Iberville-Treme
New Orleans, Louisiana

For generations, the Iberville-Treme neighborhood served as a cultural hub for African Americans. However, urban renewal efforts – especially the creation of the I-10 freeway – effectively cut off Iberville-Treme from much needed resources, leaving residents in a segregated world of their own, with little improvements into the modern era.

Connecting Residents to Key Supports: USI works with residents to develop a personalized plan of action to achieve success in life. That may mean pursuing a GED, attending Out-of-School Time activities, or learning a new trade. At the end of 2018 USI was selected by the Housing Authority of New Orleans as the contractor of the Bienville Basin and Faubourg Lafitte Jobs Plus Program design to build upon resident, neighborhood and community partnership to assist families in achieving employment-related and other self-sufficiency goals. With family support through case management as the center of the Jobs Plus Program strategy, USI connects residents to services ranging from adult education and digital literacy to job readiness and employment placement. In addition to pathways to increasing earned income, residents are connected to financial management and literacy initiatives to focus on asset building such as credit counseling, and establishing banking accounts. Earned income and asset building combined with the Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard (JPEID) financial incentive and resident-to-resident support creates an environment to facilitate family success. Since the start of the program in January 2019, USI has enrolled 143 residents, completed 115 assessments, provided 101 residents with post placement services and placed 24 residents in employment.

Leading Events that Build Community: USI helped to coordinate and facilitate monthly community meetings to provide residents with a forum to express their concerns, connect with resources and develop programs in the community. Residents have spearheaded the planning and maintenance of a community garden, started training for the establishment of a Neighborhood Watch Group,
Our Experience with Choice Neighborhoods

Urban Strategies partners with a diversity of stakeholders in twelve Choice Neighborhoods sites to create and implement comprehensive neighborhood plans with a focus on human service needs. We owe our success with Choice Neighborhoods to our commitment to using a **Results-Based Accountability** framework that governs our approach to service delivery. We are using data to constantly measure and improve our programs for children and families in real time. Using our **LEARN (Learning for Effective Actions to Revitalize Neighborhoods)** performance measurement system, Urban continuously builds evidence on what works best for the more than 30,000 families we serve. We aim to further build upon early successes with Choice to realize our organizational vision that “**All families are stable and thriving.**”

developed a Bienville Basin Resident Committee and volunteer their time to extend the hours of operations of the Computer Lab on site. USI staff have lead the coordination of community engagement events with partners throughout the year including Health Fairs, Back to School and Field Day, Family Picnic, Family Movie and Game Nights, Volunteer Appreciation Day, Night Out Against Crime and Storytime with Santa— all to promote a safe and thriving neighborhood.

**Enrolling Families in Case Management:** Under the Iberville/Tremé Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, USI served over 400 families in Case Management and leveraged over $21 million in public and private funds. Nearly 85 percent of households from the target public housing site participated in active case management. At the close of the CNI Grant in 2017, 80% of Family and Individual Development Plans were closed with a positive outcome. Through the establishment of the CNI Endowment Fund, USI was able to continue to provide 134 households at Bienville Basin with Case Management in 2018. These families are being supported in education, health & wellness, and economic mobility.