

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Erika Hornsey

Dear Friends,

Like so many people and charities, the ToolBank has had a challenging yet inspiring year. Way back in January, we were poised to have our busiest year yet - and in fact the first two months of 2020 were busier than any other January or February to date. Then, COVID-19 hit.

Soon, we began to see that the ToolBank has the potential to provide support during any challenge - even one that seemed unimaginable in 2019. Here are just a few highlights of how we found ways to serve even in the midst of a pandemic:

- By April, we had collected and distributed over 20,000 PPE items to healthcare workers, including N95 masks, Tyvek suits and face shields.
- We supported charitable partners as they filled growing challenges for our neighbors. Tables, chairs, traffic cones and shade tents served distribution of food, diapers, and books.
- We added COVID-19 specific safety items to inventory, like touchless infrared thermometers, hand sanitizer stations, plexi-glass barriers and social distancing markers.

This year was demanding, but it was further proof that the ToolBank fills a unique, ever-changing space in the nonprofit community. With the help of our many supporters, we were able to adapt and serve 158 member charities.

At the end of each day, the ToolBank owes our continued success to the amazing community of Greater Houston. Houstonians always step up - whether during a natural disaster or a global pandemic. The ToolBank is proud to be a part of such a diverse, resilient city full of people and organizations who use our services to do good in so many ways.

Thank you for being a part of the ToolBank movement. We are looking forward to much more in 2021!

Sincerely,



Erika Hornsey
Executive Director



OUR MISSION

TOOLS FOR HOPE

Houston Community ToolBank is a nonprofit tool lending program that empowers fellow nonprofits to tackle community-based projects throughout our city. We have 22,000 plus items and 295 tool types in our warehouse. Toolbank borrowers are not only traditional nonprofits, but also schools, faith-based organizations, neighborhood associations and many others. Access to ToolBank inventory relieves the burden of purchasing, storing, maintaining and repairing the items essential to projects and events. In a sector that consistently faces constraints of time, personnel and budget, our tools allow organizations to achieve their varying, passionate visions for a thriving community.

2020

BY THE NUMBERS



\$6.2 million in tool value lent



32,634 volunteers equipped



82,000+ items lent

ON THE COVER: In fall of this year, we received a large donation of masks and hand sanitizer from Bank of America and UPS. At a time when the cases were beginning to increase again, with support from the volunteers pictured, we were able to give out over 99,000 masks and 33,000 bottles of hand sanitizer to over 70 different nonprofit organizations. The picture on the left is our warehouse manager Nancy forklifting the last of a hand sanitizer delivery off the truck.

THE AFTER HOURS CONTAINER

A YEAR OF PROJECTS

When we got our After Hours Container back in 2018, we never could have imagined that it would be the center of our entire operation during a global pandemic. From the earliest days until now, the container has allowed continuous service to our nonprofit partners in numerous ways - all while keeping our staff and borrowers safe with contactless pick ups and drop offs. Virtually every order that has gone out into the community did so through our After Hours containers.



COVID-19 LENDING



5,300+ volunteers equipped



13,900+ items lent



\$600,000+ in free tools for COVID-19

The ToolBank has the **busiest January and February on record** - over 125 orders out the door and 6,300 volunteers equipped.

FEB

APRIL

MARCH

Teaming up with other nonprofits, **the ToolBank collects PPE.** By the end of March, 550 Tyvek suits and 19,000 N95 masks have been distributed to healthcare workers.

We start **sharing our box truck with Target Hunger.** This helps them to scale up their deliveries as need for food increases across Houston and across the country. Our truck drives 2,861 miles, supporting delivery of 20,978 pounds of food across the region.

The ToolBank serves as a collection and distribution point for **Books between Kids,** helping to give out thousands of books to kids before summer vacation.

JUNE

MAY

JULY

We **add COVID-19 related items** to inventory including hand sanitizer stations, touchless thermometers, social distancing markers and plexiglass partitions. They are free to borrow and help to keep over 200 projects safe.

GOING GREEN

AT THE TOOLBANK

This year, even as we adapted to help our community during a pandemic, we also moved the needle toward being a greener organization and we began to build a system to measure our positive environmental impact.

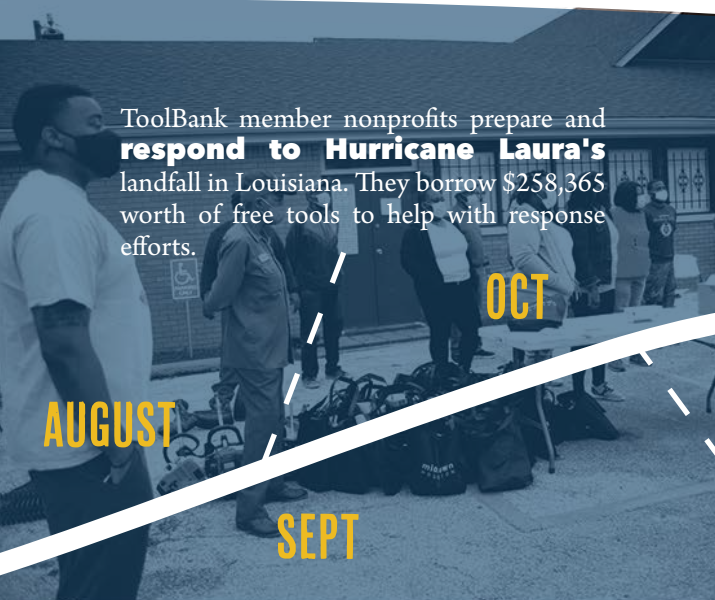
Thanks to Green Mountain Energy Sun Club, we added solar panels to our shipping pick up containers and a rainwater collection system to our warehouse. The solar panels allow the remote pick up containers' smart locks and security lights to operate off-the-grid - ensuring easy access for borrowers across Greater Houston. Our rainwater system gathers water from 12,000 square feet of warehouse roof - which equates to 7,416 gallons for every inch of rain that falls! This rainwater is used to wash tools, all while reducing runoff during heavy rainstorms.

Later in the year the ToolBank worked with a team of expert volunteers, who helped us build the Green Savings tool. For years, we've been searching for a way to measure the environmental impact of borrowing our tools rather than buying the same items - and finally we are on track to capture real data. With the skills of the team, we are now able to estimate data like water saved based on tool components, fuel saved for transportation based on researched shipping distances, and package weight diverted from landfill.

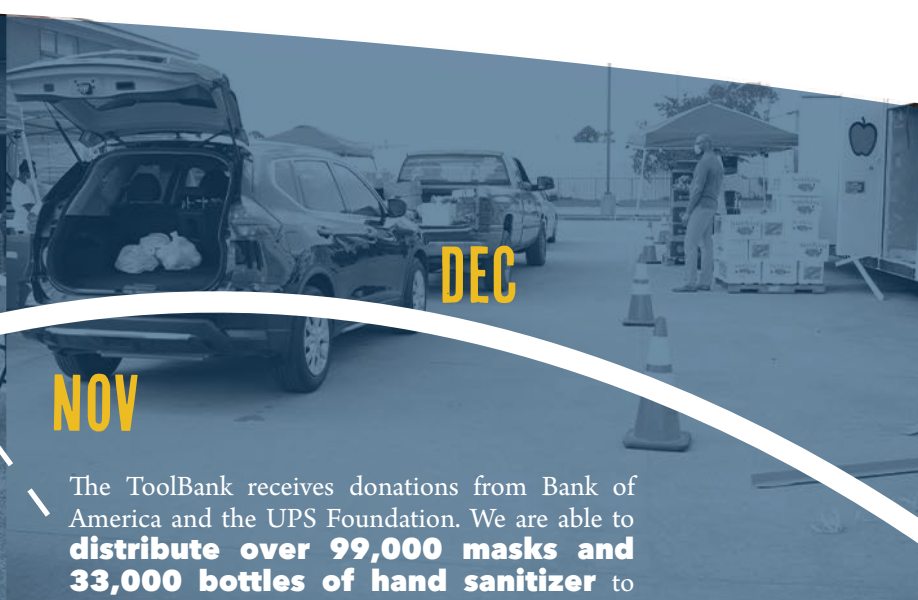
We are so proud of the green projects happening at the ToolBank - and we can't wait to refine the data and wash our tools in 2021.



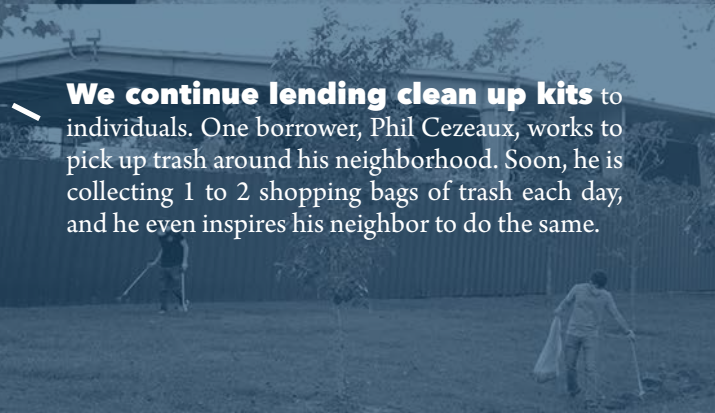
“The rainwater capture system gathers over 7,000 gallons of water per inch of rain.”



ToolBank member nonprofits prepare and **respond to Hurricane Laura's** landfall in Louisiana. They borrow \$258,365 worth of free tools to help with response efforts.



The ToolBank receives donations from Bank of America and the UPS Foundation. We are able to **distribute over 99,000 masks and 33,000 bottles of hand sanitizer** to local nonprofits and volunteers.



We continue lending clean up kits to individuals. One borrower, Phil Cezeaux, works to pick up trash around his neighborhood. Soon, he is collecting 1 to 2 shopping bags of trash each day, and he even inspires his neighbor to do the same.



OUR SUPPORTERS

TOOLS FOR HOPE

With our supporters, the Houston Community ToolBank was able to not just survive the challenges of 2020, but adapt and serve our members in new ways. We are incredibly grateful to each foundation, company and individual who supported tools for hope in 2020.

Alliance Reprographics
Amegy Bank
Amazon Smile
Autotrader
BBVA
Benevity Fund
Boulevard Realty
Break-a-Difference
Briggs & Veselka
CFMA
Cross Country Mortgage
C& S Wholesalers
Opportunity Fund from
Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
Comerica Charitable Foundation
Community Bank of Texas
Enterprise Products
ExxonMobil Foundation
The Fletcher Family
Forney Construction
Frost Bank
Garver Black Hilyard Family Foundation
The George Foundation
Good 360
Green Mountain Energy Sun Club
GSI Environmental Inc.
Gulf Marine
Harris Health
The Hickey Family
The Home Depot Foundation
The Houston ToolBank Board of Directors
Jerry C. Dearing Foundation

Klunk & Millan
Islamic Relief USA
McMahon Solutions
Minnesota Limited
MPG Pipeline Inc.
Rebuild Texas Fund
Rudy's Barbeque
Schwab Charitable Giving
Stanley Black and Decker
Stick it Golf
Sunstate Foundation
Texas Capital Bank
ToolBank USA
The UPS Foundation
Unknown and Anonymous Donors
Volunteer Houston via Interfaith
Ministries
Waste Management
The William Stamps Farish Fund

LETTER FROM INCOMING BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I am absolutely thrilled to take the helm as board president as we move into 2021. Even with the uncertainty of the pandemic, we have some exciting plans on the horizon.

The first plan for 2021 is a complete rollout of the expansion efforts. The expansion was delayed due to COVID-19, however the last containers will be placed in the early months of 2021. The containers will reduce travel for nonprofits on the outskirts of the city - in Galveston County, Katy, Montgomery County and Fort Bend county. And, we hope that we will bring in some new ToolBank members who might not otherwise make the trip to our warehouse

We're also excited to join forces with the Atlanta ToolBank to pilot a training program. Although one pillar of our mission is "expertise", the ToolBank has historically been focused on providing tools. The tool training programming will equip nonprofits, staff and volunteers with technical and leadership skills for more impactful projects.

Lastly, we'll be working towards showcasing our Green Savings tool - which creates a whole new way of looking at the ways the ToolBank helps the environment. I think you'll be impressed when you see some of the numbers - like how our posthole diggers have saved over 28,000 gallons of water during their 5 years of use.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank John Crabb, our outgoing board president, for his years of service as a passionate advocate for the ToolBank. We're looking forward to serving our community - in both new and old ways - throughout 2021.

Thank you,



Luke Withers
Board President 2020

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Margaret Schlesinger
Chris Staffel
Britt Sudduth
Stephen Vernon
Ryan Whitaker
Emily Williams
Derek Wilson
Luke Withers
Andrew Yohannes

2020

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ryan Whitaker *Treasurer*

Emily Williams *Secretary*

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Tony Nicosia

Joe Quinto

Roger Spee

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