Our **mission** is to bring resources, education, and connection to emerging neighborhoods.

Our **vision** is to crush inequities by maximizing the assets of the communities where we operate.
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Looking back on 2021, Houston stands out as the beacon of resilience. We can be proud that BakerRipley served at the forefront of our region’s pivotal rebound and ongoing evolution. We amplified voices of advocacy and leveraged strength-building resources to drive innovation, inspiration, and hope.

Many Houston area families were able to cover overdue rent payments and avoid evictions with funds from our agency’s emergency rental assistance program, and we captured widespread media attention for administering one of the nation’s most efficient programs of its kind. In multicultural communities where limited English is spoken, we helped our Neighbors navigate the eligibility requirements so they could claim child tax credit payments. While our senior health & wellness centers remained closed due to Covid, we delivered vaccines and meals, made regular wellness checks, and provided thousands of hours of virtual activities to help our homebound older adults stay connected. Our holistic community impact also included early childhood centers, charter schools, and adult education programs, as well as workforce development, small business entrepreneurship, immigration & citizenship services, veteran services, tax preparation services, utility assistance, and home weatherization assistance.

As both CEO of BakerRipley and deputy chair of the board for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, I am humbled to have the distinct honor and responsibility of ensuring the needs, aspirations, and experiences of our neighbors in vulnerable communities are fully represented in the public policy making process. As the link between the community and the public policymaking process, I am strategically positioned to provide that critical connection and activism for our Neighbors and ensure that their needs are considered in robust discussions about creating equitable and sustainable socioeconomic solutions. I do not take my duty lightly, and it fuels my passion to make sure we, here at BakerRipley, are doing everything we can to provide the adequate tools and access to our Neighbors.

BakerRipley’s leadership team and staff, as well as our numerous public and private partners, volunteers, and Neighbors, stay true to the mission that has endured ever since this agency began more than a century ago: keeping Houston a place of opportunity for everyone. We are able to do what we do and serve our community because of all the great people behind this work, supporting our mission day in and day out. And while we still have more work to do, I am proud of what we have accomplished.

It is a collective effort that continues moving Houston and BakerRipley forward…

Forward, together.

Claudia Aguirre, BakerRipley President and CEO
“Trying to improve the lives of those in our communities takes so many different efforts. Our work is complex, but it is so important. We have a strong vision, and we gear up quickly to meet the community’s immediate needs. Whatever we do, we do well.”
Last year, we set forth to accomplish what only few attempt – to create actionable pathways to possibilities for those who need them most. We set forth to continue to provide education, connections, and opportunities to our neighbors so that no matter where they come from or where they are in life, they have access to earn, learn, and belong the way they deserve. We set forth to uplift our neighbors and communities, and to create generational transformation that will have long-lasting benefits for our entire region. We asked you to join us to support this work, and you answered. You opened your hearts, gave your time, talents and resources, and YOU rose to the occasion. We cannot thank you enough!

We’re grateful for our donors, volunteers, partners, and elected officials who continue to help us move forward. Thank you for your unwavering support allowing us to create equality and provide opportunities in our communities. When we all get behind this goal, the impact is colossal. When we move forward TOGETHER, the possibilities are UNLIMITED! THANK YOU!

YOUR SUPPORT CREATED
GENERATIONAL TRANSFORMATION!
WITH YOUR HELP, OUR NEIGHBORS RECEIVED THE
CONNECTIONS TO THE RESOURCES THEY NEEDED TO
MOVE FORWARD AND ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS. FORWARD, TOGETHER.
THANK YOU FOR INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES.
THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE FUTURE OF HOUSTON. WE COULD NOT HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THIS MISSION WITHOUT EACH OF YOU.
1,744 volunteers contributed almost 118,000 hours of work, creating a value of nearly $3 million, in 2021.

THANK YOU, BAKERRIPLEY VOLUNTEERS! YOUR GENEROSITY CHANGES LIVES.

Sandra Comeaux, our 2021 Barbara Day Volunteer of the Year.

Click here to meet Sandra

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Claudia Aguirre, Barbara Day, and Sandra Comeaux.
Since our inception in 1907, BakerRipley has kept our region a place of opportunity. We bring community-based solutions to individuals and the neighborhoods we serve in the Greater Houston area. Our organization addresses the inequities that prevent the most vulnerable neighbors from achieving financial stability, better education, and job opportunities.

Together with our donors, partners, and volunteers, we bring crucial resources, educational opportunities, and connections to the individuals and families that need them most. Our impact is the advancement and well-being of the individuals and communities we serve.

**BAKERRIPLEY TODAY**

**IN 2021, WE SERVED NEARLY 500,000 INDIVIDUALS.**
Our unique holistic approach starts with building communities based on their needs and goals, and supporting them to thrive and create generational impact beyond their area and into our whole region.

Appreciative Community Building, our signature approach to community creation and engagement, gives us direct insights into our neighbors’ strengths and assets and the barriers and challenges they face.

We create a comprehensive and integrated system of programs and services that allow neighbors to achieve stability and move up the economic ladder.

We address regional systemic inequities that prevent individuals and their families from accessing basic needs, resources, and the ability to move forward on their journey.

We leverage our infrastructure and expertise to support the Houston region’s most vulnerable communities with a long-term objective of resiliency and advancement.
OUR 2021 IMPACT

Equipping our neighbors to be stronger after the pandemic.

In 2021, our neighbors continued to pursue their aspirations despite the ongoing challenges caused by COVID-19. With your support, we empowered our communities to be more prepared and create new and better opportunities for themselves.

Together, we were able to apply our knowledge of their needs and aspirations to equip them with adequate resources to manage the aftermath of one of the most challenging periods ever. Because of you and all our partners, we were able to assist half a million individuals with a comprehensive set of resources to believe in themselves, acquire the knowledge and tools they need, and change the direction of their story.
THE IMPACT THAT WAS POSSIBLE... 
BECAUSE OF YOU

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR A BETTER LIFE
Together, we created professional paths for our neighbors and equipped them with the tools to advance their careers and aspire to better jobs and salaries.

1,071 neighbors enrolled in Adult Education in 2021. Our newly-launched Tech Equity Bridge Program provided 30 students with advanced knowledge and new skills, putting them on a tech career path and higher income potential.

SMALL BUSINESS UNSTOPPABLE GROWTH
Together, we continued supporting entrepreneurs to get started, keep their businesses running, and even grow them. By establishing business coaching, support systems, robust capital access, and networking, we were able to help our neighbors thrive and change their lives.

1,431 clients participated in our Small Business Workshops, and 52% of our Entrepreneur Academy Grow students completed business plans in 2021. Our Entrepreneur Connection program clients acquired almost $1.5 million in capital.

FINANCIAL STABILITY AND SUPPORT
Along with you, we continued helping our most vulnerable neighbors cope with financial strains and adverse circumstances by assisting with basic needs and access to income tax preparation.

31,059 tax returns were prepared in 2021 generating over $46 million in net refunds for neighbors. Almost 35,000 households received rental assistance of over $145 million, and nearly $3 million was provided to secure housing for families facing homelessness due to COVID.

MAKING HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL
When we work together for our communities, no one is left behind.

1,076 health screenings were provided in 2021, which saved neighbors almost $40,000, and 1,813 COVID-19 vaccinations were administered. Over 600,000 meals were distributed at food fairs, and nearly 300,000 senior meals were provided through the Senior Health and Wellness Centers.

LEGAL STABILITY AND INCLUSION
You helped us achieve legal stability and status for neighbors who lack fair access to legal representation and face the risk of fraud, predatory practices, and challenges to become citizens.

Over 14,000 immigrant neighbors increased their knowledge of available immigration services and their rights in 2021, and immigrant families saved $150,000 through free attorney consultations.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Together, we enabled individuals to participate in community and civic life, and to go beyond the limited representation in community leadership and the lack of confidence to create community change, voting barriers and voter suppression.

1,198 neighbors participated in Voter Education events last year through our Civic Engagement program, and 535 registered to vote to have a say. Of all those naturalized through our Citizenship program in 2021, 64% are registered to vote in upcoming elections.

COLLEGE READINESS
With your support, we ensured that our children continued their education despite the ongoing pandemic. We addressed school readiness, the achievement gap, and the lack of access to or representation in STEM careers to keep preparing them for college and career development.

2,635 students were served through BakerRipley Community Schools during the 2021-22 school year.
Zahir Haidari
Zahir and his father arrived in Houston as refugees six years ago. He knew they’d need to become US citizens to create a successful future. Still, he also knew that the journey would be difficult: Zahir’s dad had a mental disability that made his exam nearly impossible. That’s when they met the BakerRipley Immigration team, and their lives were changed forever.

CLICK TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HIS STORY

Rachel Herrera
Rachel was only a kid when her mom was murdered. Her grandmother cared for her and her siblings, but who would support them to meet their basic needs and help the children thrive? The one thing Rachel says her grandmother did have was Ripley House.

CLICK TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HER STORY

Maria Santos
Maria was already a volunteer with us when she enrolled in the English as a Second Language program. She then found out about the Tech Equity program and became a stellar student, resulting in her getting a better job and developing her startup.

CLICK TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HER STORY
BakerRipley operates more than 60 service sites across the Greater Houston area. Our community development and engagement centers are located in five major Houston neighborhoods: East End, Gulfton Sharpstown (Southwest), Pasadena, East Aldine, and Greater Hobby.
BAKERRIPLEY NEIGHBORHOODS FACE SIGNIFICANT INEQUITIES COMPARED TO OTHERS IN THE HOUSTON AREA

Annual Median Income

- **BR Neighborhoods**: $44,387
- **Others (Greater Houston Area)**: $70,767

Above Poverty Level

- **BR Neighborhoods**: 74%
- **Others (Greater Houston Area)**: 87%

High School Diploma or Equivalent

- **BR Neighborhoods**: 64%
- **Others (Greater Houston Area)**: 85%

Home Internet Access

- **BR Neighborhoods**: 55%
- **Others (Greater Houston Area)**: 76%

Inequities negatively impact BakerRipley neighbors more than others in the Greater Houston Area. The individuals we serve live in neighborhoods more deeply affected, ranging from 55% to 70% BELOW the ALICE* threshold, based on 2018 data, and have fewer resources to cope with crises or disasters. It is more challenging for our neighbors to achieve their aspirations of a better life and future.

*ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) is a term used to describe individuals who struggle to manage their basic needs, including housing, food, transportation, child care, healthcare, and necessary technology.
SPECIAL EVENTS

Last year we were able to return to in-person events safely! Masks on, socially distant, and with hand sanitizer in tow, we could finally experience face-to-face adult interaction, see smiling eyes, and hear warm laughter fill the space.

At BakerRipley, community is at the core of who we are. We were overjoyed to be able to reunite with our BakerRipley family.

Trotting Together Again!

We held our in-person Houston Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2021, and the support was overwhelming! Our return was welcomed by so many sponsors and over 8,000 runners! We held our inaugural Trot Awards, honoring the Fraga family as our Community Honoree, Phillips 66 as our Corporate Honoree, and longtime Turkey trotter Todd Brenton as our Ambassador of the Year. We raised over $250,000! Our supporters didn’t just run; they ran for a cause and joined us in serving our neighbors to continue to make the Houston region a place for all to earn, learn, and belong.
## Revenues

### Adult Education
- Contributions & Special Events: $860,448
- United Way Of Greater Houston: 27,720
- Public Grants & Contracts: 582,632
- Program Revenues: (95)
- **Subtotal**: $1,470,706

### Community Initiatives
- Contributions & Special Events: $2,612,194
- Public Grants & Contracts: (173)
- United Way Of Greater Houston: 1,932,778
- Program Revenues: 130,147
- **Subtotal**: $4,674,946

### Early Childhood Education
- Contributions & Special Events: 0
- Public Grants & Contracts: 37,742,481
- **Subtotal**: $37,742,481

### Regional Initiatives
- Public Grants, Energy Assistance: $26,316,661
- Other Public Grants & Contracts: 3,712,664
- Harvey & Flood: 2,083,475
- Us Dept. Of Treasury: 291,796
- United Way Of Greater Houston: 1,968,058
- Contributions: 1,129,568
- Covid Related Public Grants: 161,511,597
- **Subtotal**: $197,013,821

### Workforce
- Gulf Coast Workforce Development Board: $217,975,606
- Coastal Bend Workforce Development Board: 16,660,946
- Rural Capital Area Workforce Development Board: 23,034,363
- East Texas Workforce Development Board: 24,940,815
- Capital Area Workforce Development Board: 29,052,987
- Other Public Grants & Contracts: 2,826,372
- Hgac - Career Centers: 20,758,926
- Contributions: 0
- United Way Of Greater Houston: (25,735)
- **Subtotal**: $331,801,592

### Charter School
- Texas Education Agency: $14,468,471
- Department Of Education: 2,846,179
- Program Revenues: 53,284
- **Subtotal**: $17,367,934

### Health And Wellness
- United Way Of Greater Houston: $1,366,331
- Contributions & Special Events: 634,459
- Program Revenues: 223,072
- Public Grants & Contracts: 2,303,642
- **Subtotal**: $4,527,507

**Total Revenues**: $598,021,673

## Expenses

### Adult Education
- **Cost**: $1,234,910

### Community Initiatives
- Community Centers: $3,707,477
- Fab Lab: 492,499
- Financial Success Initiatives: 608,211
- Youth Programs: 925,689
- Immigration & Citizenship: 981,864
- Digital Literacy: 724,626
- Covid Direct Assistance: (273,588)
- **Subtotal**: $7,166,777

### Early Childhood Education
- Head Start/Early Head Start: $30,995,902
- Usda Food Program: 1,848,702
- **Subtotal**: $32,844,604

### Regional Initiatives
- Energy Assistance: $26,466,802
- Harvey & Flood: 3,003,874
- Neighborhood Tax Centers: 1,602,609
- Weatherization: 2,795,549
- Homelessness: 5,405,485
- Covid Direct Assistance: 151,134,034
- **Subtotal**: $190,408,353

### Workforce
- Child Care Assistance: $291,824,093
- Work Support Assistance: 15,519,444
- Financial Aid Operations: 1,872,356
- Veterans Assistance: 2,618,627
- Career Centers: 19,967,073
- **Subtotal**: $331,801,592

### Charter School
- **Cost**: $15,116,103

### Health And Wellness
- Home Care Services: 38,821,39
- Adult Day Care Center: 1,262,546
- Social Services: -
- Senior Transportation: 2,552,611
- Health Promotion: 236,933
- Volunteer Services 1: 2,144
- **Subtotal**: $4,103,055

**Total Expenses**: $582,675,395
Year after year, BakerRipley’s commitment to the advancement of this region is reaffirmed. This work is not possible without the unwavering commitment of our donors, partners and volunteers. It is through this support BakerRipley is able to reimagine our work and rise above the challenges of any day and continue to serve our Neighbors.

As we continue to navigate obstacles exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are encouraged by renewed efforts to uplift the importance of economic opportunity and upward mobility. Within these key areas we find the greatest need, and therefore, the greatest space to expand our impact. We know our Neighbors need critical skills and tools that will prepare them for new and better careers. That is why our partnership with Verizon is so significant. Through this collaborative effort, we will bridge the digital divide for so many underemployed and unemployed adults – providing a space to explore educational and career growth. The programs and resources developed through this partnership ensure BakerRipley Neighbors have what they need to thrive.

It is why, during this year’s inaugural fall event, The 2022 BakerRipley Experience, we will honor and uplift Verizon for their commitment to community access and empowerment. The theme, “Unlimited”, speaks to the possibilities of collaborative effort; it speaks of the potential of our Neighbors when they have our support.

Starting with our young scholars in the newly renamed BakerRipley Community School District, to our new Neighbors crossing our borders to find a new and better life, to those born and bred Houstonians who turn to our Workforce centers seeking a job that will allow them to provide for their families, BakerRipley resources span the life cycle, and, with the continued engagement of our donors, partners, and volunteers, our impact is unlimited.

Just as we are committed to ensuring we offer the region a hub of opportunity, innovation, and true access, we are committed to being good stewards of the time, treasure, and talent invested into BakerRipley. It is because of these contributions we are able to move forward together.

The 2022 BakerRipley Experience will pivot from the Heart of Gold event to The BakerRipley Experience in 2022. The inaugural event is our opportunity to immerse our stakeholders in the robust impact of their investments. Presented by Shell, it will boast an evening of purposeful connection and celebration. Our theme for this year is Unlimited. This concept speaks to the work we do and have been doing for 115 years. We do what it takes to help our communities thrive. Our depth is unmatched, and our willingness and ability to help are unlimited.

Our guests will hear the stories of gratitude and success from our Neighbors, young scholars, volunteers, and dedicated employees. More importantly, our guests will hear from our CEO as she thanks our guests and honors Verizon—whose investment into our Economic Initiatives program is changing the lives of our Adult Education students through our Tech Equity program. The event program will embody the work, success, and commitment of all BakerRipley stakeholders.
STAY CONNECTED!

DONATE

MEET OUR NEIGHBORS AND SEE YOUR IMPACT

VOLUNTEER

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

LEARN MORE ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL HOUSTON TURKEY TROT