THANK YOU!!!

Over the past few months, the Devereux campuses have transformed in response to COVID-19. All of our work has centered on keeping our clients and staff safe and healthy amidst this global pandemic. This caused our needs to change drastically, primarily the need for PPE. Our local community has stepped up and shown incredible generosity during the last few months. We are grateful to everyone who has provided support.

Thousand of masks have been tediously sewn and donated to our campuses by big-hearted groups and individuals, including Masks for Heros, Lakeview Quilters Guild, The Sparkly Elephant, Tammy Schaefr-Elkins with Seaux Cajun, May-hem Masks, MakeMasks, Txm95covers, T-Shirt Trends, Paul Ta at Sheer Perfection Fabrics & Upholstery, and so many more volunteers.

We are sincerely appreciative of the hard work of our sewing heroes as they keep our Devereux family safe and healthy. Words cannot express our gratitude!

Thank you.
Thank you. Thank you!

#DevereuxTexasStrong
Fun Times & New Activities Throughout Social Distancing

Clients on both the League City and Victoria campuses have been practicing social distancing, but this hasn’t stopped them from enjoying all sorts of fun activities! Devereux staff members have gone above and beyond in developing new, creative ways for clients to spend their days.

Fire Department Parade

The Raisin Volunteer Fire Department and Nursery Volunteer Fire Department made an exciting parade pass through our Victoria campus. We thank them for encouraging the value of the community and bringing smiles to the faces of our clients!

Kindness Through the Window

Students at Devereux Texas’ Victoria campus spread kindness by spelling out “Muchas Gracias” (Thanks A Lot) in rainbow-colored letters, and posting them on the center’s cafeteria windows for all essential employees to see.

Devereux Victoria teacher, Lina Kruger, organized the art project to teach students about the power of kindness and compassion.

“Out our students are aware of how the pandemic has impacted all of us – they see team members wearing face masks and frequently cleaning and sanitizing surfaces,” Kruger said. “To show support for our front-line staff, we decided to post ‘Muchas Gracias’ on our cafeteria windows to show gratitude and appreciation for our multicultural staff – and to bring smiles to the faces of everyone who passes by. This was a fun and empowering project for our students. They learned they can make a positive difference in people’s lives just by spreading a little kindness.”

YOUR mental health is important.

We know it’s been a rough few months for all - we encourage you to take some time and reflect on how YOU are doing. Public health emergencies like COVID-19 can be challenging for families and communities coping with social distancing, financial hardships, and the fear of the unknown.

If stress becomes too intense, it can negatively impact your overall health and well-being. “Finding healthy and positive ways to cope with this new normal can help strengthen your resilience,” Graham explained. “While we may be experiencing difficult days right now, remember, we will all get through this – together.”

More tools and resources are available on our website Devereux.org.

Victoria’s Adult Vocational Program Shines!

When Victoria’s community restaurants had to close, they changed their operations to offer drive-through pick up. This change continued to provide work for our residential adult clients, allowing us to keep the program in full operation while social distancing. We were able to make customized pic pacs (plastic fork, knife, spoon, and napkin bundles) to fit their drive-through needs. During the months of March, April and May we produced 46,450 pic pacs, compared to last year’s production of a little more than 200 during the same time frame.

Vocational Manager, Paula Dixon, is proud to say, “Despite all the changes we have seen in the past few months, the dedication within the Victoria Vocational Program continues to shine. We are grateful to Mumphord’s Place Restaurant, Ventura’s Tamales, and Uncle Mutt’s Bar-B-Q for their support of our program.” Thank you!

Sidewalk Chalk Art

Our incredibly talented League City art teacher, Beverly Balshaw, helped clients design their very own sidewalk chalk creations. Check out some of these amazing designs - there are even more on our Facebook page!

If you are looking for ways to impact youth and teens in a positive way, then look no further. Call Michelle Gardner today at 281-335-1000 to join the Friends of Devereux.

Thank you to all of the Friends of Devereux for helping to make Devereux their home away from home!

FRIENDS OF DEVEREUX

The Friends of Devereux are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to return to the League City campus once the COVID-19 visitation protocols are eased. Several committees have continued their activities while away from the kids, including birthday bash, all-star Friday, and the annual Friend’s Closet. We have also had hundreds of masks sewn and donated from the Friends to our League City campus for the employees and residents.

The Friends of Devereux strive to make kids in our care feel at home through many special activities around campus throughout the year, including holiday stockings, spiritual services, and monthly fun night events with activities such as bingo, petting zoos and build your own ice cream sundae.

Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Senior Vice President and Chief Clinical/Medical Officer Yolanda Graham, MD, knows that recognizing how you are feeling can help you manage your emotions. “There has never been a more important time to check in on yourself, and take note of your thoughts, emotions, and behaviors,” she said. “Remember, it is OK to feel upset, sad, or anxious. Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. Given the current circumstances, it is not usual to feel happy one moment and sad and overwhelmed the next, but you do not have to suffer in silence – help is available.”
Incredible Play Spaces

KaBoom! donated FOUR Imagination Play Stations to the Victoria children's program. KaBoom! works nationally to build incredible play spaces that give every kid the chance to thrive. The Imagination Play Station is a mobile block-based system that will inspire active, creative play.

Shipment of Life-Saving PPE

We are sincerely grateful to Direct Relief for accepting our request for a donation of personal protective equipment (PPE). Their donation of $4,525 worth of life-saving PPE is helping equip our team with life-saving medical resources to care for some of our community's most vulnerable individuals.

Gratitude to Our Resilient, Dedicated Staff

Our essential staff have been on campus every day, diligently supporting those in our care.

We are grateful for everything they are doing to help keep the routines for our children, adolescents, and adults as normal as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Several of our League City direct care staff members shared their insight regarding the services they are providing during this time.

“I’m thankful for my chosen paths in nursing and education. I believe in empowering through education. In times of chaos and confusion, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, it’s easy to become overwhelmed and fearful. Just remember the basics: hygiene, avoid touching face with unwashed hands; love, keep in contact with family and friends; and laughter, it helps rejuvenate the soul. My goal is to share my peace with others, in times of need, for better mental health for all.” Sandra Field, RN

“COVID-19 has affected me in the way I am able to deliver instruction and monitor student progress. During this pandemic, my teaching style and approach have been tested; however, it has necessitated a review of my teaching strategies and ultimately pushed me out of my comfort zone to explore new and interesting ways to diversify my instruction.” Paul Friery, Special Education Teacher

“COVID-19 has taken away my favorite part of teaching, which is interacting with the kids and being able to look in their eyes and SEE when that “light bulb” goes on when they finally grasp a new concept. I’m trying to rise to the challenge by providing them with challenging daily work, while also providing work that will help them build-up to the challenge.” Paul "Tony" Guillory, Special Education Teacher.

2019 Thomas Donovan Culture of Caring Award Recipient

Laurie Solomon, Devereux League City employee, was presented with Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health’s 2019 Thomas Donovan Culture of Caring Award. The award is presented to team members across the organization who provide the highest quality and most compassionate care and service to children, adolescents, and adults living with emotional, behavioral, and cognitive differences.

Thank You!

Dear Devereux Staff,

I am so grateful for the staff of Devereux Texas - not only for their bravery and dedication to the students during this pandemic, but also for the help given to my son while he was a client there. Even then, the staff of Devereux showed their strength, endurance, and dedication to their students. My son was a client at League City during Hurricane Harvey.

Even then, I knew that Devereux staff were giving their all to the clients while their own homes were at risk. But, the strength and stability they showed the kids during that traumatic time paid off; my son came out stronger and whenever things seem hard we remind him, "you survived a hurricane, you can get through this!"

So, to all the nurses, teachers, therapists, doctors, and employees of Devereux I want to remind you, "you will survive COVID-19, you will come out stronger, and more importantly the young lives and minds entrusted to your care will learn how to get through anything life throws at them because of you!"

Thank you for all that you do. Stay healthy and safe and strong!

With Gratitude, Joi, Client Family Member

Dear Devereux Staff,

You are SO appreciated for your dedication to caring for our special friends, particularly in this time of isolation and stress. My very loved special friend is Bekah Ryan.

Give her a hug for me.

Gratefully, Terri, Client Family Member

Devereux Texas Staff,

On behalf of the Devereux Texas Advisory Board, I want to say Thank You, Thank You, Thank You. Your dedication to the clients and to the Devereux mission in this trying time is inspiring to us all. We are well aware of the difficulties you are facing and your commitment to overcoming them. We applaud your efforts and stand ready to help wherever we can from making masks to fundraising and networking on your behalf.

Your work now is so reminiscent of the Hurricane Harvey event. You never cease to amaze with your endless energy.

The Devereux clients are very lucky to have you on their side! Again, thank you and know we are with you in mind and spirit, if not in person.

From the Texas Advisory Board

Bob Reeves, Chairman
Misty Khan, Vice Chairman
Stu Hanks, Secretary
Phillip Barker, Erik Carrington, Aliza Fan Dutt, Gloria Greene, Sheila Hardy, Cory LeBouf, Pamela O’Brien, Misti Pace-Krahl, Nancy Richards, Geoff Seaman, Jennifer Steil, Kristi Trevino

Please Support Our Recreational Supply Campaign!

Many of our families, caregivers, and friends have reached out, asking how they can help during this uncertain time. We are so appreciative of your concern and generosity!

Across our programs, Devereux’s very own #HealthcareHeroes continue to find fun, positive, and meaningful ways to engage the individuals in our care as we spend time indoors and on campus. If you are able to help, your donation will help provide activities, games, and other recreation-related activities so we can continue to stay safe while having fun!

There are TWO easy ways to support our Recreational Supply Campaign!

1. Amazon Smile Charity Wish List

Visit this webpage HERE OR check our Facebook page posts for the link. Please include a gift receipt so we can thank you for your gift!

2. Make a Donation to the Campaign

Visit this webpage HERE OR Text Devereux87 to 71777 OR check our Facebook page for the link.

Any amount helps, large or small. Thank you for your support! #DevereuxTexasStrong
SAVE THE DATES!

18TH ANNUAL DIVOTS FOR DEVEREUX GOLF CLASSIC

A ROUND OF GOLF FOR A WORTHY CAUSE
18th Annual Divots for Devereux Golf Classic

Monday, October 5, 2020
Wildcat Golf Club | Houston, Texas
Registration 10:30 a.m. | Noon Tee Time
Gear up and take to the green for a fun-filled style tournament benefits the Devereux School and scholarship program.

divotsfordevereux.org

Devereux Texas would like to thank the following individuals, organizations and businesses that made donations between January 1, 2020, and June 30, 2020. We greatly appreciate your continued support.

Mrs. Bobbye Aiken
Ms. Dana Allw
Loreen Akamine
Mrs. Missy Albright
AMOCO Federal Credit Union
Ms. Tiina Anttila
Awards Of Distinction
Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Bailey
Mr. Robert Ballard
Ms. Trish Barnett
Ms. Lori Bedrich
Mrs. Andrea Bell
Ms. Anne Berriman
Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Bailey
Mr. David Brandt
Buffalo Bayou Partnership
Ms. Mary Burdy
Ms. Jessica Caceres
Mr. David Carey
Ms. Sherry Cecil Cemtek
Ms. Susan Cermin
Mr. Quentin Chavis, Jr.
Checkmate Robotics
CoCo Crepes
Ms. Lucy Decke
Dental Etc.
Design by Donation
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Ms. Libby Dwyer
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Mr. Brad Fahnert
Five Below
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Ms. Sherry Garcia
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Gardner
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Glick
Ms. Nanette Goff
Mr. Jackson Gorman
Ms. Loryanye Goathard
Ms. Lori Grosse
Gulf Coast Welding Corporation
Jennifer Haley
Captain Jon Halvorsen and Mrs. Pamela O’Brien
Hancock Whitney Bank
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Ms. Robin Hargrove
Health Museum Houston
Ms. Paige Helms
Mrs. Jacquelyn Hibbler
Houston Zoo
Mrs. Christie Huvar
Ms. Valerie Jaffert
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Janis
La Tanya and Philip Johnson
Mr. Patrick Johnson
Ms. Mary Kahlich
Ms. Martha Kaminsky
Ms. Misty Khan
Kids’ Dreams Matter, Inc
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Koester
Kroger
Ms. Rachel Krowspan
Mrs. Heather Krueger
Lakeview Quilters Guild
Ms. Cari Laza
League City Elite Dentistry
Ms. Rachel Littleton
Mr. and Mrs. Donovan Loest
Ms. Paula Lopez
Ms. Cindy Lovelace
Ms. Mary Ann Mallini
Martha and Sheri Mathis
Matilda Jane Clothing
Ms. Carolyn McCormick
Ms. Mandy McKenzie
Ms. Letha Meier
Mrs. Melissa Miles and Mr. Carlos Gonzales
Mr. Joe Miller
Ms. Penny Milner
Ms. Stephanie Moore
Dr. and Mrs. Mike Morris
Dr. Beverly Newhouse
Niko Niko’s
Mr. and Mrs. Lyndel Norwood
Mr. Brad Nyberg and Ms. Anne B. Loo
Pamela Hope Designs
Panera Bread
Parkview Church of Christ
Ms. Laura Penrod
Perini Memorial Foundation, Inc
Perry’s grille & Steakhouse
Mr. Falon Porter
Ms. Valerie Purcell
Quilters Guild of Victoria
Mr. and Mrs. John Randolph
Ms. Karen Raven
Noor Razvi
Mrs. Yvonne Redden
Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Richards
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Mr. and Mrs. Mike Whelta
Ms. Susan Whigham
Mr. and Mrs. Susan Whigham
Mr. and Mrs. Yvonne Whiteleather
Ms. Kimberly Windham
Mrs. Janelle Wray

“if it weren’t for Devereux, I wouldn’t be here right now.” – Eric, former client