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This year represented a pivotal moment for Houston and for Rice University’s Kinder Institute for Urban Research. As the region reckoned with the impacts of Hurricane Harvey, alongside the ongoing challenges and opportunities of continued growth, the Kinder Institute continued to play a significant role in guiding important policy discussions and helping Houstonians reflect on where we’ve been and where we’re headed.

In 2018, the Kinder Institute published governance reports on the region’s patchwork system of municipal utility districts and law enforcement, the experiences of the city’s large and diverse refugee communities, the challenges for bicycle and pedestrian safety and the area’s ongoing response to disaster. The foundational Kinder Houston Area Survey, in its 37th year, continued to offer a unique view on Houston-area residents, our attitudes and our experiences in a diverse metropolitan area.

As it embarked on a four-part assessment of the Houston Independent School District’s switch to a decentralized management and funding model several years ago, the Kinder Institute’s Houston Education Research Consortium expanded its reach. Building on partnerships begun in 2017, HERC now includes 10 school districts, including Aldine, Alief and Katy, to continue to bring research and practice together for the benefit of all children. The Kinder Institute continued to lead the conversation in recovery and resilience following Harvey, through its work with the Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium and through a number of reports that examined everything from buyout best practices to how social media and crowdsourced platforms can help fill critical gaps in emergency response during a disaster.

All the while, the Kinder Institute has been a presence in the community, partnering with local organizations, offering free lectures featuring respected experts and convening important conversations around issues such as housing and mobility.

The Kinder Institute remains committed to helping guide Houston’s future through research and community engagement that tackles big problems and promotes innovative solutions. The Kinder Institute’s think and do model will continue to play an integral part in shaping Houston’s long-term success and prosperity.

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President’s Message

Under our Vision for the Second Century, Second Decade (V2C2) plan, Rice University continues to elevate, expand and strengthen its engagements with Houston and the metropolitan region. The Kinder Institute has been a particularly important part of this effort, with its unique approach to data, research, engagement and action.

The impact was especially felt in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, when the Kinder Institute applied its resources to fund research for the region’s long-term recovery. Through the Hurricane Harvey Registry, hosted by the institute’s Urban Data Platform, the university is able to offer insight into the social and environmental effects of the storm and provide a wealth of data for other regions undergoing similar recovery processes.

The institute’s Houston Solutions Lab, part of the national MetroLab Network, announced funding in September 2018 for three new projects that address challenges identified by the city, including two with a focus on flood-related issues. These projects include a tool for real-time data collection of street flooding to aid emergency responses and help better assess future flood risk beyond the city’s bayous and waterways; surveys to gather more information about past flooding experiences to enhance models of future risk; and a project to help the city make its vehicle fleet more sustainable.

The institute’s ongoing research programs, including its expanded Houston Education Research Consortium, reflect the university’s commitment to supporting decisionmakers in the Houston area with data, research and analysis. Community data tools, including the Urban Data Platform and Houston Community Data Connections dashboard, expand access to critical information for a broad range of actors, from individual residents to nonprofits and researchers, enabling our city and region to make more effective policy decisions.

The essential place of the Kinder Institute at Rice University was reflected in the groundbreaking of the new Patricia Lipoma Kraft ’87 and Jonathan A. Kraft Hall for Social Sciences in September. Along with the Texas Policy Lab and other important Rice institutes, the Kinder Institute will have its permanent home and be a major presence in this stunning new building, supporting its engagement with other faculty, researchers and students from across the campus.

Rice’s commitment to fully engaging with Houston and Harris County is a central element of our university strategy, and the Kinder Institute is critical to our success. In a brief period of time, the Kinder Institute has achieved a position in which it provides critical assistance to Houston in identifying and solving the challenges it faces as a major metropolis, and the knowledge it is discovering will help urban communities across the globe.

David Leebron
President
Rice University
Director’s Message

After Hurricane Harvey, we at the Kinder Institute — like everybody else in Houston — were literally swamped with the fallout. Starting the week of the storm, we dropped everything and started working on understanding the impact of Harvey. We were scrambling to finish a report on the people and neighborhoods most vulnerable in order to help the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund understand how best to distribute more than $100 million in charitable contributions.

Many months later, things are back to normal, sort of. In 2018, we produced a series of important reports, and we hosted a wide variety of successful events. Yet things are not the same. Harvey has had a lasting impact on us and everyone in Houston.

For us at the Kinder Institute, Hurricane Harvey stimulated a lot of thinking about our focus areas. Our mission is the betterment of cities — especially Houston — and the people who live in them. But the truth of the matter is that cities are not about one thing — they’re about everything. Since I arrived in 2014, we had done work on many different issues. After Harvey, we realized we needed to focus on only a few.

So we decided on six: demographics (playing off the Kinder Houston Area Survey) and education (Ruth López Turley’s Houston Education Research Consortium), plus transportation, housing, the governance of the region and post-Harvey resiliency. These are all related, of course, as the reports we have been producing in the second half of 2018 have shown.

“Accessing Opportunity” describes the difficult commutes low-wage workers in Houston must endure. This involves housing, transportation and Hurricane Harvey, which deeply affected the lives of low-wage workers by damaging their apartments and washing away their cars. “Governing a Growing Region” describes the stresses and strains surrounding the way Houston grows, especially since the city has stopped annexing new territory and the role of municipal utility districts has grown. Those issues are inevitably linked to housing. MUDs facilitate the construction of new houses, and Hurricane Harvey damaged infrastructure that MUDs manage.

“Planning from the Inside Out” discusses people’s concerns with traffic safety in the community of Gulfton, but housing is a concern that underlies the transportation issue.

Going forward, as we pursue research in these areas, we expect that these linkages will become even more powerful. For example, the Kinder Institute is doing important research work in support of Houston’s 100 Resilient Cities effort, which will result in the city’s first-ever resiliency plan. Though Hurricane Harvey was the flashpoint that led to the city’s decision to pursue a resiliency plan, the plan itself — and our work — will range across all the issues that we’ve decided to focus on.

In 2019, Harvey is still with us. But instead of being flooded by it, we are using the disaster as a way to organize our work and leverage change in Houston.

Bill Fulton
Director
Kinder Institute for Urban Research
In 2018, the Kinder Institute helped guide the Houston region’s conversation on recovery and resiliency while also deepening its engagement and research around key quality-of-life issues.

Here are a few highlights:

• The Kinder Institute, including the Houston Education Research Consortium, published nearly two dozen research reports, including two major governance reports. One report centered on the limitations and opportunities created by the region’s current service provision model. The second report explored possible savings for law enforcement agencies through consolidation of services and shared technology.

• Joining forces with transit equity advocacy group LINK Houston, the Kinder Institute co-hosted the Street Safety Summit that brought local and national experts to Houston for an all-day event that focused on improving street conditions.

• For a deeper look at the factors that impact a community’s safety and walkability, the Kinder Institute published two Gulfton-focused reports, surveying residents of the dense and diverse Houston neighborhood about the streets and infrastructure issues. These reports aim to better inform planning efforts there and serve as a model for other communities.

• The Houston Community Data Connections dashboard was unveiled in the wake of Hurricane Harvey in 2017, and a year later, HCDC hosted a second public workshop to showcase its enhanced data tools and services. The event helped local stakeholders understand how to access data for a specific community and how to tell data-informed stories about those communities to advocate for change. Aimed at nonprofit staff and other community leaders, the dashboard continues to add new datasets and visualizations, offering an interactive component to the Kinder Institute’s research and work.

• Houston joined the 100 Resilient Cities network, a global effort to build resilience capacity. The Kinder Institute will play an important role in helping the city develop its resiliency strategy as part of this effort.
• Meanwhile, the Houston Education Research Consortium presented recent research findings on prekindergarten education as well as the impact of decentralization in the Houston Independent School District to its board of trustees. The education team also expanded its reach across the region with 10 school district partners in 2018.

• The Kinder Institute selected several projects for funding through the second round of the Houston Solutions Lab, which partners researchers with city departments and officials to tackle urban issues.

• The Urban Edge served as a critical source of news and information, with articles cited and republished by preeminent publications like the Houston Chronicle and Texas Tribune.

• Through public workshops, events and lectures, the Kinder Institute helped expand important conversations about Houston. The Kinder Institute Forums, our signature lecture series, posted a significant increase in annual average attendance.

These are only a few highlights. You are encouraged to continue reading to learn more about how we engaged partners and stakeholders to deliver impact in our communities.
Collaborations and Overlapping Services in Harris County Law Enforcement

In Harris County, there are more than 60 law enforcement agencies spending at least $1.6 billion annually. This report, the second in a larger effort by the Kinder Institute to address critical issues of governance, looks at existing overlapping services in the Houston area and offers options for possible consolidation and collaboration. “Duties such as patrol responsibilities and highway enforcement are split between multiple agencies, and in many cases, patrol jurisdictions overlap,” the report finds. “Simplifying and streamlining patrol duties would not only clarify responsibilities for agencies, but for residents as well. Likewise, realigning patrol duties within the county would free both officers and funding up for additional duties, or could simply reduce costs.”

Governing a Growing Region: Addressing Challenges of Service Provision and Development in Houston

The governance of the Houston region is split among hundreds of government jurisdictions, including cities, counties and hundreds of special districts, particularly municipal utility districts. While this current system of service provision has been vital to the city’s growth and expansion, as Houston continues to grow, its local governments are struggling to provide services to residents in an equitable and cost-effective manner. This report explores the current arrangement between cities, counties and MUDs, and highlights several options to address larger systemic issues in the region.
Tracking Eighth-Graders’ Postsecondary Outcomes in Harris County

It is predicted that by the year 2020, 65 percent of all jobs in the U.S. will require some post-secondary education and training beyond high school. Knowing this, the Houston Education Research Consortium used data from the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to track the postsecondary and workforce outcomes of more than 267,000 eighth-grade Houston-area students for 17 years. With support from Houston Endowment, HERC and the Houston Community Data Connections team created data dashboards to review and compare student outcomes in Texas, Harris County and 20 school districts in Harris County.

Urban Development, Transportation and Placemaking

Cementing Millennials Downtown: Expression and Impacts: This report explores how real estate developers are cementing millennials in the downtowns of two Sun Belt cities, Phoenix and Houston, which are emerging sites of millennial migration.

Case Studies in Floodplain Buyouts: Looking to Best Practices to Drive the Conversation in the Houston Region: As disasters increase in frequency, home buyout programs are growing in popularity. This report analyzes best practices from other jurisdictions engaged in hazard mitigation strategy of property buyouts.

2018 Civic Health Index: Despite Houston’s economic and cultural vibrancy, it tends to lag behind other large metro areas in terms of civic health. This study looks at Houston through three specific lenses: social connectedness, civic involvement and political participation.

Mapping Houston Development: The subdivision plat is a document prepared by a surveyor that illustrates the dimensions of property being developed, its intended use, the surrounding landowners, and adjoining street right-of-ways. This interactive map uses plat data to show the urban growth of Harris and Fort Bend counties since the 1950s.

Building a More Resilient Housing System: Key learnings from the “Building a More Resilient Housing System” event held in March 2018 are identified in this report. This report covers how Houston can think more broadly about its response to acute disasters and long-term resilience.
From Close Calls to Crashes: Infrastructure Priorities to Improve Safety for People on Bikes: Using travel diaries and self-reported near-miss data, as well as data from the Texas Department of Transportation and Love to Ride, this report examines bicyclists’ vulnerability on Houston-area roadways.

Planning From Inside Out: Using Community Responses to Address Transportation, Infrastructure and Safety Concerns: This report, based on responses from more than 300 residents and workers in Gulfton, highlights where to prioritize street safety improvements.

Accessing Opportunity: Employment and Commuting Patterns Among Low-, Medium- and High-Wage Workers in Houston: Findings from this study show that a lack of public transportation is making living in the city more difficult to access jobs in some areas.

Identifying Latent Transit Ridership: By analyzing existing demographic, land use and transit service characteristics of transit lines, this report identifies opportunities in Houston where ridership can be increased.

Urban and Metropolitan Governance

Hurricane Harvey Relief Funds Needs Assessment (Phase Two): Using data from Houston, Harris County and multiple nonprofit groups, this report looks at the needs of Houston residents following Hurricane Harvey by zip code, age group and ethnicity, among other factors. Top needs identified included assistance with rent, food, home repair, child care, health care immunizations, and disaster care management.

Rethinking Disaster Recovery and Mitigation Funding in the Wake of Hurricane Harvey: This research brief provides context about how the recovery process is unfolding in the Hurricane Harvey region. It also points to improvements for disaster preparation, recovery and overall resilience.

Lessons From Harvey: Crisis Informatics for Urban Resilience: Social media sites operate as emergency communication venues during crises. This report suggests public agencies work closely with social media companies and the operators of crowdsourced sites to incorporate these systems into the disaster recovery process.
Urban Disparity and Opportunity

Refugee Realities: Between National Challenges and Local Responsibilities in Houston: While Houston is among the largest recipients of refugee arrivals in the country, the city offers less assistance to newly arriving families after the period of initial resettlement than any other major destination. This report examines the history of refugee resettlement in Houston and opportunities for investment.

Neighborhood Gentrification Across Harris County: 1990 to 2016: Gentrification in Houston has accelerated since 2000, particularly in the years from 2010 to 2016. This report documents recent neighborhood changes indicative of gentrification and suggests strategies to support equitable revitalization instead.

Houston Education Research Consortium

HISD’s Decentralization Reform (Part 1: Policy Analysis): This research brief is the first of a four-part series that studies the implementation and impact of the Houston Independent School District’s decision to decentralize in the 1990s.

Transitioning to College and Work (Part 1: Where are High School Seniors from 2006–2008 now?): The college outcomes of three cohorts of 12th-grade students in the Houston Independent School District are described in this report through descriptive statistics of college enrollment, college completion and annual income.

Kinder Houston Area Survey

Kinder Houston Area Survey: The 37th annual survey measures Houston-area residents' perspectives on a wide range of topics, including the local economy, immigration, education and resilience after Hurricane Harvey.
Since its start in 2011, the primary goal of the Houston Education Research Consortium has been to partner with Houston-area school districts to guide data-driven, equity-minded policy.

In 2018, HERC experienced phenomenal growth thanks to a generous $10.7 million, seven-year grant from the Kinder Foundation. While the work with HERC’s initial and primary partner, Houston Independent School District, will continue, HERC’s mission has expanded to include a total of 10 independent school districts across the region. The districts are: Aldine, Alief, Cypress-Fairbanks, Friendswood, Houston, Katy, Pasadena, Sheldon, Spring and Spring Branch.

One of the reports produced by HERC in 2018 addresses questions on decentralization. HERC researchers undertook four studies and presented the findings before HISD board members in 2018. First, they looked at whether the district’s implementation of decentralization matched with best practices laid out in broader research literature. Then, HERC researchers examined whether current principals were informed to make the sorts of decisions decentralization argues principals are best suited to make. The researchers then looked at whether student test scores changed after decentralization and how funding functioned as a result of decentralization.

“We found that overall decentralization was implemented with fidelity,” said HERC Director Ruth López Turley, noting that it was in line with the approach adopted by other districts around the country, “but, the following areas deviated somewhat from accepted theory, and those are small schools, magnets and teacher salaries.”

Additionally, HERC led the nation in a survey involving the social and emotional skills of two cohorts of 10- and 15-year-old students. More than 1,000 Houston-area students in HISD were surveyed as part of the project, organized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The data gathered from the survey will be used to help identify factors that support the development of social and emotional skills and to consider what these skills look like in an international context. The study is taking place in 11 sites around the world.

**Looking Ahead:** The second phase of the OECD project is set to take place in 2019.

**National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships**

In 2018, the National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships hosted their annual forum and added eight new members to its network. In July, the network hosted the NNERPP Annual Forum in Portland, Oregon. With close to 120 participants representing 28 research-practice partnerships, foundations, research institutions and nonprofit agencies, this was the biggest forum yet.

**Looking Ahead:** In an effort to create more specialized learning communities within the overall NNERPP community, two subnetworks were launched in 2018 with additional subnetworks anticipated in 2019.
Community Bridges

The Community Bridges program is a service-learning fellowship for Rice undergraduate students that aims to strengthen Rice University’s relationship with Greater Houston through active fieldwork and course learning. During the 2017-2018 academic year, 13 fellows provided nearly 1,500 service hours at 10 partner sites in Houston’s Third Ward, Fifth Ward and East End communities.

The research projects conducted by Community Bridges Fellows are uniquely designed to meet the needs of partner organizations and their constituencies.

- In partnership with Air Alliance Houston, fellow Kathy Le collected data on air quality in Pasadena, drafted an anti-idling ordinance for the city using data and analysis of other ordinances in California and Minnesota and generated informative presentations for schools and communities to emphasize the importance of monitoring air quality and crafting action plans.

- Fellow Alicia Leong created a mindfulness-based curriculum for Small Steps Nurturing Center after observing classrooms on a weekly basis. Her work included consulting with the director and classroom teachers at Small Steps, reviewing literature on mindfulness-based interventions in preschools and conducting preliminary trials of an MBI curriculum. A storyboard highlighting these and other Community Bridges research projects can be found at: https://tinyurl.com/communitybridges2018.

Community Bridges recruited 19 fellows for the 2018-2019 academic year. Additionally, Community Bridges confirmed partnerships with Avenue CDC and Legacy Community Health. Projects with Avenue CDC focus on community-based efforts to preserve and revitalize the near Northside and Northline neighborhoods. Students’ work at Legacy involve screening low-income patients for social needs and connecting them with food, transportation, utility and housing assistance.

Looking Ahead: In 2019, Community Bridges will explore program changes that strengthen ties between its fellows and the Houston Community Data Connections program.

Fellows Nehemiah Ankoor and James Sanft, in collaboration with the Urban Enrichment Institute (formerly the Fifth Ward Enrichment Program), created and administered an in-depth “Motivational Gifts Questionnaire” to black and Latino male students. The goal of this assessment was to affirm students’ innate talents and capabilities. Additionally, the fellows created a database of 300 occupations, which were coded according to how well they fit with each gift, and outlined the steps for using the database and questionnaire results to teach the students about different career opportunities. Ankoor now works with the Houston Education Research Consortium at the Kinder Institute as a junior research analyst.
In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, the Kinder Institute rolled out its neighborhood indicators dashboard, Houston Community Data Connections. During the 2017–2018 academic year, HCDC received and processed more than 70 data-related requests from individuals, nonprofits and other local agencies in the Greater Houston area. These requests focused on health, Hurricane Harvey, uninsured populations, parks, affordable housing and demographics. The HCDC dashboard saw more than 6,500 unique users and nearly 11,000 site sessions with two-thirds conducted by Houston area residents. The dashboard is now home to 100 neighborhood-level indicators that highlight disparities and other local issues for each of the 143 community tabulation areas in Harris County.

To help users explore the new features, the HCDC team created and published a demonstration video that can be accessed at: https://tinyurl.com/HCDCdemo.

In addition to its work on the dashboard and related services, the HCDC team was heavily involved in several research projects. For example, it was integral to a needs assessment study for the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund. Moreover, the team has received multiple training and speaking requests, including a training request from the Texas Evaluation Network, a statewide network for program officers and evaluation professionals.

In November 2018, the HCDC team hosted Discover HCDC: Connecting Changemakers With Data, the program's first post-rollout event for users of the platform. Sixty people from nonprofits, government agencies and research institutions across Houston attended the workshop to learn about the new functions on the HCDC dashboard and to participate in training sessions on topics such as gentrification and commuting patterns.

Looking Ahead: In 2019, the HCDC team plans to offer a series of webinars and in-person trainings to community members who are interested in learning about data literacy and data visualization.

Urban Data Platform

The Kinder Institute’s Urban Data Platform, under the direction of Rice statistics professors Kathy Ensor and Rudy Guerra, brings together hundreds of datasets about Houston, including demographics, housing, health, education, transportation and other urban-related issues.

The UDP, developed with support from Houston Endowment, focuses on spatial data, or information with a geographic component. The UDP provides the data as a resource to researchers so they can focus on the research, rather than tracking down data and cleaning it up.

In 2018, access to the UDP became available to researchers, government agencies and to community groups outside of Rice University. The platform also became open for users to submit and add their data to the UDP after review.

In response to Hurricane Harvey, the UDP quickly uploaded as much data as possible, becoming the best source available for Harvey-related data.

In 2018, approximately 200 registered users logged more than 5,500 user sessions on the UDP. Of the 150 datasets available, 40 are available for direct download to registered users and the remaining are available through the secure computing platform.
Looking Ahead: The UDP will be busy in 2019 as the platform strives to be the primary resource for Hurricane Harvey-related data. The UDP team will continue to add and curate datasets for its catalog, including those used in research funded through the Rice Houston Engagement and Recovery Effort.

The team plans to present the UDP at the American Association of Geographers conference in Washington, D.C., in April 2019.

Houston Solutions Lab

The Houston Solutions Lab, a partnership between Rice University and the city, is part of the larger MetroLab Network, which pairs universities and cities to use academic research to address city problems.

Two projects from 2017 wrapped up in fall 2018. Phil Bedient and Jamie Padgett, professors in the civil and environmental engineering department, each led a project that addressed flooding in Houston. In conjunction with the city of Houston, Bedient and his team modeled how smaller-scale mitigation efforts in a few flood-prone Houston neighborhoods could address flooding issues. Padgett and her team created an early warning system for White Oak Bayou, modeled on the successful system created for the Texas Medical Center. Both of these projects were presented to representatives from the city and the Harris County Flood Control District.

Funded Projects in Round 2:

Project 1: Professors Gary Woods, Leonardo Duenas Osorio, Frank Yong Li and Devika Subramanian are working with Steve Costello, Houston’s chief resiliency officer, to develop flood sensors on Rice’s campus for street-level measurements for broader city development.

Project 2: Professors Bob Stein and Rick Wilson are working with the city to learn where first responders encounter high water during storms. They are also conducting a satisfaction survey of residents living near a Storm Water Action Team to gauge the teams’ effectiveness.

Project 3: Professors Dan Cohan and Laura Schaefer are focusing on the sustainability of the city’s vehicle fleet. The goal is to determine the most efficient vehicle fleet system for city implementation.

Speaker’s Bureau

In 2018, the Kinder Institute participated in more than 100 speaking engagements in Texas and traveled as far away as California, Chicago, Portland, Atlanta and Washington, D.C.

Members of the leadership team spoke on a variety of topics, including education, transportation, housing, local demographics, post-Harvey resiliency and law enforcement.

A few of the key engagements included presentations to organizations such as BP, Houston Association of Realtors, BBVA Compass Bank, United Way, Houston Independent School District, Texas A&M University and the University of Texas at Austin.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS

January 23
Urban Reads: Kyle Shelton

Kyle Shelton, director of strategic partnerships at the Kinder Institute, spoke with Dug Begley, transportation reporter for the Houston Chronicle, about postwar metropolitan development and Shelton’s new book “Power Moves: Transportation, Politics, and Development in Houston.”

Attendees: 153

February 6
Buyout Practices in the Wake of Harvey

The Kinder Institute and the Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium hosted a panel discussion on home buyout policies and best practices in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

Attendees: 200

May 17
Urban Reads: Michael Emerson and Kevin T. Smiley

Michael Emerson, provost and professor of urban studies at North Park University, and Kevin T. Smiley, an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Buffalo, discussed their book, “Market Cities, People Cities: The Shape of Our Urban Future,” which is an analysis on how these two types of cities function for governments and residents in various ways.

Attendees: 100

June 14
Designing, Planning and Paying for Resilience

Leading national and international experts shared flood mitigation strategies — low impact design, green infrastructure and urban-scale greenspace preservation — and discussed how best to pay for them.

Attendees: 225
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Building a More Resilient Housing System</td>
<td>The Kinder Institute and the Houston Local Initiatives Support Corporation hosted a panel discussion on resilience strategies. Attendees: 220</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>Street Safety Summit</td>
<td>Panelists provided practical, relatable examples of how Houston can improve walkability and biking in Houston. Attendees: 115</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>Discover HCDC: Connecting Changemakers With Data</td>
<td>Attendees at this hands-on workshop were introduced to the new features of the Houston Community Data Connections dashboard. Attendees: 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Urban Reads: Christof Spieler</td>
<td>Christof Spieler, vice president and director of planning at Huitt-Zollars, discussed his book “Trains, Buses, People: An Opinionated Atlas of US Transit,” which explains how the unique circumstances of every city have resulted in very different transit systems. Attendees: 125</td>
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Kinder Institute Forums

The Kinder Institute Forum lecture series brings thought leaders from around the world to Houston to share ideas about pressing urban issues facing us today. In 2018, the Kinder Institute welcomed six well-known speakers, who addressed key urban issues including hurricane resilience, innovation, civic engagement and local governance. In 2018, the annual average attendance for the forums increased by 75 percent, compared to the previous year.

February 21
Kinder Institute Forum: Harriet Tregoning
Natural and economic disaster resilience expert Harriet Tregoning shared how communities and governments recover from natural disasters such as Hurricane Harvey.
Attendees: 215

March 14
Kinder Institute Forum: Mayor Mitch Landrieu
New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu discussed lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina and the journey from recovery to resiliency.
Attendees: 315

May 23
Kinder Institute Forum: Amy Liu
Amy Liu, vice president and director of the Brookings Institution’s Metropolitan Policy Program, explored how cities can stay resilient during natural and man-made disasters.
Attendees: 300

September 26
Kinder Institute Forum: Elizabeth Currid-Halkett
Author and researcher Elizabeth Currid-Halkett articulated the importance of cities investing in innovation for a competitive advantage.
Attendees: 200
December 5
KI Forum: Bruce Katz

Bruce Katz, formerly with the Brookings Institution and current co-founder of New Localism Advisors, spoke about the emerging “new localism,” a term that captures the shift of power downward from national and state governments to cities and metropolitan communities. Katz focused on three cities at the forefront of problem-solving — Pittsburgh, Indianapolis and Copenhagen — before turning the focus to Houston. “We should all work toward being a nation of problem solvers,” Katz summed up. “For every Pittsburgh, there are dozens of cities subsidizing consumption rather than investing in innovation. For every Indianapolis, there are hundreds of cities where collaboration is informal, unstructured and underfunded. For every Copenhagen, there are thousands of cities leaving the value of their public wealth on the table.” To be more sustainable and prosperous, cities must invest in innovation and finance creatively.

Attendees: 300

October 24
KI Forum: Carol Coletta

The phrase, “You can’t feel ’em, if you can’t see ’em” framed Carol Coletta’s discussion. Coletta, a senior fellow with the Kresge Foundation’s American Cities Practice, stressed the need to “make communities that support people who enjoy mixing it up with others. Not because we are forced to do it, but because we are delighted by it.” She pointed to the potential in a city’s “glamour project,” a citywide, public-space project or initiative that will benefit a diverse group of people, both racially and economically. For Houston, she sees potential in the Bayou Greenways 2020 project, which aims to connect 3,000 acres of land along Houston’s bayou systems to each other through 150 miles of hike-and-bike trails to parks and communities.

Attendees: 245
Top 10 Posts

For the most frequent engagement, the Kinder Institute relies on its Urban Edge blog, which covers important research and also reports on and offers analysis of urban policy issues in Houston and beyond. Some of the most read stories in 2018 along with approximate page views included:

1. With new opportunity zones, a tool for change brings questions
   Views: 3,655
2. Two Houston zip codes among the most gentrified in the country
   Views: 2,235
3. In Phoenix and Houston, effort to attract millennials is reshaping downtown
   Views: 2,200
4. Why I’m scared to walk in Houston
   Views: 1,540
5. In Houston, a radical approach to housing
   Views: 1,505
6. Houston studies show light rail did bring some benefits
   Views: 1,490
7. Interactive: How Houston’s highways spurred growth, sprawl
   Views: 1,435
8. Blue needle in a red haystack: Why one Texas woman is taking on the odds this November
   Views: 1,320
9. How Houston’s Denver Harbor used a land use tool to curb gentrification
   Views: 1,195
10. In Houston, when the growth slowed a deeper problem emerged
    Views: 1,185
Excerpt from one of the most read Urban Edge posts in 2018:

Why I’m scared to walk in Houston

WILLIAM FULTON

The city needs a profound change in its motoring culture — not just from motorists themselves, but also from the authorities.

I can still remember the exact moment when I first got scared as a pedestrian in Houston. It was a Saturday afternoon last fall, and I was at the intersection of Waugh and West Dallas — two fast-moving, four-lane arterial streets in the Montrose district. I was headed south across West Dallas. When the light changed, I got the walk signal, and I stepped off the curb. First, a car making a right turn from southbound Waugh onto westbound West Dallas cut me off by a foot or two. Then a car making a left turn from northbound Waugh onto westbound West Dallas did the same.

In other words, walking legally in a crosswalk where I had the right of way, I almost got hit twice by separate fast-moving cars turning from opposite directions across my crosswalk. When I finally made it to the other side of the street, I felt myself shaking. I haven’t been the same since.

The above post also appeared in the Houston Chronicle.
Kinder Institute Luncheon

The 2018 Kinder Institute annual luncheon held in April welcomed a record-setting number of attendees. Guests were the first to hear findings from the Kinder Houston Area Survey, the nation’s longest-running study of its kind, led by Stephen Klineberg for over 37 years. Klineberg was joined on stage by institute director Bill Fulton, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, Harris County Judge Ed Emmett and Rice University President David Leebron.

For the second year, the luncheon also served as an opportunity to honor an outstanding Houstonian with the Stephen L. Klineberg Award for contributions to our city. BakerRipley President Emerita Angela Blanchard was the 2018 awardee, following Houston Parks Board chairman Tom Bacon in 2017.

The occasion has long been a gathering place for leaders in our city’s business and nonprofit communities and is Rice University’s largest annual fundraising event — raising nearly $680,000 in 2018 in support of the institute’s mission. In particular, lead sponsors Chevron, Kinder Foundation, and Sis and Hasty Johnson made that possible, along with hundreds of other contributors.
Strategic Support & Engagement

The annual luncheon provides a tremendous opportunity for thousands of Houstonians to engage with the expansive work of the Kinder Institute. While the event is one of the largest sources of revenue for the institute, we continue to find unique ways to connect with and steward those making meaningful contributions through our Kinder Institute Corporate Council and Friends of Kinder Institute giving groups.

State of the Institute

On Jan. 31, the institute hosted its inaugural State of the Institute annual meeting. Rich Kinder, who welcomed guests for the evening, was joined at the podium by Rice University President David Leebron and other institute leaders. Contributors making annual gifts of $1,000 or more were invited to hear future plans of the institute and Rice University, including the strategic vision, expansion of the Houston Education Research Consortium and the next iteration of the Kinder Houston Area Survey.

Urban Salon and Kinder Insiders

Now in their third year, the Urban Salon and Kinder Insiders series allow intimate, private gatherings for contributors with annual giving of $5,000 and $2,500 or more, respectively. Urban Salons are held in private residences, featuring local experts and institute leaders. The spring program, hosted by Nancy and Rich Kinder, featured Ruth López Turley in conversation with the Texas Education Agency’s commissioner Mike Morath. The fall event with Bill Fulton featured housing experts Tom McCasland and Daphne Lemelle and took place at the home of Franci Neely.

The Kinder Insiders breakfast series plays out at Rice University’s historic Faculty Club, with informal presentations on relevant issues by Rice scholars and leading faculty. Three different events featured Bill Fulton, Stephen Klineberg, Mark Jones, Jenifer Bratter and Kyle Shelton. While past Kinder Insiders events have covered various research areas, most recently the content connects directly to the Kinder Houston Area Survey, inviting a deeper discussion on those issues most important to Houstonians.
Kinder Institute Supporters

Friends of Kinder Institute
Current as of Dec. 31, 2018

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Nancy and Rich Kinder‡
Laura and Tom Bacon

Founder’s Circle $50,000–$99,999
Reinnette and Stan Marek

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Kathryn and Hank Coleman
Sarah and Doug Foshee
Sis and Hasty Johnson
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Patti and Richard Everett
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Franci Neely
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Joan and Stanford Alexander
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Brenda and John H. Duncan
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‡Includes gifts made through family foundations, donor-advised funds or other organizations.
* Denotes multiyear commitments to the Kinder Institute.
Supporter’s Circle $1,000–$2,499
Dorothy and Mickey Ables
Bettie Cartwright
Gus Comiskey Jr.
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Cullen Geiselman, Ph.D.
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Carla Knobloch
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Cassye Cook Provost
Eliza Lovett Randall
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Rob Rogers‡
Barrett Sides
Kristine G. and Stephen Wallace

Kinder Institute Corporate Council
Current as of Dec. 31, 2018
Benefactor’s Circle $100,000 and above
Chevron

Founder’s Circle $50,000–$99,999
BP America Inc.
CenterPoint Energy
H-E-B and H-E-B Tournament of Champions

Chairman’s Circle $25,000–$49,999
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JPMorgan Chase & Company
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Midway
MAREK
Port Houston
Texas Aromatics, LP
Texas Children’s Hospital
Transwestern
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UniversalPegasus International

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The Black Sheep Agency
Cadence Bank
CKP
Comcast
Comerica Bank
The Episcopal Diocese of Texas
Gensler
Greater East End Management District
HFF
Hogan Lovells
Houston Community College
Houston First Corporation
Houston Methodist
Houston Zoo
Huitt-Zollars
JLL

KHTOU11
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Neighbors in Action
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Rice Management Company
Rice University Development and Alumni Relations
Stewart Security Capital
SWA Group
Texas Medical Center
Univision
Uptown Houston Management District
UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
Walter P Moore
Wells Fargo
YMCA of Greater Houston

Supporter’s Circle $1,000–$2,499
Asakura Robinson
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The Gilliam Automotive Group
Harris County Hospital District Foundation
MasterWord Services
Mosaic Advisors
Neuhaus Education Center
New Hope Housing
Rice Design Alliance
Rogers Partners
Texas Southern University
Traffic Engineers, Inc.
UH Hobby School of Public Affairs
Wulfe & Co.
Xirtix Consulting, LLC
Supporting Foundations and Funds
Current as of Dec. 31, 2018

Research Grants
Hewlett Foundation
Houston Endowment Inc.
Kinder Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Spencer Foundation
Wallace Foundation
William T. Grant Foundation

Other Grants and Contributions
Baxter Trust
The Brown Foundation, Inc.
Larsen Family Charitable Fund
Sklar Family Foundation
The Kinder Institute’s 2018 revenue totaled $4.95 million with expenses totaling $4.84 million. Revenue is a combination of fundraising, research grants and annual distributions from the institute’s endowments. As of June 30, 2018, the institute’s endowments had a market value of $18.07 million. Our annual luncheon, a key fundraising event, grossed $636,000 in 2018.

Expenses are a combination of costs for fundraising, operations and public engagements, as well as expenses incurred for specific research programs. Public engagements include all costs for communication and public programs.

The fiscal year of the Kinder Institute corresponds to that of Rice University, running from July 1 to June 30.
Income Statement — Fiscal Year 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>$ 4,950,321</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder Institute Endowment Distribution</td>
<td>680,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Use Gifts from Supporters</td>
<td>1,021,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Programs</td>
<td>3,248,203</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>$ 4,844,452</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Programs</td>
<td>3,248,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>618,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>763,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Engagements</td>
<td>214,289</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Net Income—Fiscal Year 2018  $ 105,869

Kinder Institute Endowment History (Fiscal Years 2013–2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Beginning Endowment Value</th>
<th>Gifts Added</th>
<th>Investment Earnings</th>
<th>Earnings Distributed for Operations</th>
<th>Ending Endowment Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2013</td>
<td>$4,293,652</td>
<td>$5,230,977</td>
<td>$806,301</td>
<td>$(412,287)</td>
<td>$9,918,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2014</td>
<td>9,918,643</td>
<td>2,594,625</td>
<td>1,806,196</td>
<td>(475,830)</td>
<td>13,843,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2015</td>
<td>13,843,635</td>
<td>2,659,699</td>
<td>671,042</td>
<td>(767,508)</td>
<td>16,406,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2016</td>
<td>16,406,868</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>(142,080)</td>
<td>(773,320)</td>
<td>15,591,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2017</td>
<td>15,591,467</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2,391,384</td>
<td>(786,086)</td>
<td>17,196,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2018</td>
<td>17,196,765</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>1,558,906</td>
<td>(680,802)</td>
<td>18,074,869</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This summary includes the following endowment funds:
Kinder Endowed Fund (established December 2010)
Kinder Institute for Urban Research Term Endowment Fund (established January 2011)
T. Greg Hambrick Endowment for a Sustainable Workforce (established December 2015)
The Kinder Institute is a hybrid organization. In some cases, it has its own staff researchers tasked with performing research and working to ensure it reaches policymakers. The Kinder Institute is also Rice University’s cross-disciplinary home for urban research, and researchers from various departments and schools contribute to its mission.

In 2016, the Kinder Institute organized a new Faculty Advisory Committee, tasked with helping the institute identify ways to work collaboratively across campus. The committee now has representatives across the university, with a goal of having at least one member from each school who can help inform the institute about urban research issues.

Committee members are charged with promoting collaboration and helping the institute understand how various Rice academic units can support the institute’s work. They provide technical guidance as the institute seeks research proposals across campus and help identify experiential learning opportunities for Rice students interested in urban issues.

### 2018–2019 Faculty Advisory Committee

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**James Elliott**
Professor of Sociology

**David Alexander**
Professor of Physics and Astronomy
Director, Rice Space Institute

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Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering

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Professor of Humanities
Director, Humanities Research Center

**Richard Lavenda**
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Karen Ostrum George Distinguished Service Professor in Computational Engineering
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**Sarah Whiting**
William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture
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**EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

**Stephen Klineberg**
Professor of Sociology
Founding Director, Kinder Institute

**Ruth N. López Turley**
Professor of Sociology
Associate Director of Research, Kinder Institute
Director, Houston Education Research Consortium
Affiliated Research

The Kinder Institute’s Affiliated Researchers program allows the Kinder Institute to work with external researchers at Rice University and beyond who are studying important urban issues in Houston and other urban centers.

**Kinder Fellows** include Kinder Institute program directors, Rice University professors and other senior researchers who maintain long-term affiliations with the Kinder Institute and whose research interests are consistent with the institute’s overall mission.

**Kinder Fellows**

**Dominic Boyer**  
Professor of Anthropology  
Director, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences  
Rice University

**Jenifer Bratter**  
Professor, Department of Sociology  
Director, Program for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Culture  
Rice University

**Samuel Brody**  
Professor of Marine Sciences  
Director, Center for Texas Beaches and Shores  
Texas A&M University at Galveston

**Tony Brown**  
Professor of Sociology  
Associate Director, Kinder Institute Urban Health Program  
Founding Director, Racism and Racial Experiences Workgroup  
Rice University

**Justin Denney**  
Associate Professor of Sociology  
William Julius Wilson Distinguished Professor  
Washington State University

**Casey Durand**  
Assistant Professor, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences  
University of Texas School of Public Health

**James R. Elliott**  
Professor and Department Chair, Sociology  
Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee, Kinder Institute for Urban Research  
Co-Director, Social Analytics Cluster, and Steering Committee Member, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences  
Rice University

**Michael Emerson**  
Provost  
Professor of Sociology and Urban Studies  
North Park University

**Katherine Bennett Ensor**  
Director, Kinder Institute Urban Data Platform and Noah G. Harding Professor of Statistics  
Rice University

**Matthew Festa**  
Professor of Law  
South Texas College of Law Houston
Rudy Guerra  
Professor of Statistics  
Assistant Director, Kinder Institute Urban Data Platform  
Oversight Committee Member, Kinder Institute Urban Data Platform  
Rice University

Yujie Hu  
Assistant Professor, School of Geosciences  
University of South Florida

Mark Jones  
Professor of Political Science  
Joseph D. Jamail Chair in Latin American Studies  
Rice University

Rachel Kimbro  
Professor of Sociology  
Founding Director, Kinder Institute Urban Health Program  
Rice University

Jeffrey Lowe  
Associate Professor  
Urban Planning and Environmental Policy  
Texas Southern University

Melissa Marschall  
Professor of Political Science  
Director, Center for Local Elections in American Politics  
Director, Social Policy Analysis Major, School of Social Sciences  
Rice University

Anthony Pinn  
Agnes Cullen Arnold Professor of Humanities  
Professor of Religion  
Founding Director, Center for Engaged Research and Collaborative Learning  
Rice University

Albert Pope  
Gus Sessions Wortham Professor of Architecture  
Rice University

Douglas A. Schuler  
Associate Professor of Business and Public Policy  
Jones Graduate School of Business  
Rice University

Kyle Shelton  
Director of Strategic Partnerships, Kinder Institute for Urban Research  
Rice University

Ruth N. López Turley  
Director, Houston Education Research Consortium  
Associate Director, Kinder Institute for Urban Research  
Professor of Sociology, Rice University  
Founder, National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships  
Rice University

Sarah Whiting  
Dean of Architecture  
William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture  
Rice University
Kinder Institute Scholars are researchers — including professors, post-doctoral fellows and graduate students — receiving “soft” support from the Kinder Institute for short-term work. Their research is either focused on Houston or directly connected to the Kinder Institute’s research programs.

**Kindred Scholars**

**Kwangyul Choi**  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Metropolitan Growth and Change  
University of Calgary

**Elena Craft**  
Senior Health Scientist  
Environmental Defense Fund

**Kiara Douds**  
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Sociology  
New York University

**Chris Hakkenberg**  
Rice Academy Postdoctoral Fellow  
Rice University

**Junia Howell**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology  
University of Pittsburgh

**Elizabeth Korver-Glenn**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology  
University of New Mexico

**Yehuda Sharim**  
Assistant Professor, Global Art Studies  
University of California, Merced

**Kevin T. Smiley**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology  
State University of New York at Buffalo

**Aimee VonBokel**  
Independent Scholar and Historian  
Department of History  
Houston Community College

**Travis Young**  
Ph.D. Candidate  
Departments of Geography and Demography  
Pennsylvania State University
Kinder Institute Staff

**Leadership**

- **Bill Fulton**
  Director, Kinder Institute for Urban Research

- **Stephen Klineberg**
  Founding Director
  Kinder Institute for Urban Research

- **Ruth N. López Turley**
  Director, Houston Education Research Consortium
  Associate Director of Research, Kinder Institute for Urban Research

- **John Bradshaw, Jr.**
  Director of Development

- **Rose Rougeau**
  Director of Communication

- **Kyle Shelton**
  Director of Strategic Partnerships

- **Hilary Toma**
  Director of Administration and University Partnerships

- **Jie Wu**
  Director of Research Management

**Administration**

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  Administrator

- **Margaret de Sosa**
  Executive Assistant to the Director

**Communication**

- **Leah Binkovitz**
  Senior Editor

- **Sarah Hua**
  Communication Specialist

- **Heather Leighton**
  Web and Social Media Editor

**Development**

- **Chris Bertaut**
  Development Coordinator

- **Evan Wildstein**
  Associate Director of Development

**Urban Development, Transportation and Placemaking**

- **Dian Nostikasari**
  Research Fellow

- **John Park**
  Research Fellow

- **Chris Servidio**
  Staff Researcher

**Urban and Metropolitan Governance**

- **Carlos Villegas**
  Staff Researcher

**Urban Disparity and Opportunity**

- **Wendie Choudary**
  Research Fellow

*Denotes employee no longer with the Kinder Institute as of Nov. 2018.*
Katie Wang  
Program Coordinator

Mingming Zhang  
Research Analyst

Urban Data Platform

Katherine Bennett Ensor  
Director, Kinder Institute Urban Data Platform and  
Noah G. Harding Professor of Statistics

Rudy Guerra  
Assistant Director, Kinder Institute Urban Data  
Platform and Professor of Statistics

Bryan Evans  
GIS Developer

Matthew Krause  
GIS Analyst

Jean Aroom  
GIS Support Specialist, Fondren Library

Julia Schedler  
Graduate Student

Joshua Tootoo  
GIS Manager  
Children’s Environmental Health Initiative

Hien Le  
Business Systems Analyst  
Children’s Environmental Health Initiative

Ruiyang Li  
GIS Analyst  
Children’s Environmental Health Initiative

Claire Osgood  
Senior Data Manager, Children’s Environmental Health Initiative

Houston Education Research Consortium

Leadership

Ruth N. López Turley  
Director, Houston Education Research Consortium  
Associate Director of Research, Kinder Institute  
for Urban Research

Terri Arellano  
Associate Director of Administration

Holly Heard  
Associate Director of Research Operations

Dan Potter  
Associate Director of Regional Research

Carla Stevens  
Associate Director for HISD

Administration

Arania Archoleka  
HERC Coordinator

Shauna Dunn  
Program Manager and Undergraduate Engagement  
Coordinator

Sheretta Edwards  
Survey Coordinator, Organization for Economic  
Cooperation and Development

Heather Stern  
Grant Writer

Data Team

Joanna Cortez  
Business Systems Analyst

Kanchanah Kannathas  
Data Manager
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Research Team
Sandra Alvear
Research Analyst

Nehemiah Ankoor
Junior Research Analyst

Katherine Yang Bao
Research Analyst

Erin Baumgartner
Research Scientist

Irina Chukhray
Research Analyst and OECD Project Manager

Brian Holzman
Research Scientist

Camila Cigorra Kennedy
Junior Research Analyst

Kori Stroub
Research Scientist

Courtney Thrash
Research Analyst

Diego Torres
HISD Research Specialist

Jessica Vasan
HISD Research Manager

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Jodi Moon
Ming Yin

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Quintin Gorman
Bethany Lewis
Jie Min
Esmeralda Sanchez
Julie Szabo

Affiliated Programs:
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Anthony Pinn
Director, CERCL

Maya Reine
Assistant Director, CERCL

Center for Local Elections in American Politics
Melissa Marschall
Director, LEAP

National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships
Paula Arce-Trigatti
National Director, NNERPP

Nina Spitzley
Program Administrator

Program for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Culture
Jenifer Bratter
Director, PSERC

Urban Health Program
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Professor of Sociology, Rice University

Rachel Kimbro
Founding Director, UHP

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Mission
The Kinder Institute for Urban Research builds better cities and improves people’s lives by bringing together data, research, engagement and action.

For more information about the annual report:
6100 Main St I MS-208
Houston, Texas 77005-1827
ATTN: Communication Department
kinder@rice.edu

kinder.rice.edu
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@RiceKinderInst
KinderInstituteForUrbanResearch