Changing the way the world thinks about adults with disabilities
Dear Brookwood friends,

Securing the future of Brookwood by ensuring our principles and core values continue for generations to come is the number one priority we face as an organization. I took some time away for the sole purpose of spending time with God, listening for His “still, small voice” to continue to guide me on this journey.

I remembered what Al Weiss, the former COO of Disney, shared with me several years ago when I asked, “How is Disney still ‘Disney’ so many years after Walt Disney has been gone?” Without hesitation he said, “Define what you stand for, talk it, live it, say it again and again, mentor it, keep doing that every chance you get, and never stop! That will keep ‘it’ alive.”

We define Brookwood’s GOD RICH Core Values as Grace, Opportunity, Dignity, Respect, Interdependence, Continual improvement, and Honesty. We strive to have an intentional focus on living these values every day.

Brookwood Community Members and Citizens believe in the “Declaration of INTERDEPENDENCE.” In special education, the focus for educators is to teach those with disabilities to become ‘independent.’ I have always struggled deeply with that concept, because believing you are “independent” could be a very lonely and secluded life.

I am, however, deeply grateful for our nation’s Founding Fathers, whose dependence on God led them to recognize we needed to be an independent nation, but also to believe all life is dependent on another life. Interdependence leads to harmony among people because no one feels left out or abandoned.

With Citizens as our mentors, everyone at Brookwood supports and lifts others up every day, not just in a time of great need. Brookwood is dependent on being interdependent on each other, our volunteers, customers, and donors. Join us as we celebrate the Declaration of Interdependence!

Blessed,

VIVIAN SHUDDE | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Dreams really do come true! Temple Grandin, Ph.D., Colorado State University professor of animal sciences and renowned animal behaviorist and autism activist, recently visited Brookwood. As a world-renowned US scientist and a person with autism, it was an honor to host her and see our community through her eyes. She toured the entire campus and provided expert advice on LED lighting as well as the creation of a new type of rubber mold for our Stone Cast Enterprise.

She stressed how important it was for Brookwood to continue to provide purpose through real work. She was also complimentary of the level of physical activity available on campus. Special thank you to Jim “Mattress Mac” McIngvale for connecting us with one of our heroes!

We are so happy to provide office space for Shawn Koonce, Joni & Friends new director who is heading up their Houston area headquarters. Brookwood is partnering with Joni & Friends to provide wheelchairs to be distributed to others in need throughout the world!

Seven wheelchairs were given to Joni & Friends to be repaired at Huntsville Prison System by men wanting to serve God. This is truly wonderful project for our Citizens. These old wheelchairs would have been thrown away but are used for fun activities such as wheelchair basketball games having youth volunteers play in wheelchairs vs. our Roller Team. Thank you to Bob, Meade, Janice, Jeff, Stacey, and Work Teacher Adrianna for presenting the wheelchairs to Joni & Friends. We hope to have wheelchair races and other events to collect used wheelchairs and raise money for this worthy cause.
We are excited to announce that the two new Citizen homes are finished and licensed. Following the severe impact that Winter Storm Uri had on the older homes, a decision was made to use these two new homes as temporary residences for current Citizens while major renovations are made to the older homes. This will delay bringing new residential Citizens to the community, but it allows Citizens to have comfortable and safe living arrangements while their homes are being remodeled. Renovations are underway for the Derek and Meadows homes.

Rosenthal Home

Tucker Home

Handcrafts Building Being Remodeled

Renovations to the Mabee-Cain Crafts Building are now underway. The remodeled building will be named the Martha and Mary Munz Community Life Center and will provide a place for fun, fitness and fellowship. The hub of the building will include a snack bar, game area, and individual sensory pods for listening to music, reading or relaxing.

Fitness classes such as dance, yoga, Pilates, indoor cycling and strength training will take place in the Charlie Stubbs Fitness and Wellbeing Studio. The Fine Arts Center will be a practice area for the handbells and other creative arts activities such as choir and drama, and will be named for Linda McKechnie, the founder of our handbell ensemble.

Our new GOD RICH Studio will promote activities that center around our core values and offer a quiet space when needed. The Community Life Center is a dream come true for our Citizens.

A Miracle Story

“It was the greatest miracle in my life,” said Keith Calfee when asked about getting a Brookwood scholarship for his son Chanse. Keith learned about Brookwood seven years ago when his sister went on a tour with her church.

He has been a single parent since his wife passed away 35 years ago when Chanse was just 14 years old. Chanse lived in a facility for 28 years but came home to live with his father seven years ago. The two struggled through the years together as Keith tried to find a long-term solution where Chanse would be comfortable and happy.

Chanse’s exuberant energy made it difficult for Keith to do his work in the real estate business or just get through the day. Keith would never know what kind of day they would be facing together. Outings to Galveston, the Galleria, and the local park were the best strategy to maintaining quality of life for both of them.

With financial planning and scholarship assistance, Chanse is now a Residential Citizen at Brookwood. His energy is beneficial to his work in Horticulture. Keith cherishes a photo of Chanse getting his first paycheck. “That picture shows you the innocence of Chanse. He didn’t know if he was getting $2 or $2 million, but it was something he had never gotten in his whole life.”

If you would like to help Citizens like Chanse have the opportunity for a life of purpose and meaning at Brookwood, please consider donating to Brookwood’s Scholarship Fund.

Please visit our website at Brookwoodcommunity.org/donate and designate Scholarship in the dropdown menu.
Second Baptist / Texon 5k Food Drive Walk

In April, volunteers from Second Baptist Church and Texon LP participated with Citizens in a 5K Food Drive Walk. This was part of Second Baptist’s Serve Houston 2022 event. The day was filled with music, food and fun, and each participant received a t-shirt and a medal. More than $750 was raised for Citizens to buy food items for the United Way food pantry right here in Brookshire.

Here’s the scoop...

Citizen Austin is famous! Austin’s photo is on the carton of the Strawberry Cheesecake flavor of Howdy Homemade ice cream. Greg got the last carton before it was sold out on the first day at H-E-B!

Bloom Fitness Yoga Day

Bloom Fitness is partnering with Brookwood to lead Citizens to a lifetime of health and wellness. Dance and strength classes began in March and take place every Tuesday and Thursday. Heidi Farmer, Brookwood’s Integrated Nutritionist, and member of the Citizen Life Team, is working with students from the University of Houston at Clear Lake to study the physical, mental, and emotional effects of this program on our Citizens. Diane P. said, “Working out makes the rest of my day great!” If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Bloom Fitness classes, contact Tawana Goodwin at 281-375-2014.

Café Hosts Rodeo Fashion Show

Over 100 people attended the 2022 Rodeo Fashion Show to see fashions modeled by Brookwood Citizens and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo staff and committee members. Many thanks to our special guests representing HLSR committees. We appreciate your support!
FALL FEST

Brookwood’s Annual Fall Fest is quickly approaching! Spread the word and join us for three full days of fun-filled shopping and dining with purpose. This year’s festival is Thursday-Saturday, September 8 - 10, 9am to 4:30pm. The Gift and Garden Center will be decked out in fall colors and merchandise, not to mention gorgeous Brookwood Citizen-grown plants, along with dozens of local vendors with seasonal product galore. The Café will have a special buffet lunch from 11am to 2pm each day, and in case you hadn’t heard, the Citizens are back working in the Café – they would love to see you!

New at the Store

Metal Art and Jewelry from Haiti

A chance meeting turned in to a new product line for Brookwood’s Gift and Garden Center. Vivian Shudde attended the Young Life conference in January and met the director of Young Life Haiti. Haitian artisans make metal art to raise money not only for themselves but for Young Life Ministries. Brookwood will now partner with this ministry and sell these wonderful hand-crafted metal works. Come out soon to get one (or more) for your home.

Horticulture

Lunch & Learn Series

River Oaks Garden Club continues their support for the 2022-23 Horticulture Education Series. ROGC’s donation sponsors ten Lunch and Learn events at the Brookwood Café. Topics include Gulf Coast Gardening with Randy Lemmon of GardenLine, Container Gardening, and Succulent Pumpkin Centerpieces.

For more information, visit the Brookwood Events at brookwoodcommunity.org/events.

BROOKWOOD TOURS

Come and experience the beauty and spirit of God’s presence on the Brookwood campus and see how Brookwood is changing the way the world thinks about adults with disabilities... one tour group at a time! Holiday season tours will fill up quickly! Make your reservations soon to ensure we can accommodate your preferred date. For more information, please contact Joanne Clark at 281-375-2100 or receptionist@brookwoodcommunity.org or visit our website at brookwoodcommunity.org/tours.
Brookwood’s Biennial “Inspiring Purpose” Benefit Lunch was held in April at the Hilton-Americas hotel. Co-chairs Patty and Richard Hoban and Pastor Ryan and Lana Rush of Kingsland Baptist Church, and Honorary Chair Citizen Meade Greer helped to raise more than $1 million for the Brookwood Community!

The Grand Ballroom at the Hilton-Americas was beautifully decorated with pink and purple hydrangeas and other plants grown by Brookwood Citizens. H-E-B sponsored the Citizen-made ornaments that guests received as a memento of the event.

Deborah Duncan, host of Great Day Houston and a member of the Brookwood Advisory Board, served as MC, and Jim “Mattress Mack” McIngvale received the inaugural Victoria Lee Streit Inspiration Award.

Brookwood’s Handbell Ensemble directed by Diana Montgomery entertained the crowd of 750 guests, Joni Eareckson Tada shared an inspirational message via video, and a “best-bid” auction of Citizen Austin Hanson’s painting entitled Heartstrings raised $50,000 for financial assistance for Brookwood Citizens. Many thanks to everyone who donated to and participated in this event!

The Brookwood Story, a full-length documentary that captures the daily lives of the Citizens is taking shape. Filming wrapped up in July and Chispa House will weave together the story to bring the film to life.

Save the date for the Evening at the Theater Red Carpet film premiere event to be held Thursday, January 26 at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts in Houston. Adding to the excitement, Ryan Bingham, American singer, songwriter, guitarist and actor, will be the headliner performer. Known for his role as Walker in Yellowstone, he also won an Academy Award for Best Song in 2010 for Weary Kind, the title song from the movie Crazy Heart.

Further announcements are coming soon! Sign up for updates on the film and the premiere via the blog by Chispa House at chispahouse.com/purpose-project.
The 2022 I Believe in Brookwood Campaign launches September 1 and runs through December 31, to support Brookwood’s operating expenses. Over 80 Citizen teams will participate this year in our annual fundraising campaign. Additional teams are welcome! To learn more, contact us at 281-375-2220 or believe@brookwoodcommunity.org. Make your donation at brookwoodcommunity.org/believe.

Bike to the Beach will take place on Saturday, October 15 at Surfside. This year, 30 Citizens will ride 6, 12 or 20 miles to raise money for Autism and disAbilities Awareness. The Citizens and their riding partners have set a goal to raise $60,000 this year! More volunteers are needed to partner with every Citizen. For information, contact Tawana Goodwin at 281-375-2114 or Greg Glauser at 281-375-2202 or go to brookwoodb2b.org to support their efforts!

Brookwood Interdependence Team:

- Gayle Baker
- Davis Bankston
- Robert Baugh
- Scott Baxmann
- Josh Bixenman
- Jay Blay
- Susan Brinkman
- Buddy Cole
- Kendall Cutrer
- Tim Dorriety
- Caroline Gorman
- Meade Greer
- Thomas Henderson
- Vicki Husfeld
- Melissa Jaekle
- Michele Jardine
- Andrew Keith
- Janice King
- Kurt Larson
- Jeff Lawler
- Chris McClung
- Stuart McTaggart
- Tyler Minter
- Kim Morrow
- Stacey Perna
- Diane Phillips
- Max Reichek
- Vicki Sharp
- Wilson Shudde
- Kim Sneed

Jeff is excited to ride his new handcrank bike donated by Handlebar Cycling Club. Last year he covered six miles, and this year is preparing to double that!

Brookwood Hometown Heroes at the Astros

A BIG thank you to AmegyBank, Astros Foundation, and our Fans that voted Brookwood Community the August’s Hometown Heroes! Brookwood Citizen Richard was presented a check for $5000 and got an official Astros Jersey representing all the Citizens/Heroes of our Community. Presenting the check were Astros’ Mascot, Orbit, AmegyBank’s Relationship Manager, Curtis B. Wiley, and Astros Foundation’s Executive Director, Paula Harris. The Hometown Heroes program celebrates organizations making a difference in the greater Houston area.

THANKS EVERYONE!
Bud and Nancy Simpson are faithful supporters and Visionary Society members. Bud is a retired human resources executive and helped Brookwood with staff training and leadership development and serves on Brookwood’s Board of Directors.

“Our story is pretty simple. We were introduced to Brookwood by our pastor many years ago. Since then, Nancy and I have grown to love Brookwood because of its mission and its dedicated staff. We see proof of Brookwood’s success in the happiness of the Citizens.

“When we selected charitable organizations to be beneficiaries in our estate plans, several factors were important to us: most importantly, a mission that we are passionate about and believe is part of God’s plan; a track record showing faithful adherence to their stated mission; and a track record demonstrating effective management and fiduciary responsibility. Brookwood is at the top in all those areas.”

Every family’s circumstances are different and estate planning should be a thoughtful and personal decision.

If you have included Brookwood in your estate plan or are interested knowing more about making a planned gift to Brookwood, contact Carol Thornburg, Chief Advancement Officer, at 281-375-2110.

Bud & Nancy Simpson
If you are looking for a way to help people and serve the Lord, then a career at Brookwood may be what you are seeking. We provide meaning and purpose for our Citizens, and in return they provide meaning and purpose for us. For more information, contact Emma Haymaker at 281-375-2104 or visit the website at brookwoodcommunity.org/careers.

“Texans Helping Texas” highlights the compassionate philanthropy and generous spirit that H-E-B provides to Brookwood, the greater Houston community, and throughout Texas. H-E-B has partnered with Brookwood to sell products such as our Mesibov salad dressing and 35,000 plants a year for 23 Austin and San Antonio stores. The Brookwood Bluebonnet art was featured on their canvas grocery bags. Their robust volunteer program led by store coordinators provides manpower for Brookwood projects such as planting poinsettias and pothos, working in the Café and ceramics, cleaning sidewalks and driveways, and creating patios for several Citizen residences. H-E-B hosted their first Volunteer Fair at Brookwood for 25 area nonprofits to recruit volunteers for summer projects. We are thankful to H-E-B for their wonderful partnership!

There are many ways for individuals, families, corporate groups and churches to make a difference. Please consider volunteering or organizing a group to help with the following:

**Volunteer at Brookwood**

- **Poinsettia Planting and Care**
  Horticulture needs your help! Our staff and a limited number of Citizens will plant over 50,000 poinsettias this year! For five weeks (July 27 - Sept. 23), ten volunteers are needed each day to help plant and care for this year’s crop.

- **Bless a Home**
  Organize a supply drive for paper products, cleaning supplies or craft items, or decorate for a holiday for one of our eight Citizen Homes.

- **Cheer Club**
  Adopt a Citizen or home to write cards or letters for Holidays, Birthdays or for a little cheer.

**AmazonSmile**

When shopping on Amazon, make sure you log into AmazonSmile first at smile.amazon.com, then select The Brookwood Community as your charity of choice. It’s the same as shopping on Amazon.com, only it will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Brookwood.

**Walmart’s Registry for Good Causes**

Check out Brookwood’s list at www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood. Type in Brookwood under Give to a Local Cause/Find a Cause in Your Community to find a list of much-needed campus supplies. The items ship directly to Brookwood.

**WISH LIST ITEMS**

Contact us at 281-375-2220 or advancement@brookwoodcommunity.org for current list of items. On behalf of all the Brookwood Citizens, thank you for your support!
I Believe In Brookwood Campaign
Sept. 1 – Dec. 31
Support Your Favorite Team!
Go to brookwoodcommunity.org/believe for details.

Brookwood’s Annual Fall Fest
Thursday - Saturday, Sept. 8 - 10 I 9am - 4:30pm
Brookwood Gift & Garden Center & Café
Enjoy Local Vendor Booths!
Café open with special buffet 11am - 2pm

Halloween & Thanksgiving Wreath Workshops
Saturday, Sept. 17 I 10am & 1pm
Brookwood Gift & Garden Center
Hosted by Mesh With It

Container Gardening Lunch & Learn
Friday, Sept. 30 | 10:30am & 12:30pm | Brookwood Café
Speaker Robert Grove, Brookwood Horticulture
Sponsored By River Oaks Garden Club

Katy Wine Fest
Friday, Oct. 7 | 7pm - 10pm
Palacio Maria Banquet Hall
Sponsored By Rotary Club Of Cinco Ranch

The Rustic Brush Sugar Land DIY Studio
Thursday, Oct. 13 | 11am - 2pm
Brookwood

80th Annual Bulb & Plant Mart
Thursday - Saturday, Oct. 13 - 15
The Church Of Saint John The Divine
Sponsored By The Garden Club Of Houston

Succulent Pumpkin Centerpiece Lunch & Learn
Friday - Saturday Oct. 14 - 15 | 4 sessions per day
Brookwood Café
Speaker Robert Grove, Brookwood Horticulture
Sponsored By River Oaks Garden Club

Bike To The Beach
Saturday, Oct. 15 | Surfside Beach
Go to brookwoodb2b.org for details.

Heart & Hands Holiday Market
Monday - Wednesday, Oct. 17 - 19
Memorial Drive United Methodist Church

The Holiday Shopping Card
Thursday - Sunday, Oct. 20 - 30
Sponsored By The American Cancer Society

Holiday Wreath Workshop
Saturday, Oct. 22 | 10am
Brookwood Gift & Garden Center
Hosted by Mesh With It

Sugar Plum Market
Wednesday - Saturday, Nov. 2 - 5 | Stafford Centre

Nutcracker Market
Wednesday - Sunday, Nov. 9 - 13 | NRG Center

The Woodlands Junior League Holiday Market
Thursday - Sunday, Nov. 17 - 20
The Woodlands Waterway Marriott

Trek Holiday Bike Ride
Sunday, Nov. 20 | 7am | Brookwood

Christmas Wreath Workshop
Saturday, Nov. 12 | 10am & 1pm
Brookwood Gift & Garden Center
Hosted by Mesh With It

River Oaks Country Club Holiday Gift Market
Sunday - Monday, Nov. 20 - 21
River Oaks Country Club (Members Only)

Brookwood’s Annual Ladies’ Night Out
Tuesday, Nov. 29 | 5pm - 8pm
Brookwood Gift & Garden Center

Houston Country Club Christmas Boutique
Tuesday - Wednesday, Nov. 29 - 30
Houston Country Club (Members Only)

Shop With a Purpose
Wednesday, Dec. 7
Kingsland Baptist Church

Brookwood’s Annual Christmas Open House
Friday - Saturday, Dec. 2 - 3 | 9am - 4:30pm
Brookwood Main Campus
Enjoy holiday shopping, Brookwood Handbell Ensemble and Citizen Play, campus tours, and lunch at the Café!

Pictures In the Poinsettias
Friday - Saturday, Dec. 2 - 3 | 10am - 2:30pm
Brookwood Horticulture
Capture the perfect family holiday photo!

Breakfast With Santa
Saturdays, Dec. 10 & 17 | 9am - 10:30am
Brookwood Café

Brookwood Film Premiere Event
Thursday, Jan. 26 | 5:30pm
Hobby Center
SHOP & DINE WITH A PURPOSE

BROOKWOOD GIFT & GARDEN CENTER  281-375-2149
1502 FM 1489  |  Brookshire, Texas 77423
OPEN Monday - Saturday  |  9 AM - 4:30 PM

BROOKWOOD GIFT & GARDEN CENTER  832-759-5077
at Gallery Furniture
7227 W. Grand Parkway  |  Richmond, Texas 77407
OPEN Thursday - Saturday  |  11 AM - 5 PM

BROOKWOOD CAFÉ  281-375-2400
1502 FM 1489  |  Brookshire, Texas 77423
OPEN Monday - Saturday  |  11 AM - 2 PM
Reservations recommended: Call or reserve online. To-go options available.

The Café is available for groups, private events, weddings, and off-site catering.
Email: catering@brookwoodcommunity.org to book your event.

Thank You!
All purchases at the retail stores and Café help to provide purpose in the lives of Citizens who live and work at Brookwood.

SHOP ONLINE
brookwoodstore.org
gift cards available

Connect with us
@brookwoodcommunity

EMAIL
info@brookwoodcommunity.org
#brookwoodcommunity

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