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AVONDALE HOUSE

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2019-2020



United Way of Greater Houston



## FROM THE CEO

This past year has been quite a roller coaster ride with many highs and lows! We kicked off a brand-new event, opened new classrooms, saw record enrollment in our school, erected a new facilities and maintenance building, launched a brand-new employment services program, and got started on the opening of another house. Of course, all of this was somewhat overshadowed by the COVID-19 situation which caused us to close our school as of Spring Break, jump right into virtual learning, shutter our adult day program, and quarantine our residents not allowing them to even visit with their families.

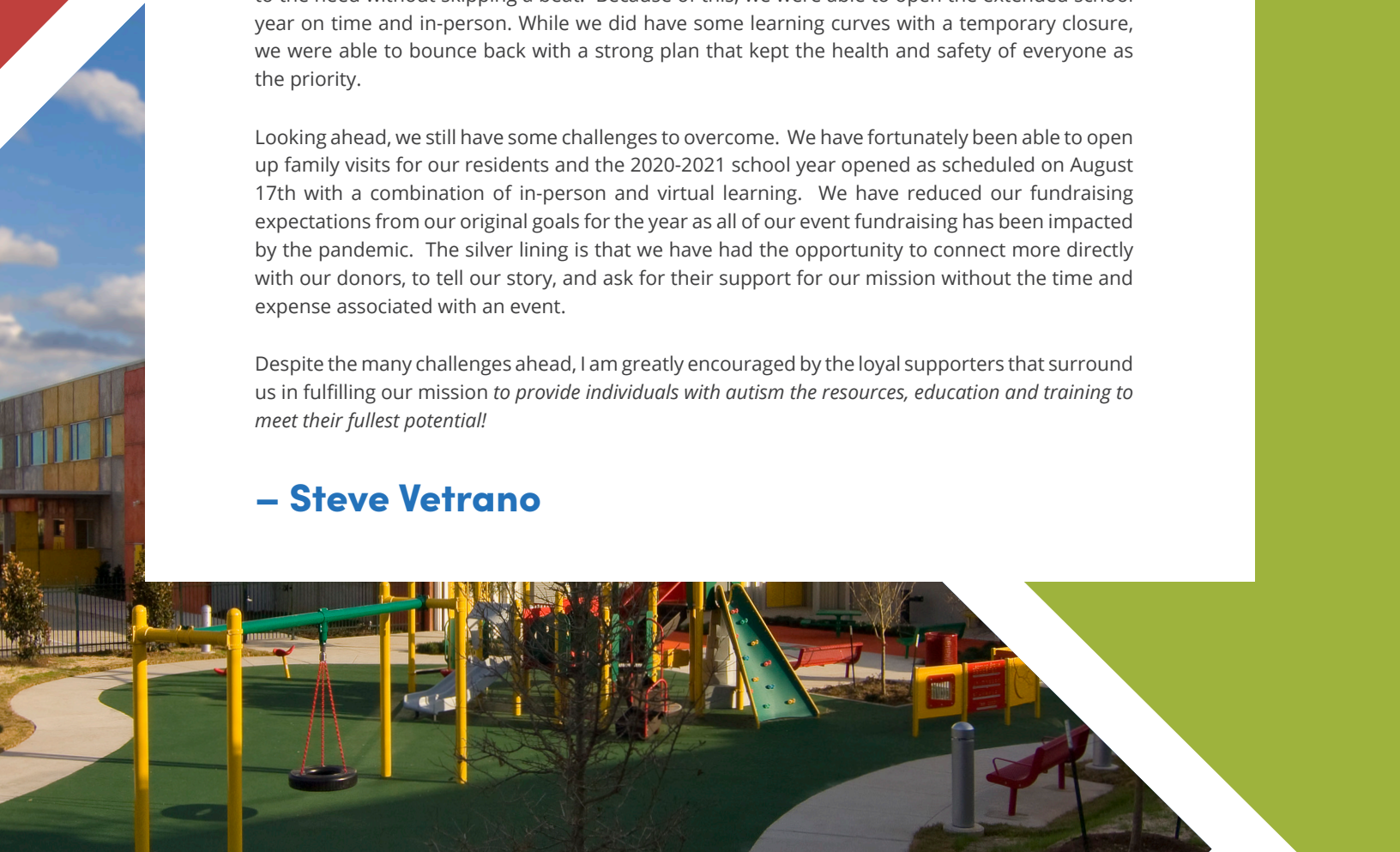
The situation caused us to postpone our largest fundraiser and pivot to a virtual event. While I would categorize the event as a success in many ways, it did not raise the amount of funds we had planned.

Overall, Avondale House weathered this storm well and that is due to the incredibly devoted team we have here. The leadership team worked together to identify issues, problem solve and respond to the need without skipping a beat. Because of this, we were able to open the extended school year on time and in-person. While we did have some learning curves with a temporary closure, we were able to bounce back with a strong plan that kept the health and safety of everyone as the priority.

Looking ahead, we still have some challenges to overcome. We have fortunately been able to open up family visits for our residents and the 2020-2021 school year opened as scheduled on August 17th with a combination of in-person and virtual learning. We have reduced our fundraising expectations from our original goals for the year as all of our event fundraising has been impacted by the pandemic. The silver lining is that we have had the opportunity to connect more directly with our donors, to tell our story, and ask for their support for our mission without the time and expense associated with an event.

Despite the many challenges ahead, I am greatly encouraged by the loyal supporters that surround us in fulfilling our mission to *provide individuals with autism the resources, education and training to meet their fullest potential!*

**– Steve Vetrano**



# AUTISM STATISTICS THAT DRIVE OUR WORK

## PREVALENCE

Autism is the **fastest-growing** developmental disability

- CDC, 2020

Prevalence of autism has **tripled** over the last 20 years in children  
**.67% to 1.85%**

**1 in 54** children in the U.S. diagnosed  
- CDC, 2020

Boys are **4 times** more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls:

**1 in 34 boys** (2.97%)  
**1 in 145 girls** (0.69%)

**2.21%** of adults are living with autism

## CHALLENGES AND EDUCATION

**40%** are nonverbal

**31%** of children with ASD have intellectual disability with significant challenges in daily function

**28%** of 8-year-olds with autism have self-injurious behaviors

The average cost of educating a neuro-typical student is **\$12,000**; while the average cost to educate a student with ASD is nearly **\$21,000**.

## AUTISM IN ADULTHOOD

An estimated **707,000** to **1,116,000** teens are expected to age out of school-based autism services by 2030.

**More than 50%** of young adults with autism remain unemployed, a lower rate than that of young adults in other disability categories.

Research shows that job activities that encourage independence **reduce autism symptoms** and increase daily living skills.

# VOLUNTEERS HAVE A HEART FOR AVONDALE

164

Volunteers

3

Corporate Groups

6

School Groups

1986

Volunteer Hours

"My daughter and I first learned about Avondale House through National Charity League. From the first time we walked into Avondale House, we connected with the positive attitude of the students, teachers, and staff: every person contributes and is valued."

- Katherine Vukadin



"I was impressed by the resilient, enthusiastic students, as well as the staff's commitment to helping the students thrive in the workforce. I especially appreciated the opportunity to connect with the day school and adult learners, and I feel much more confident working with patients with autism in the future after medical school."

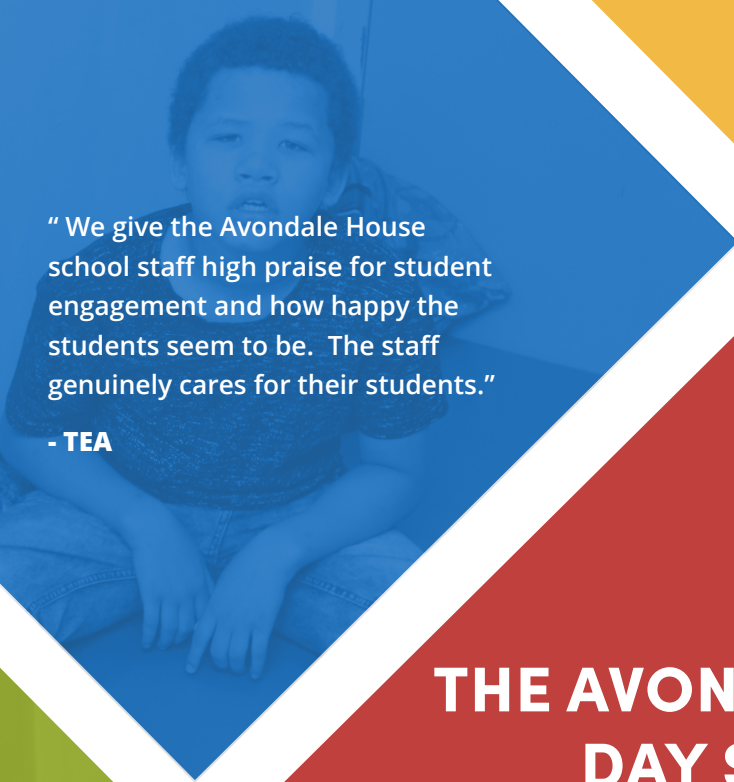
- Rachel Sheno

## INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS:

Imani Acogny  
Isha Baker  
Alison Boyd  
Bella Bradway  
Toni Brown  
Sally Buck  
Valerie Buie  
Trace Cummings  
Taylor Grimes  
Amanda Hansen  
Temitope Johnson  
Max Kausi  
Austin Kreitz  
Mayra Martin  
Lynette Mueller  
Liam Scherer  
Rachel Sheno  
Cathy Sussman  
Eli Vetrano  
Jacqueline Villarreal  
Ben Wasden  
David Wiseley  
Michael Wiseley

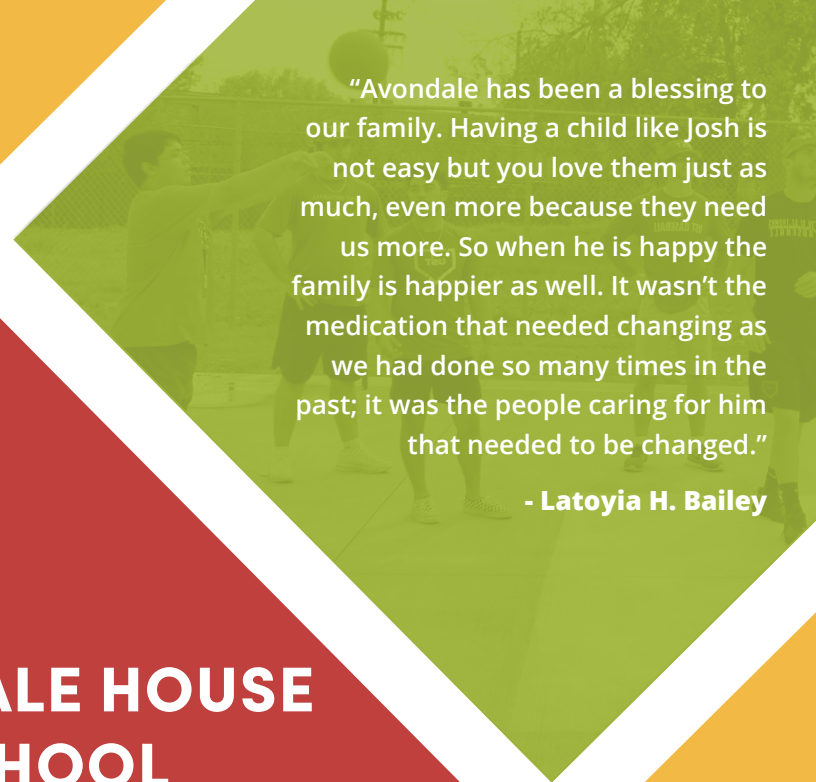
## CORPORATE AND SCHOOL:

BHP Petroleum  
Brunel  
Emery Weiner  
Episcopal High School  
Enable Energy  
National Charity League, Post Oak  
St. Agnes Academy  
St. John's School  
St. Thomas Baseball



" We give the Avondale House school staff high praise for student engagement and how happy the students seem to be. The staff genuinely cares for their students."

- TEA




"Avondale has been a blessing to our family. Having a child like Josh is not easy but you love them just as much, even more because they need us more. So when he is happy the family is happier as well. It wasn't the medication that needed changing as we had done so many times in the past; it was the people caring for him that needed to be changed."

- Latoyia H. Bailey



## THE AVONDALE HOUSE DAY SCHOOL IS ACCREDITED THROUGH TAAPS AND TEA-APPROVED.



"Daniel has been nonverbal since he was one and a half years old. But, he has found his voice through Avondale House and its staff. Since enrolling, Daniel's achievements have been bold. By comparison, his accomplishments may be small to an average child his age, but they are profound to those who know and love him. Avondale's staff openly welcomed our son, who didn't fit into the public school system. "

- Rick Diaz

### WE CELEBRATE:

The opening of 2 new classrooms, thanks to the generous support of The Brown Foundation

Creating a new pre-kindergarten program using the Early Start Denver Model

Expansion of services to a capacity of 100 students

Provided **18,240 days** of service to **87** students: **67%** in-person, **33%** virtually.

Record number of students enrolled:

**87**

Number of school districts served:

**23**

Record number of students graduated:

**12**

New students enrolled:

**11**

Students transitioned to their home school district:

**6**

# AVONDALE HOUSE SERVES ADULTS

COVID-19 forced us to modify how we delivered adult programs at Avondale House. While challenging for the individuals in our programs and their families, most services have continued without disruption. We greatly look forward to welcoming our community-based day hab adults back when it is safe for us to come together again.

## WE ESPECIALLY CELEBRATE:

- Implementing virtual visits for residential families and their loved ones
- Meeting all state guidelines for infection control during the pandemic
- Virtually providing employment services to fulfill TWC guidelines

**67%**

of residential families  
successfully implemented  
virtual visits

**10**

individuals supported with  
employment services

**52,560**

hours of active treatment  
provided to residents

**19,040**

hours of service provided  
to community day hab  
participants





## FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Avondale House, I want to extend a sincere “thank you” to our supporters, stakeholders and staff for their commitment, dedication and hard work throughout this memorable year! As the Board President, I have been proud to serve alongside the Avondale leadership team as we pivoted education, training and resources to virtual platforms, and took appropriate steps to ensure continuation of services while prioritizing the health and safety of our students, clients and staff. The individuals we serve depend on essential programs for their daily routine, education, skill development and socialization. Their families depend on resources and support from the Avondale House staff. While 2020 has been challenging, we have stayed the course, and we remain focused on our mission of assisting individuals with autism in reaching their fullest potential.

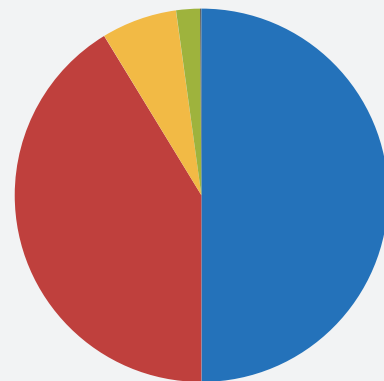
As I complete my presidency, I will remain on the Avondale House Board because I am passionate about this mission! I’m excited about several current initiatives: new giving circles, Milo the robot joining our school staff, and the opening of our fourth residential home. Moreover, I’m excited about other initiatives on the horizon, and have great confidence in our leadership team. Please join me in continued support for Avondale House!

—Greg Hill

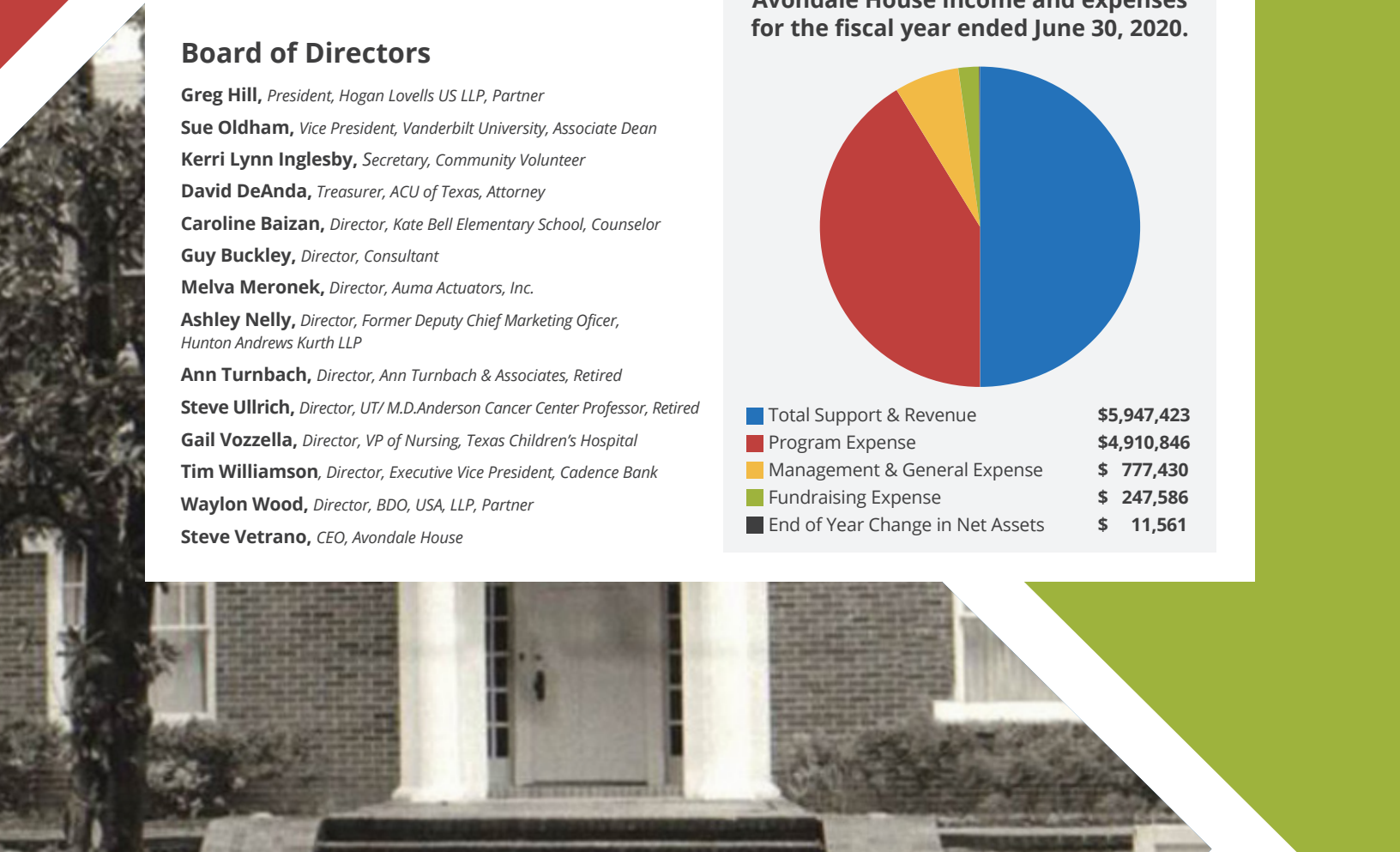
### Board of Directors

- Greg Hill**, *President, Hogan Lovells US LLP, Partner*
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- Kerri Lynn Inglesby**, *Secretary, Community Volunteer*
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- Waylon Wood**, *Director, BDO, USA, LLP, Partner*
- Steve Vetrano**, *CEO, Avondale House*

Avondale House income and expenses for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.



|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Total Support & Revenue          | <b>\$5,947,423</b> |
| ■ Program Expense                  | <b>\$4,910,846</b> |
| ■ Management & General Expense     | <b>\$ 777,430</b>  |
| ■ Fundraising Expense              | <b>\$ 247,586</b>  |
| ■ End of Year Change in Net Assets | <b>\$ 11,561</b>   |





# AVONDALE HOUSE DONORS

## **\$25,000 +**

Betty and Tom Mobley  
James I. Perkins Family Foundation  
Texas Children's Hospital

## **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Bayou City Road Runners  
The Brown Foundation  
Jane and Michael Murray  
Westwood Wealth Management

## **\$5000 - \$9999**

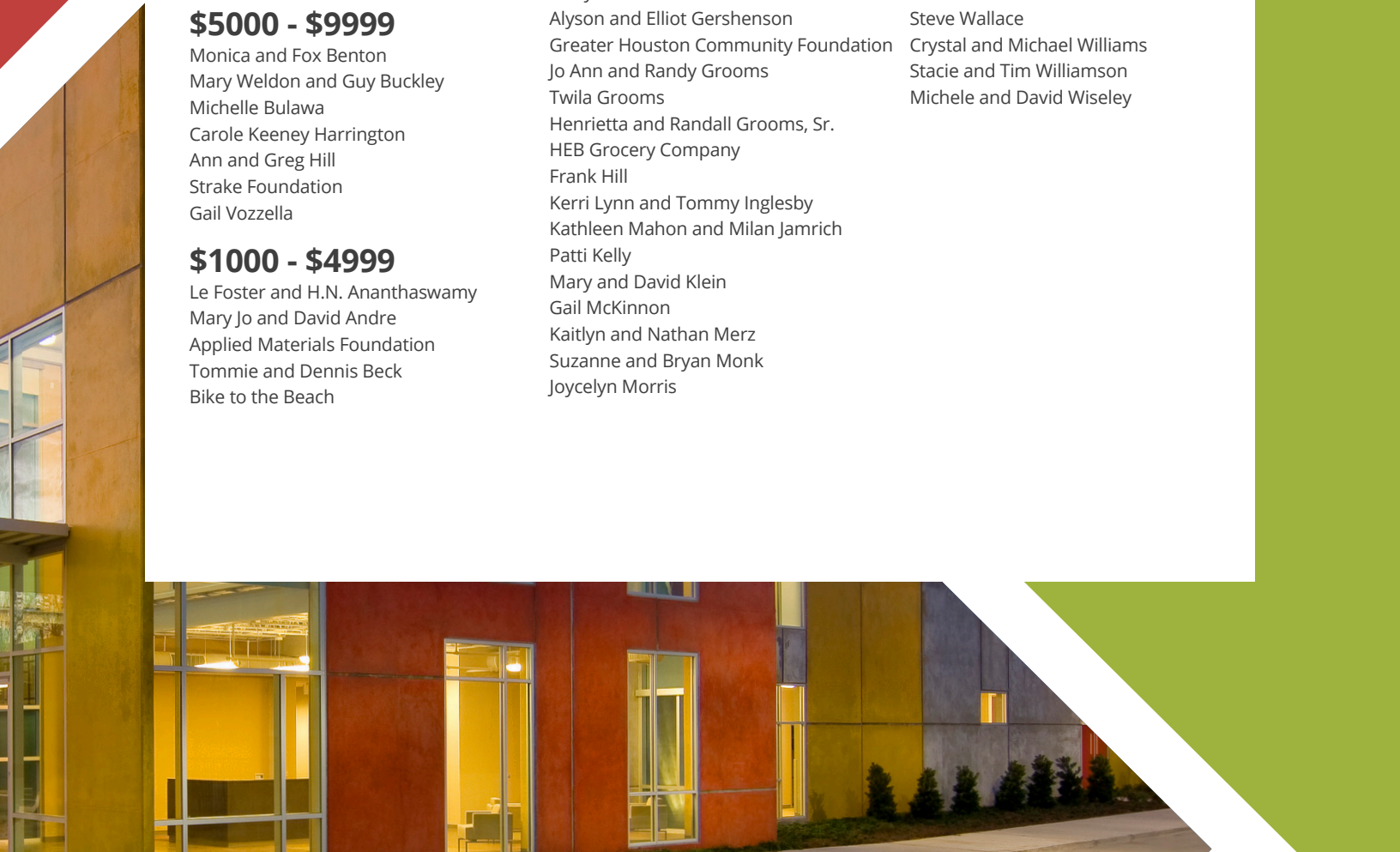
Monica and Fox Benton  
Mary Weldon and Guy Buckley  
Michelle Bulawa  
Carole Keeney Harrington  
Ann and Greg Hill  
Strake Foundation  
Gail Vozzella

## **\$1000 - \$4999**

Le Foster and H.N. Ananthaswamy  
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Bike to the Beach

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# AVONDALE HOUSE DONORS

## **\$500 - \$999**


Kathleen and Rodney Beetar  
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Chevron  
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Kenny Rogers  
Lara Shekerdeman  
Louise and Stephen Sweet  
Stephany and Jim Wallace  
Douglas Wheelock  
Women of St. Mark's

## **\$250 - \$499**

Dorothy and Mickey Ables  
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Ryn and Russell Bowers  
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Sarom In and Minh Vo  
Tara and J. Kevin Wallace  
Waylon Wood





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