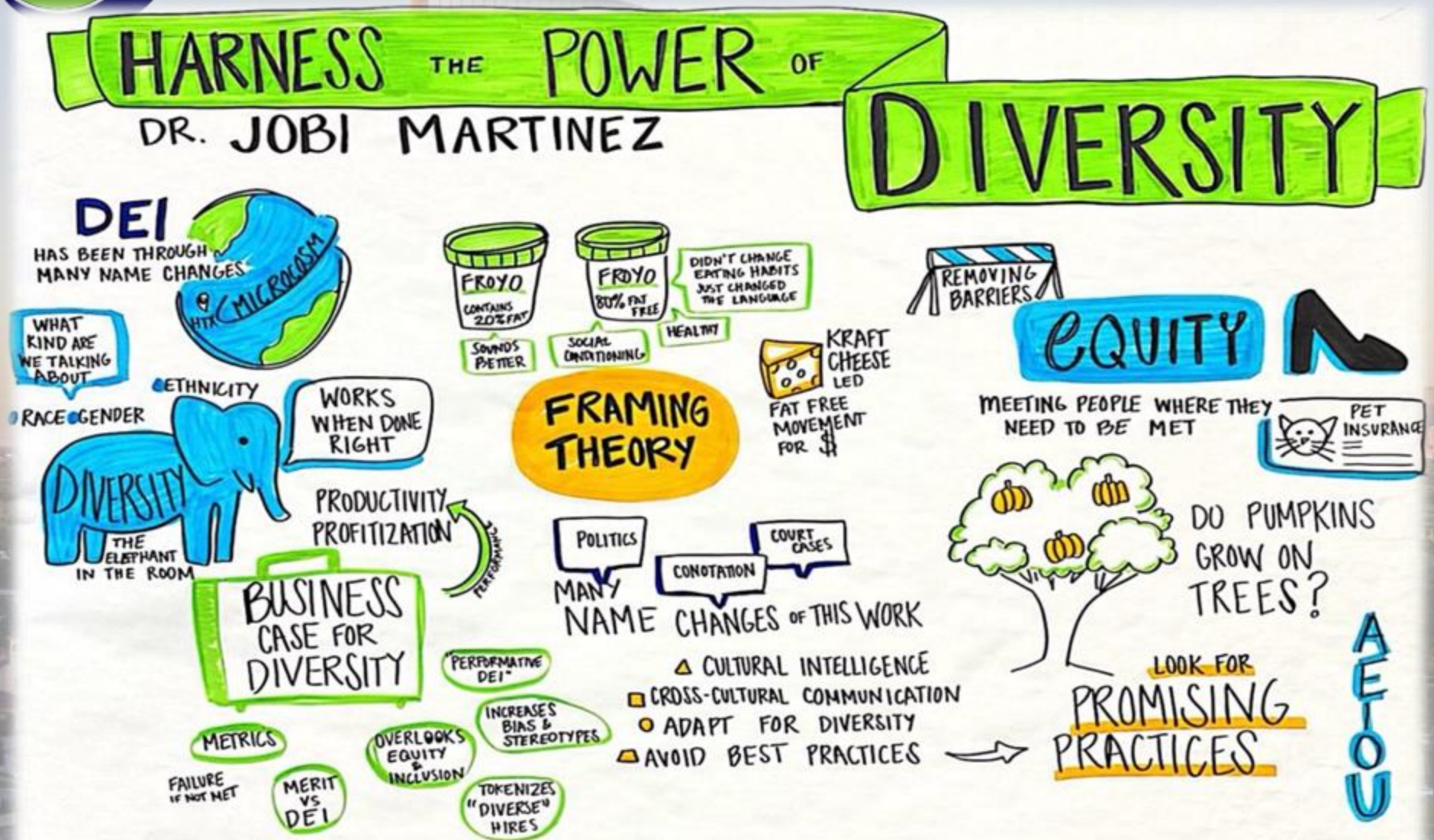
## Dr. Jobi Martinez, Harris Health





# Harness the Power of Diversity

## Dr. Jobi Martinez



VISUAL NOTE BY: KRISTEN MCLEAN





## Day 5: Houston Zoo

Adrian Cavazos, Lee Ehmke, & Sheryl Kolaskinski







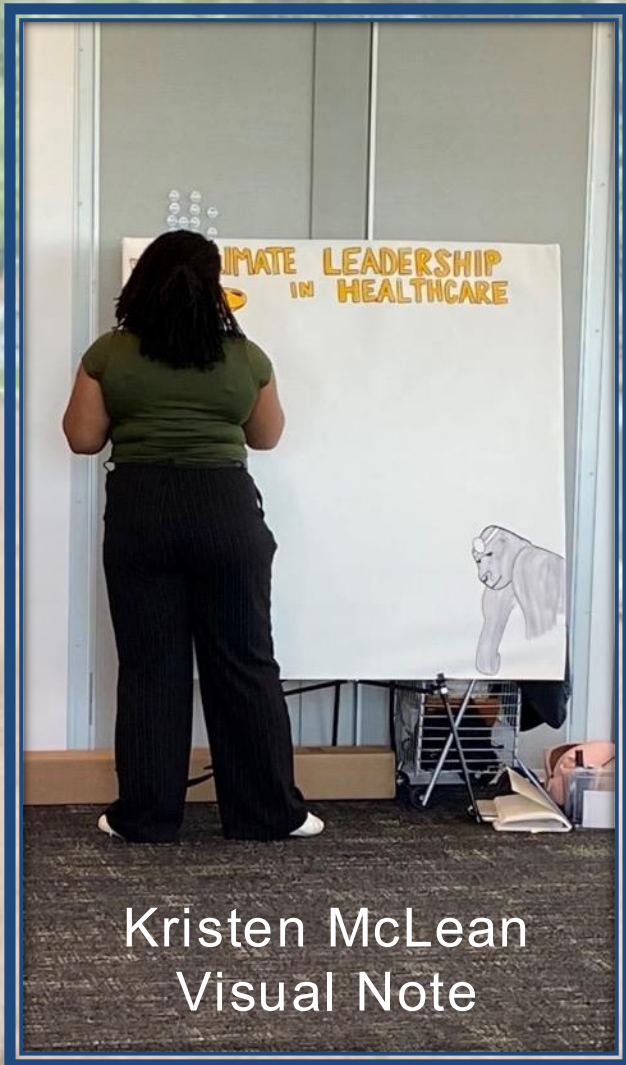
# Healthcare: Dr. Hardeep Singh



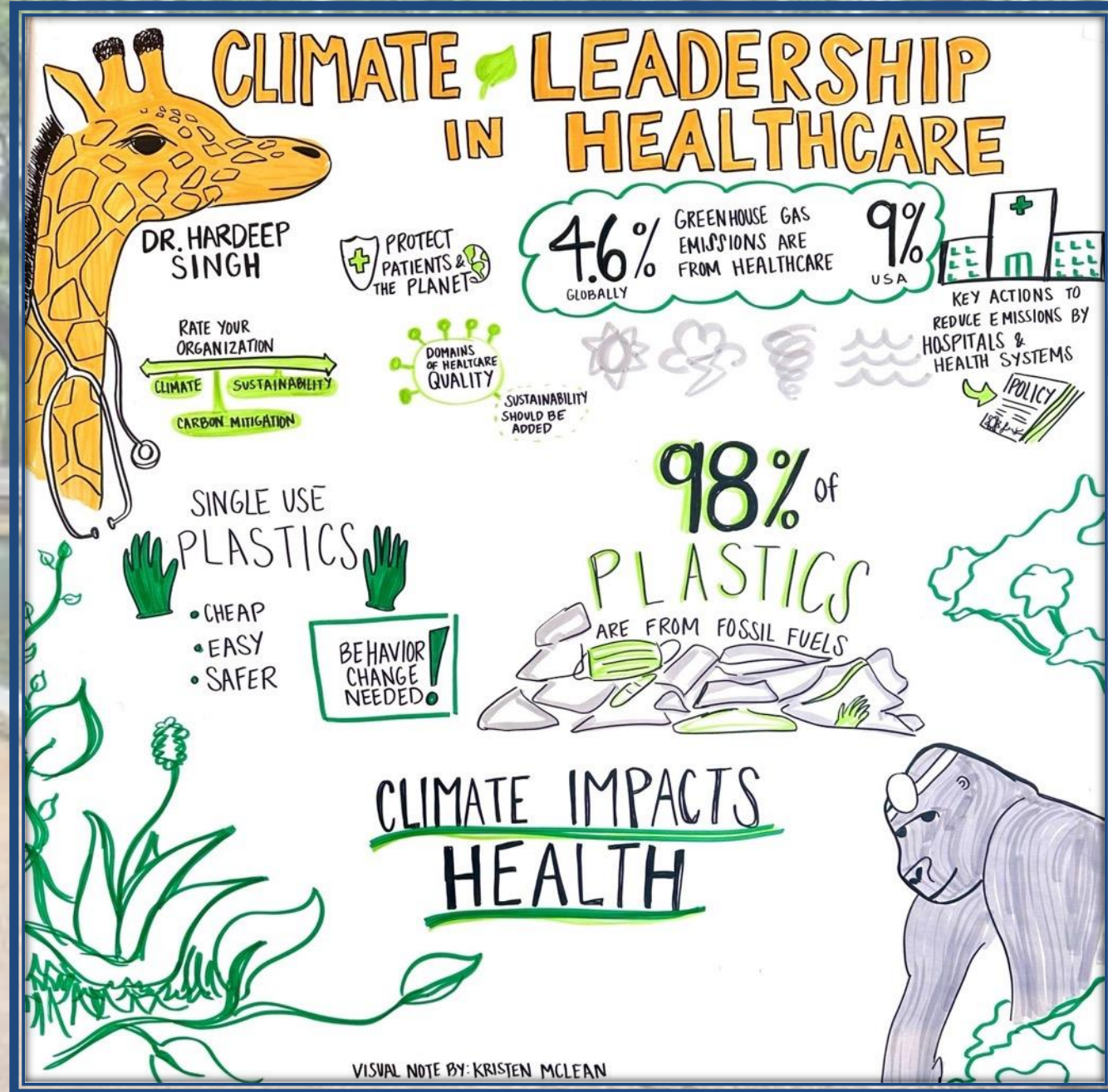




# Healthcare: Dr. Hardeep Singh



Kristen McLean  
Visual Note







# Learning Journeys

## Making The Most Of Your Leadership Forum Experience

### Ranking Topics







# Learning Journeys Planning







# Learning Journeys Planning







# Day 6: Happy Hour

Hosted at The Marek Brothers head office with guest speakers Stan Marek & Linda Lorelle discussing the topic of immigration in Houston







# Day 7: Federal Reserve Bank of Houston

## Daron Peschel, Senior Vice President





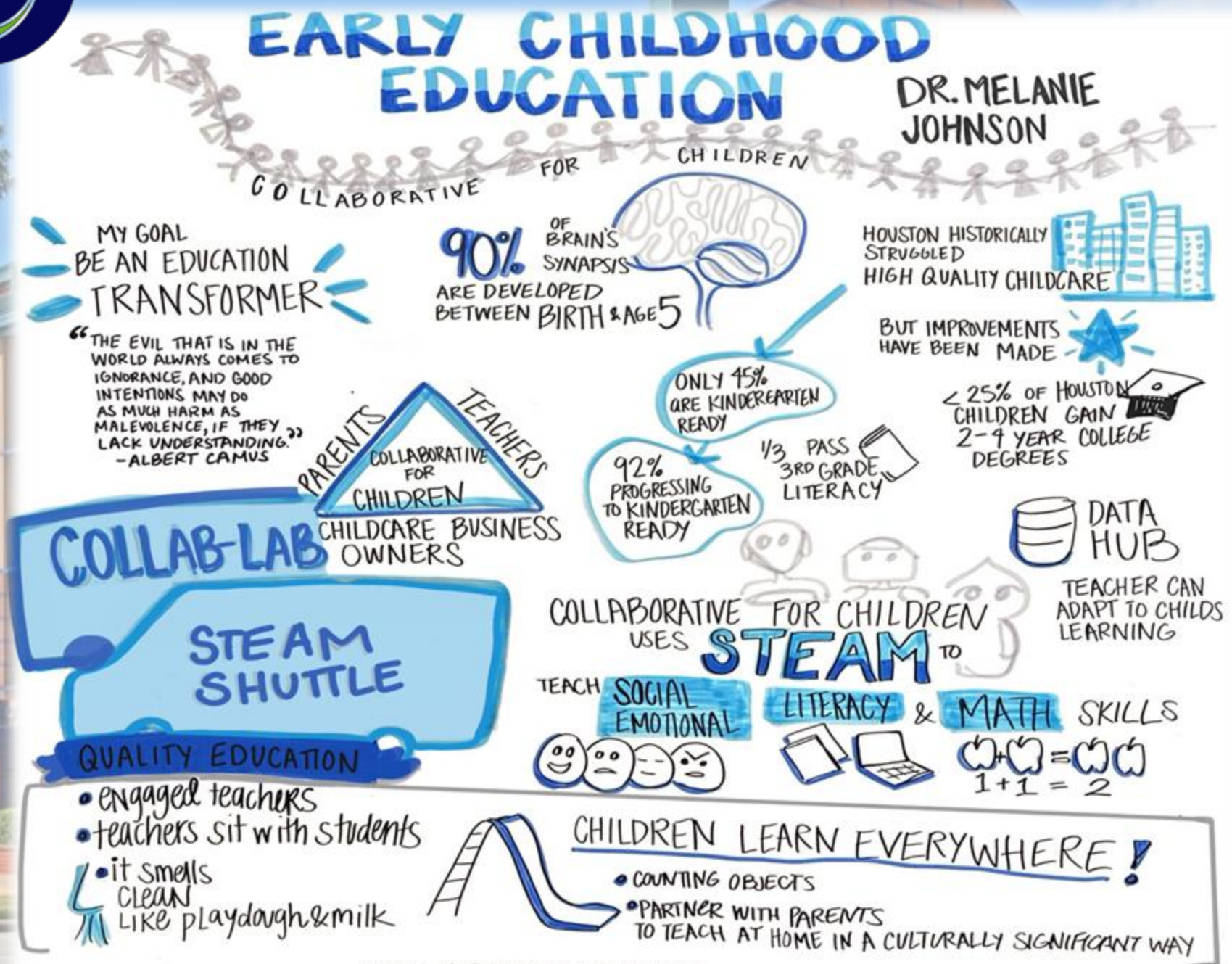


# Early Childhood Education: Dr. Melanie Johnson Collaborative for Children





# Early Childhood Education: Dr. Melanie Johnson







# Social Hour











# Education

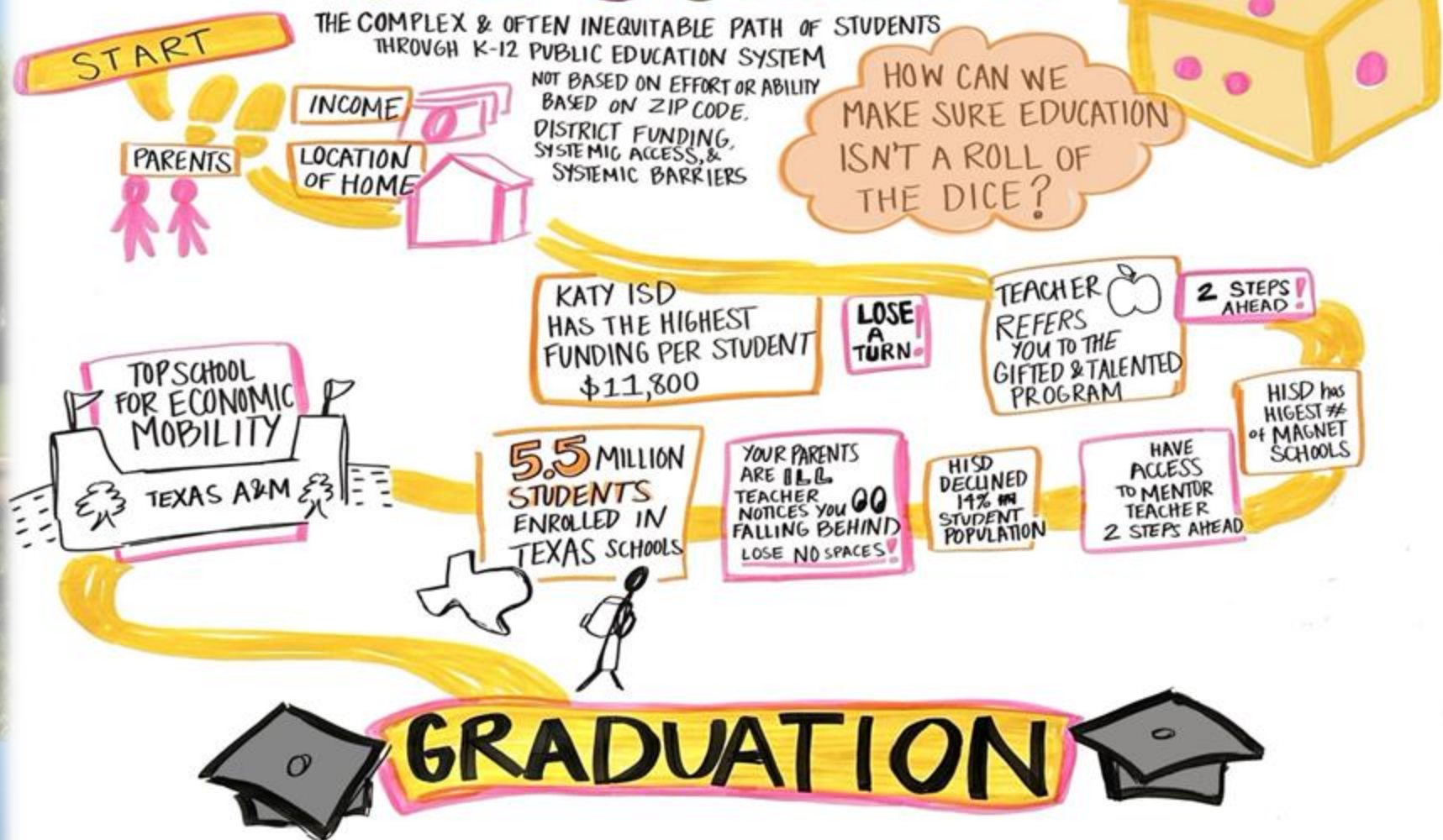






# Education

## LEARNING JOURNEY EDUCATION



SPRING 2025

VISUAL NOTE BY: KRISTEN MCLEAN

CENTER FOR HOUSTON'S FUTURE





# Learning Journey Presentations

# Urban Planning & Infrastructure







# Urban Planning & Infrastructure

## LEARNING JOURNEY:

# THE STATE OF TRANSPORTATION IN HOUSTON

TRANSPORTATION  
IS HOW WE

LIVE

CONNECT

ACCESS  
OPPORTUNITY

DEPENDENT ON BUS  
2-3 HOUR COMMUTE  
HOURLY WORKER

CLIMATE  
IS INSTEAD OF 55  
OZONE DAYS  
BY ADOPTING LIGHT RAIL

CLEANER  
CITY

STILL  
HUMID

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
DESIGNED  
WITH  
BY  
FOR

# HOUSTON



THINK OF  
THE RESIDENTS  
GENTRIFICATION  
CULTURAL DISPLACEMENT  
NOISE FROM CONSTRUCTION

HAVE YOU  
CONSIDERED  
HEALTH  
IMPACT

FIRST  
LAST  
MILE GAP

HOME — RAIL — FINAL  
RAIL — DESTINATION

COMMUNITY IS PART OF  
THE PLANNING

SIDEWALKS BIKES TRAILS

\$1.5 BILLION DOLLAR  
IMPACT WITH FIFA 2026

MAYOR  
CHOSE TO FOCUS  
ON IMPROVING EXISTING  
BUSES, BUS STOPS, & LIGHT RAIL

CONSULTANT TO MAKE  
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

GREEN CORRIDOR



SPRING 2025

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CENTER FOR HOUSTON'S FUTURE





# Learning Journey Presentations

## Economic Development







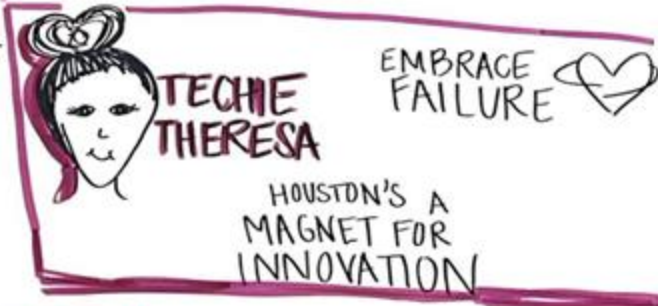
# Economic Development

## LEARNING JOURNEY:

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



IN WHAT WAYS CAN GREATER HOUSTON KEEP DRIVING INNOVATION FORWARD?



- HOUSTON'S INNOVATION FUTURE IS BRIGHT
- DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM FOCUS
- VISIONARY THINKING IS NEEDED
- CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION IS ESSENTIAL
- CREATING MORE PHYSICAL SPACES TO CONVEY INNOVATORS

VISUAL NOTE BY: KRISTEN MCLEAN





# Learning Journey Presentations

## Healthcare





## LEARNING JOURNEY: HEALTHCARE

HEALTHCARE IS A HUMAN RIGHT

HEALTHCARE NOT WEALTHCARE

DON'T JUST MEDICATE INNOVATE!

INSURERS

INCREASED FINANCIAL EXPOSURE  
TAXPAYERS & EMPLOYERS

VOTE NO!

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SHOULD WE EXPAND MEDICARE

HOUSTON HAS THE HIGHEST UNINSURED RATES IN TEXAS

AVAILABLE TO PARENTS UNDER 14% OF POVERTY LINE

1.2 MILLION PEOPLE IN HOUSTON AREA ARE UNINSURED

BARRIERS TO CARE  
- LANGUAGE  
- SOCIO ECONOMIC  
- STIGMA

HEALTHCARE  
MAKE SURE YOU MANAGE LABOR SHORTAGE

NATIONWIDE  
350:1  
PEOPLE MENTAL HEALTH WORKER

HOUSTON  
800:1  
PEOPLE MENTAL HEALTH WORKER

TEXAS WAS 1 OF 10 STATES THAT CHOSE NOT TO EXPAND MEDICARE

ASSISTED LIVING  
LEVEL 1  
LEVEL 2  
LEVEL 3  
INCREASED COST OF CARE

HOW CAN A SENIOR AFFORD THIS?

PARENTS CARETAKERS CHILDREN  
SANDWICH GENERATION

VOTE YES!

5 YEAR WAIT TO APPLY  
IMMIGRANT POPULATION

PUBLIC CHARGE RULE

VOTE YES!

IF DEPENDANT ON GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

DENIED PERMANENT RESIDENCY



MATERNAL HEALTH

ACCESS & EQUITY IN HEALTHCARE

7 MINUTE APPOINTMENTS

VS 20 MINUTE APPOINTMENTS FOR PRIVATELY INSURED

BLACK WOMEN 25% MORE LIKELY TO HAVE C-SECTIONS

QUALITY OF CARE

VISUAL NOTE BY: KRISTEN MCLEAN





# Learning Journey Presentations

# Housing & Homelessness







# Housing & Homelessness

## LEARNING JOURNEY: HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS



CHF SPRING 2025

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# Day 8: Silver Eagle

Karen Martin, Assistant Controller



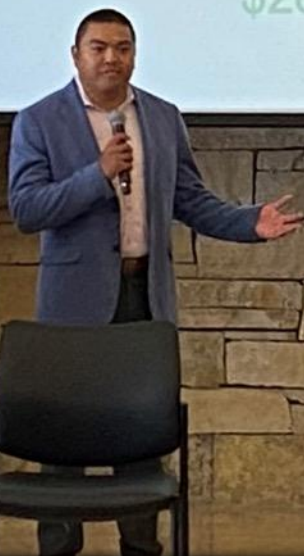


# Affordable Housing

Tamara Foster & Ron Lastimoso, New Hope Housing

## New Hope By The Numbers

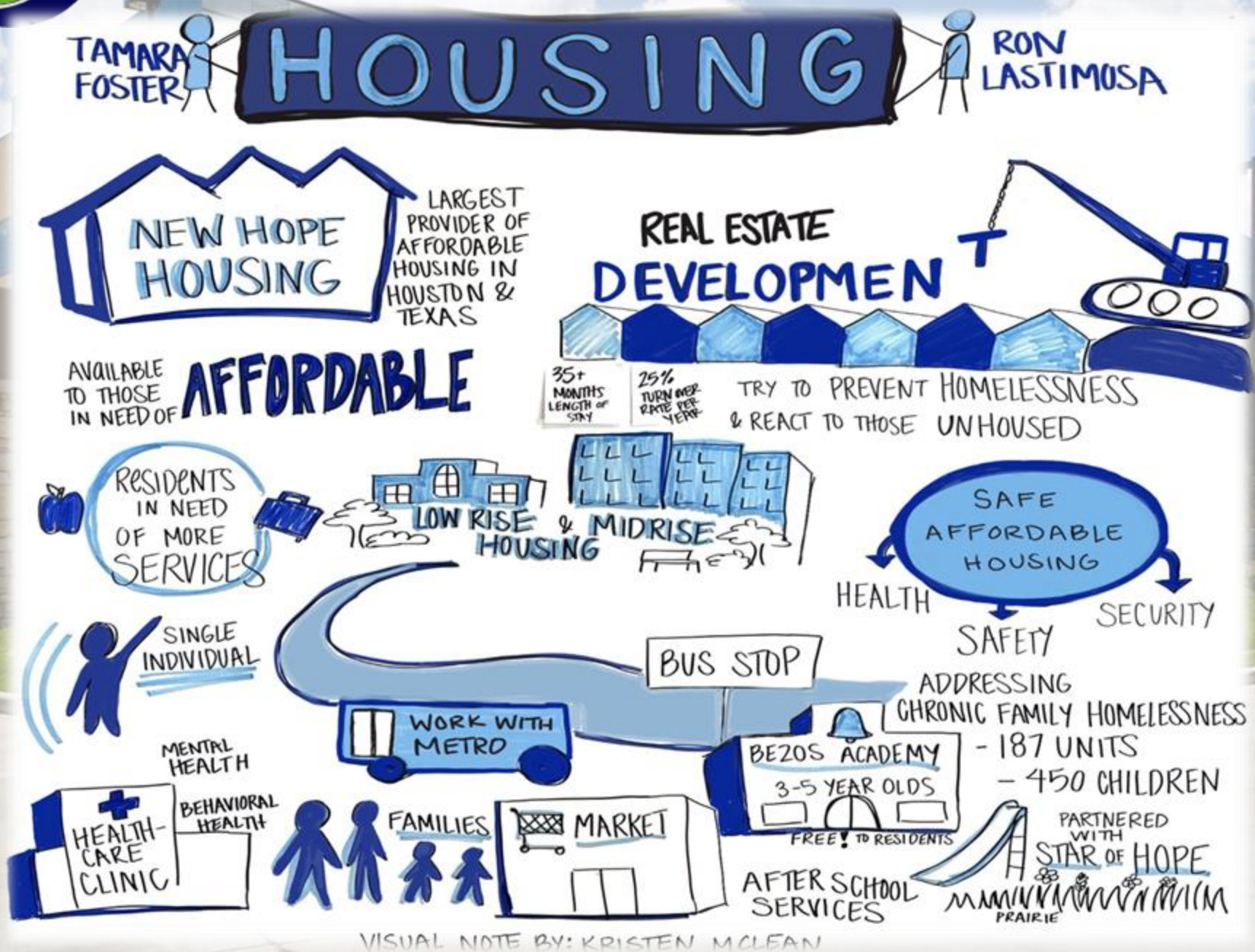
31	Years of service	520	Apartments under development
11	Properties	135	Employees
1,578	Apartments in operation	43	Robust service partners
4	Properties under construction	13K	Lives touched since inception
\$285 MM		Raised since inception	





# Tamara Foster & Ron Lastimosa

## New Hope Housing







# What's Next: Board Chair Acknowledgement

Cindy Yeilding, the Center's Board Chair acknowledged our participation in and completion of the Spring Leadership Forum which kicked off our final activity, graduation.







# Graduation







# Graduation







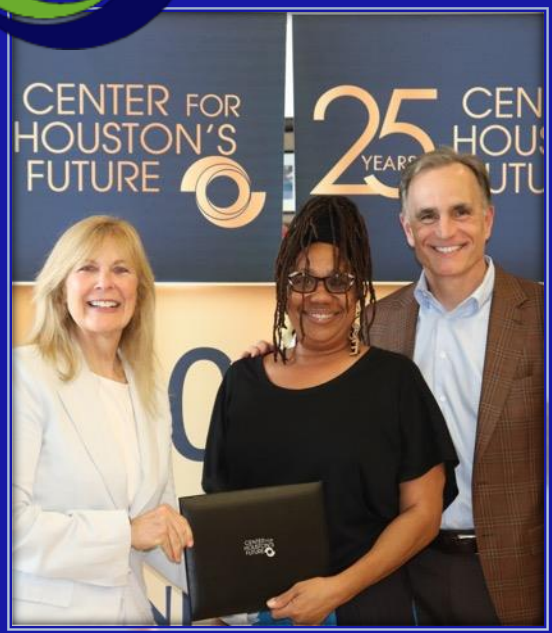
# Graduation







# Graduation







# Graduation







# Graduation







# Congratulations CHF Class of 2025



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