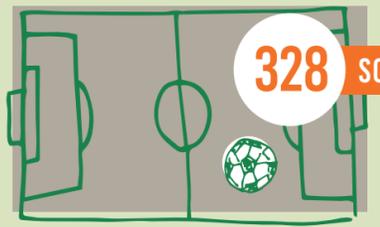
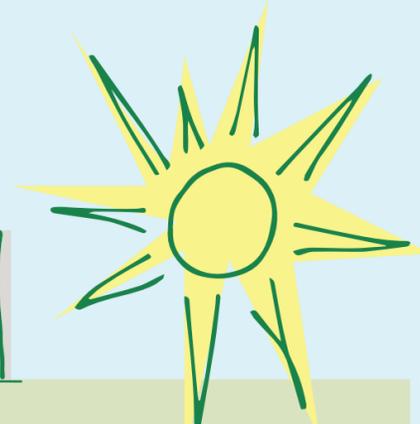
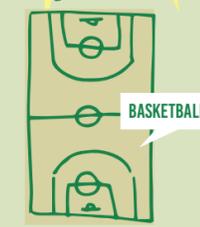


NUMBERS ON THE MAP REPRESENT THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED IN EACH PROGRAM



328 SOCCER



BASKETBALL COURT

276 SUMMER CAMPS



PRACTICE FIELD



BATTING CAGES

106 MENTORING



PAVILLION

MINISTRY 547



COMMUNITY CENTER

314 EDUCATION



ENTRANCE

ROMA STREET

## SPRINGSPIRIT BOARD

Carlos Abello  
Kenny Baldwin  
Melissa Baldwin  
Jeb Bartley  
Lance Berkman  
Keith Booke  
David Buck  
Steve Buckley  
Linda Castaneda  
David Cecil  
Gus Comiskey  
Kevin Comiskey  
Chad Covey  
Jeff Dietert  
Hill Dishman  
Bill Dore  
Gary Edwards  
Christina Feder  
Ed Fikse  
Terrence Gee  
Jay Graham  
Ira Green  
Mark Hamilton

Bill Herman  
Doug Hodo  
Howard House  
Eric Hudson  
Steve Kim  
Kelly Kimberly  
Peggy Kostial  
Dan Lang  
Mark Lange  
David Light  
Tommy Mann\*  
Jason Martinez  
Baker McAdams  
Mark McAdams  
Brooks McGee  
Stephen McNair  
Philip McRae  
John Meredith  
Jeff Miers  
David Milich  
David Miller  
Michelle Mouton  
Jeff Pennington

Mary Tere Perusquia  
Tony Pilegge  
David Pluchinsky  
Jon Prather  
Paul Primavera  
Michael Rudin  
Reid Ryan  
Steve Schwarzbach  
Steve Scott  
Aimee Snoots  
Laura Sorrell  
Richard Spitzer  
Steve Stephens  
Trey Strake  
Keith Stubbs  
Ken Theut  
Brian Thompson  
Beth Tilney  
Tim Tully  
Jesse Tutor  
Joe Walsh

\*In Memoriam

SPRINGSPIRIT

8526 Pitner Road, Houston, Texas 77080 | springspirit.org  
Tax ID # 80-1205223



SpringSpirit's Mission:  
TO PROVIDE SAFE PATHWAYS FOR YOUTH TO  
REALIZE LIFE OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH SPORTS,  
EDUCATION, AND MENTORING PROGRAMS  
BASED ON CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES.

SPRINGSPIRIT  
ANNUAL REPORT 2019

# MY COMMUNITY

is filled with friendships that turn into a family  
is families who struggle but still live life to its fullest  
is full of dogs that are the protectors of our streets  
has kids ready to play baseball and soccer and go to camps  
that are unforgettable  
has people who can pick us up  
has passion  
has great food like pupusas and tortas  
is as bright as the different personalities that walk  
through the SpringSpirit gates  
has kids who struggle but want to someday see themselves  
wearing that cap and gown  
is as powerful as my God's strength  
SpringSpirit mentors make my community, my community

Written by SpringSpirit middle and high school students during a summer writing camp, when asked to describe their community

SPRINGSPIRIT  
Empowering Youth · Building Futures

## SPRINGSPIRIT COMMUNITY MAP

PITNER ROAD



SURROUNDING APARTMENTS



162 TOROS BASEBALL

(Competitive)

335 CRL BASEBALL

(Cal Ripken League Recreational)



139 SOFTBALL

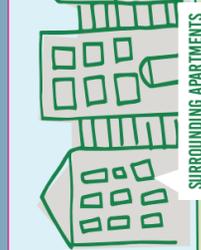


VOLUNTEER CLUBHOUSE

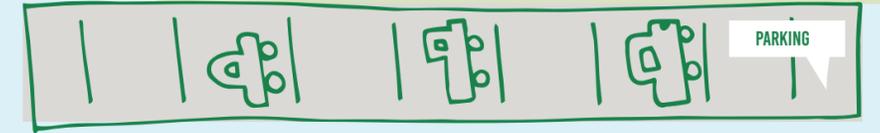
717 VOLUNTEERS

← HOLLIBROOK ELEMENTARY

↓ EDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY



SURROUNDING APARTMENTS



PARKING

## SPRING BRANCH ISD PARTNERSHIP



*"If you build it, they will come." Yes, I admit it seemed like a bit of a crazy idea at the time – plant a state-of-the-art baseball field in the midst of one of the largest poverty pockets in Spring Branch – and change lives. But, it was actually crazy genius! The magic and magnitude of what SpringSpirit accomplishes daily on behalf of children and families, and the thousands of lives forever changed as a result, is beyond measure. We are grateful for SpringSpirit's partnership and shared commitment to all children achieving post-secondary success, or T-2-4, reading on grade-level, and growing as well-rounded, upstanding members of the community. Thank you, Kenny Baldwin, and team, for making dreams come true.*

Linda Buchman, SBISD, Community Relations



## FROM AN EDGEWOOD READING VOLUNTEER

*"The Edgewood Literacy Program was so rewarding on so many different levels. I think what I liked most about it was connecting with the kids in a structured format; I always looked forward to the days I would read and look forward to seeing my group. I loved the fact that the kids held me accountable for coming. The reality is this type of program, while simple, creates connections that can be built on for years to come. Count me in for next year." If you would like to join our team of reading volunteers, please contact Carin Thorn at Carin.Thorn@SpringSpirit.org.*

Carlos Abello, SpringSpirit Board Member

Carlos is part of our Reading Intervention Program where we serve 30+ kids at Edgewood Elementary and 30+ kids after school. Our goal, working with Spring Branch ISD, is to have 100% of our participants reading at grade level when they enter middle school.

## GRANDPARENTS SEEK MENTORS AS THEY RAISE KIDS



When couples become grandparents, many times they begin to slow down and even travel. That is not the case with Silvia and Sergio. They are now parenting four grandchildren, ages 6-11. The parents of the children are not able to care for them, so the grandparents have taken custody of them. Fortunately, Silvia found out about our Raising Highly Capable Kids class, a Christian based curriculum that empowers parents to lead and support their children. After 13 weeks of learning and interacting with 20 other families she says, "I love this community and class because I now know some people who are going through the same thing, and we have received good advice."

Silvia is grateful for the programs at SpringSpirit. Her grandkids started in recreational soccer a year ago and are also active at FNL (Friday Night Live). After the kids attended VBS at a local church, they chose to be baptized. She says now, "I really need mentors for my grandchildren so they can continue to grow and have a clear, Godly purpose."

Please consider being a mentor to help kids like Silvia and Sergio's grandchildren. It's a once a month commitment and any adult, 21 years or older, is eligible. We even have family mentoring where your family can mentor one or two siblings. A background check is required. Just go to [www.springspirit.org/mentoring.html](http://www.springspirit.org/mentoring.html) for more information. Your life will be blessed!

## STARDIG, A PART OF SPRINGSPIRIT FROM THE BEGINNING



*As the Houston City Council Member for District A, I have been involved with SpringSpirit from the beginning. They turned a vacant lot into a place that has given so many young people a sense of belonging, community, and hope. SpringSpirit changed the lives of so many people and gave them a new purpose. SpringSpirit is facilitating memories for the kids in our community and giving them a great foundation for their future. They truly exemplify what happens when people come together for the right reasons to make a positive difference in our community.*

Houston Council Member Brenda Stardig, District A

## FISCAL YEAR 2019 HIGHLIGHTS



2019 was a year of growth and rounding-out our programming so our children have even more access to the experiences and knowledge that will help them shape successful futures.

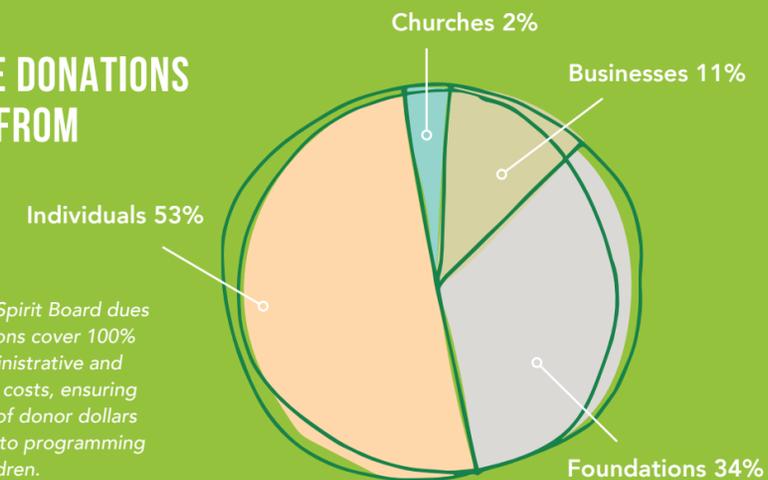
We are proud to now be able to offer education programs for all students, ages 5-18, including early literacy, STEM, life skills workshops, Slugging Statistics™, Houston Dynamo-sponsored summer statistics/analytics camps, and college application guidance. Of particular note, we had over 100 middle school students participate in our first-ever T-2-4/life skills workshop, our brand-new STEM team competed and won 1st place in the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation's national competition, and 100% of our High School seniors graduated from High School.

Additionally, we continue to invest in ways to build up a community of leaders to support our kids, and this year hosted two Positive Coaching Alliance seminars for coaches and parents, graduated 20 parents from our *Raising Highly Capable Kids* parenting classes, and formed a High School Leadership Team to give our most mature and committed students the opportunity and guidance to be able to help lead our ministry programs. Finally, we were honored to hear advice and wisdom from José Altuve at our annual Breakfast for Champions.

As you will read in this report, we are relying increasingly more on volunteer readers and mentors to be able to help our kids succeed. If you are interested in joining our team in this life-changing way (for our students AND you!), please contact Carin Thorn at [Carin.Thorn@SpringSpirit.org](mailto:Carin.Thorn@SpringSpirit.org).

## WHERE DONATIONS COME FROM

*The SpringSpirit Board dues and donations cover 100% of our administrative and fundraising costs, ensuring that 100% of donor dollars go directly to programming for the children.*



## CHANGING THE MINDSET



When Coach Bill stepped away from his successful corporate life, he wanted to find a way to give back. Since baseball had been a big part of his life, he began coaching our 11U boys. Early in the season, when he was still getting to know the boys, they had a delay in one of their games. One of the boys asked, "Do you drive an Audi because you went to college?" Bill, surprised that anyone would notice his car, said "No, I drive an Audi because I've worked very hard in my life and ONE of those things was going to college." He added, "You're going to college too." Confused, the boy responded, "We don't go to college." So Bill told him right then that his goal was that the whole team would go to college.

That was four years ago, with twelve 5th graders. It was clear to Bill and others that one obstacle was that the boys had no dreams to motivate them – they weren't working towards something. So the next year, Bill reserved 10 minutes at the end of each practice to talk about life and start introducing dreams. For the last two years, he has initiated conversations that have planted seeds about what the boys could be. This summer, Bill orchestrated our first Middle School Life Skills workshop for 70 kids which included a personal interest inventory and coaching on establishing short-and long-term SMART goals. After lunch, the kids were able to be a part of a career fair with 30 professionals from different fields. Now, SpringSpirit students are starting to dream young about what their future could look like as an engineer, construction manager, IT programmer, architect or so much more, and understand what it takes to get there. That same player, who is now on the path to pursue college and an IT profession, said this about Coach Bill: "I'm glad we had him for four years, and now he will move down and help a younger team like we were. He encouraged us to do well in school and helped me get thicker skin in baseball and life. I would like to tell him, 'thank you for being part of my life.'"

Bill Hermann has continued to grow in his passion for SpringSpirit's students, and is now very active as a SpringSpirit Board member, helping to shape our overall Education strategy. Thank you Coach Bill, and all of our coaches, volunteers, and donors! You help our kids reimagine the possibilities for their futures, not only creating dreams, but believing and realizing their dreams are possible if they work hard to achieve their goals.