



RICE | KINDER  
INSTITUTE FOR URBAN RESEARCH

Building Better Cities,  
Building Better Lives

# Annual Report 2017



REPORT UNDERWRITER:



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# Nancy & Rich Kinder



**I**t was a transformational year for Houston in many ways, and we are very proud that the Kinder Institute for Urban Research was in the midst of the urgent conversations about our region's future in 2017. The Institute's quality research is having a profound effect on our region and continues to provide decision makers with vital data to make informed decisions. In 2017 alone, the Institute published reports on Houston traffic, the disparity in our city's street lighting, the equality of pre-kindergarten educational opportunities, and the development and governance of Houston. Continuing a signature study, the Kinder Houston Area Survey marked its 36<sup>th</sup> year of in-depth analysis of Houston-area residents, what we think, how we work, and where we live.

In 2017, the Kinder Institute expanded its outreach, working with new community and government partners, educational institutions and other Rice University entities. One such partnership with the Houston branch of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is focused on improving the cultural and economic prospects of local communities.

Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC) has expanded to additional school districts—Alief, Cypress Fairbanks, Sheldon, and Spring Branch. The Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium, formed after Hurricane Harvey, and in partnership with both the Kinder Institute and the Kinder Foundation, is committed to leveraging research expertise to address post-Harvey concerns.

Southeast Texas and the Houston area face a long road to recovery post Harvey. The disruption of lives, livelihoods and the infrastructure of our region requires us to draw on data and analyses to inform public policy and to assist local leaders in support of the larger recovery effort. Through the work of the Kinder Institute, Rice University and our community and institutional partners, policy and action recommendations can be designed to inform governmental, private sector and community-based entities of the best ways to move forward for the safety, well-being and prosperity of Houston.

The Kinder Institute is committed to engaging the Houston community, whether through the development of new approaches to data collection and access, or free lectures that advance public discourse, or exposure to new published works about the urban condition. Through its research and community engagement, the Kinder Institute is positioned to advance Houston's success as a 21<sup>st</sup>-century city.

## **Rich Kinder**

*Advisory Board Chairman*  
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## **Nancy Kinder**

*Advisory Board President*  
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# President's Message



**A**s Rice University looks to the future, we hope to deepen our partnerships with local government and stakeholders across the Houston region. The Kinder Institute for Urban Research is a critical part of this plan. In the university's strategic plan, the *Vision for the Second Century, Second Decade (V2C2)*, we outline a mission to extend our reach and impact and to engage and empower

Houston as a leading 21<sup>st</sup> century metropolis. With its established programs and those in development, the Kinder Institute is a proven leader in data-driven policy analysis and it continues to expand and broaden its base of research and data analytics. As Rice University strengthens its relationships with the city of Houston and Harris County, the work being done at the Kinder Institute serves a crucial, coordinating role in our cross-campus endeavors and our work beyond the campus.

City officials and decision makers are already looking to the Kinder Institute for information necessary to guide important decisions critical to moving Houston forward. The Houston Solutions Lab, the Urban Data Platform, the Houston Community Data Connections and the Kinder Houston Area Survey all reflect the Kinder Institute's unique "think-and-do" approach that speaks to Rice University's larger efforts to connect policy and research. Whether it's through a secure, research-ready data repository like the Urban Data Platform or an interactive, neighborhood-level look at the Houston metropolitan area for community leaders, the Kinder Institute is working to put data into the hands of more people playing a role in Houston's future. The Kinder Institute has also built direct partnerships through the Houston Solutions Lab that pairs city departments with

researchers to tackle urgent urban issues. The Houston Education Research Consortium, which collaborates with local school districts to research the challenges of educational equity and more, is an example of ongoing programs that help drive improvement through collaborative research.

At Rice University, our capacities for research, data collection and analysis create an opportunity, and an obligation, to contribute to the city across a range of disciplines. Now, we are building on that tradition and expanding our areas of study so that Rice University can create a "smart cities" pipeline to show other municipalities how to leverage research and technology to improve the world around them. We are proud that we are making Houston a better place and influencing urban communities across Texas and the nation.

**David Leebron**

*President*

Rice University

# Director's Message



**H**ouston was dominated by one thing more than any other: The flooding brought on by Hurricane Harvey's massive rainfall in late August. Harvey brought the city to a halt for close to a week and then re-directed almost everybody's priorities and efforts in Houston to focus on recovery and rebuilding.

The Kinder Institute was no exception.

Almost from the moment the rain started, our staff was blogging about what was going on and digging around for data that would help Houstonians and their decision makers know what's going on. Within a day, we had produced blogs involving first-hand accounts of the flooding as well as an evolving story map [[www.tinyurl.com/hurricaneharvestory](http://www.tinyurl.com/hurricaneharvestory)] telling the tale of what was going on. We were among the first in the city to estimate the extent and geographical reach of the damage.

In the months since Harvey hit, we have continued to stay on top of both the disaster and the recovery. Most important, we have provided research and support to the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund, the \$100 million philanthropic fund set up by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. And we have continued to release vital information to the public on a wide range of topics associated with Harvey: the pattern of 2-1-1 calls, a primer on funding flows post-disaster, maps of the hardest-hit areas, and so on.

We made remarkable progress. In February 2017, we unveiled the long-awaited Urban Data Platform (UDP)—the foundation of our data efforts. Our goal for UDP is for it to be a resource to researchers around Houston and beyond. Then in October, we rolled out our neighborhood indicators dashboard,

the Houston Community Data Connections (HCDC), which has served as a vital tool for nonprofits and government agencies pursuing their mission.

We also worked with Rice's Office of Research and the Ken Kennedy Institute for Information Technology in rolling out the first-ever grants under the Houston Solutions Lab, our research partnership with the City of Houston. Our affiliated program, the Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC), began a dramatic expansion of its work under a new \$10.7 million grant from the Kinder Foundation.

In addition, we released close to two dozen research reports, which focused on a range of policy concerns that resilient cities must address including gentrification, affordable housing, and "near-miss" accidents between vehicles and people walking or riding bikes. Meanwhile, the annual Kinder Houston Area Survey was presented at our annual luncheon before an audience of 1,400 people.

I believe you'll agree that 2017 was the year that the Kinder Institute really began to show results—the year we became the go-to "think-and-do" tank on urban issues in Houston and across the Sun Belt. We're very proud of what we accomplished!

Of course, none of these accomplishments would be possible without the generous support of Nancy and Rich Kinder, Houston Endowment Inc. and other donors, as well as President David Leebron and Rice University. With all this support, we look forward to making Houston an even better place in 2018 as we continue to reshape the city in the wake of Hurricane Harvey!

**Bill Fulton**

*Director*

Kinder Institute for Urban Research

# Year In Review

**H**urricane Harvey, the worst rainfall ever to hit the Greater Houston area, helped shape and re-define our research during the latter part of the year as well as shifted the focus of our public engagements. Our collective efforts on post Harvey activities positioned the Kinder Institute as a leader in local and national conversations on important urban issues. Although post Harvey solutions shifted our primary area of focus, the Institute continued to focus on other pressing issues.

Here are a few highlights captured in 2017:

- With housing affordability a major concern for cities across the country, the Kinder Institute convened the Houston and Harris County Housing Conversation to bring together local and national leaders on the topic in partnership with the Houston Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). The event helped identify major issues around housing, brought forward productive ideas for addressing them, and highlighted topics that stakeholders must grapple with further.
- Though an official unveiling of the Houston Community Data Connections (HCDC) dashboard was set for later in the year, the Kinder Institute decided to launch this interactive, neighborhood-level data effort early in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. The user-friendly interface pro-

vided neighborhood profiles with key indicators, data visualizations and opportunities to collaborate on further research, all to help empower local communities and community organizations.

- In addition to being part of key decision making processes following Hurricane Harvey, the Kinder Institute was represented in a number of important policy discussions, including the Mayor of Houston's appointment of Ruth López Turley to the Harvey Relief Fund Advisory Board. Turley serves as Associate Director of Research for the Kinder Institute and Director of the Houston Education Research Consortium.
- The Kinder Institute's *Urban Edge* continued to cover important urban policy issues for Houston and beyond, growing its annual page view traffic 15 percent compared to 2016. Among the most read posts were stories on the hardest hit areas after Harvey, a look at Houston's reputation as a zoning-free city, and a study on racism and Atlanta's modern transit system. The *Urban Edge* continued to attract attention from national and local media outlets.
- These were only a few of the Kinder Institute's contributions to public conversations. Read more about our work, reach and impact in this annual report!



"Houston and Harris County are remarkably blessed to have an incredible resource like the Kinder Institute right here at home. The Kinder Institute brings together a diverse and dynamic group of academics, public servants, civic leaders and interested residents who show all of us innovative ways to address future issues."

**Ed Emmett**  
Judge, Harris County

# Hurricane Harvey in Houston

Photo: Lt. Zachary West/National Guard



# Research

## Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund: Needs Assessment Phase One



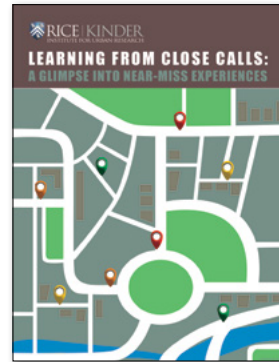
The Kinder Institute published the first of two needs assessments in the wake of Hurricane Harvey for the Greater Houston Community Foundation (GHCF) to help direct decisions surrounding the Harvey Relief Fund. The analysis combined a variety of data sets to

create a map of the hardest-hit zip codes in Harris County. It also identified potentially vulnerable populations that may be at-risk for being overlooked during the recovery process.

The process of recovering from Hurricane Harvey is going to be long and costly.

The report provides a blueprint for our region to understand the way the recovery process will play out and demystifies the avenues through which funding will flow. By providing this clarity our region can begin to shift the focus from how we pay for recovery to how we recover and rebuild.

## Learning from Close Calls: A Glimpse Into Near-Miss Experiences



Most of us don't start our day thinking about getting hurt in our travel. But that's not the case for many bicyclists and pedestrians who participated in this study.

The study collected information on volunteers' travel during one week

in March, including their origins and destinations, travel mode and detailed accounts of near-misses and close calls on the road in which they narrowly avoided collisions.

A glimpse into a week of those close calls—like making a sudden stop or jumping out of the way to avoid collisions—shows how they are often a reoccurring experience. Out of 187 people who recorded their trips within the week, about one-third reported 133 near-miss incidents they experienced or witnessed.

Many of these near-miss incidents were attributed to a lack of awareness by other road users usually those traveling at faster speeds. Participants illustrate how either as pedestrians or bicyclists, they actively anticipate near-misses in their trips and try to avoid them by wearing brightly colored clothing.

The study also offered insight on how some near-misses lead to subsequent physical intimidation and verbal attacks on pedestrians and bicyclists.

## Equality of Pre-K Educational Opportunities: Examining Student Differences in Access to High Quality Pre-K (Parts 1 & 2)



The two reports confirm the broad variations of pre-kindergarten offerings across the state's largest school district, Houston Independent School District, as well as the impact high quality programs can have for disadvantaged populations in particular.

The studies looked both at the distribution of quality benchmarks across pre-kindergarten in the district, as well as which student groups were enrolled in the programs with a higher number of those benchmarks and how those students performed on end-of-the-year literacy assessments offered in either English or Spanish. The study used data for 50 of the district's 164 pre-kindergarten programs.

Using nine specific quality benchmarks, including things like whether teachers had specialized training in early childhood education, if the maximum class size was 20 students or fewer and what the student to staff ratio was, the researcher found that none of the 50 campuses included in the study met all nine of the quality benchmarks and that students of limited English proficiency were less likely to be enrolled in pre-kindergarten programs with six or more quality indicators. However, since the analysis was based on self-report by the campuses of the quality benchmarks, the district noted some may not have been reported correctly or understood by the survey respondents, for example the presence of medical and vision screening services.

The average pre-kindergarten program included in the study met roughly 5.2 of the nine quality benchmarks. Black and white students both tended to be enrolled in programs with more quality benchmarks than their Hispanic and Asian peers, according to the study, which used data from the 2015-2016 school year. Low-income students were also more likely to be enrolled in those programs with six or more quality benchmarks than their peers.

"The Kinder Institute for Urban Research (KIUR) has been a valuable partner for the Greater Houston Community Foundation in its role as administrator of the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund (HHRF). Over the course of four months, KIUR provided quality and expedient research and analysis that has allowed HHRF to make data-driven decisions for grants aimed at fulfilling the unmet needs of individuals impacted by Harvey. In addition, KIUR's efforts helped us empower individuals and organizations serving on the ground with research and dashboards to direct their attention to the most pressing needs and most vulnerable populations."



**Renee Wizig-Barrios**  
Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer  
Greater Houston Community Foundation

# Research

## Urban Development, Transportation, and Placemaking

### **Houston and Harris County Housing**

**Conversation Final Report:** The effort to adequately house all residents of Houston and Harris County in safe and affordable housing is an urgent regional matter. This report captures the insights and feedback of local and national experts and stakeholders on how best to confront this challenge.

### **Dangerous Crossing: The Links Between Intersections and Crashes in Houston:**

A report about the relationship between intersections and crashes in Houston. The report identifies both the physical characteristics that make an intersection likely to attract future collisions and specific intersections that require attention.

### **Growing but Unequal: Mapping High Opportunity Areas and Implications for Affordable Housing:**

The Low Income Housing Tax Credit, which awards tax breaks to affordable housing developers, has been championed as an effective way to supply affordable housing. The program, however, has tended to place such housing in low-income, often segregated areas as opposed to “high opportunity” areas. This report looks at how the program has worked in Houston.

### **Taking Stock: Housing Trends in the Houston Area:**

The report analyzes housing trends in the Greater Houston area.



“The Kinder Institute brings excellent data and analytical capabilities to go with the technical and legal expertise of the SSPEED Center. Together, we are a great team.”

#### **Jim Blackburn**

Co-director, Severe Storm Prediction, Education and Evacuation from Disaster (SSPEED) Center  
Rice University

## Urban and Metropolitan Governance

### **Consolidation or Collaboration: Common Solutions to Reduce Overlapping Services in Local Government:**

Houston, a city of some 2.3 million residents, is the seat of Harris County, which has a population of more than 4.5 million residents. Both are major service providers in the region, each with law enforcement, housing authorities, public health agencies and other departments. Drawing on case studies, this report proposes opportunities for increased collaboration or consolidation between the city and county.

### **Developing Houston: Land-use Regulation in the “Unzoned City” and its Outcomes:**

This report lays out the existing elements of Houston’s land development system and highlights several areas where it could be improved to better serve the city, residents, businesses and developers.

### **Funding Primer: Harvey Relief and Recovery:**

A companion piece to the needs assessment conducted for the Greater Houston Community Foundation, this piece breaks down the funding recovery process for the Houston area.

## Center for Local Elections in American Politics

**Who Runs for Mayor in America?** A six-state analysis, this report speaks to the state of local democracy. Roughly half of mayoral races were unopposed and unopposed races are on the rise, according to the report.

**The State of Local Democracy in Houston and Harris County:** The results of this report indicate that local democracies in Harris County and Houston have many challenges. Relatively few people vote in local elections, a high proportion of local elections are uncontested and both the electorate and the candidate pool fail to reflect the area's population.

## Kinder Houston Area Survey

**Kinder Houston Area Survey:** The 36<sup>th</sup> annual survey continued to capture Houston-area attitudes and experiences, including a steady shift toward residents saying they favor mixed-use communities. More than half of Harris County survey respondents said they would prefer to live in a mixed-use area rather than a community dominated by single-family homes.

## Urban Disparity and Opportunity

**Streetlights in the City: Understanding the Distribution of Houston Streetlights:** There are at least 173,724 streetlights in the city of Houston, or about 15 streetlights per mile of roadway in the average Houston neighborhood. But this report analyzes the wide variation in streetlight density across those neighborhoods.

**What Happens in the Shadows: Streetlights and How They Relate to Crime:** Do places with more streetlights have lower crime rates? The findings in this report complicate the common perception that more streetlights lead to fewer crimes.

## Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC)

**Social Capital, Race, and Magnet School Attendance:** The report looks at the interaction

between race, social capital and magnet school attendance.

**The Benefits of HISD Pre-Kindergarten: The Relationship Between Years of Exposure and School Readiness:** The report analyzes the impact of pre-kindergarten on school readiness using longitudinal data.

**Equality of Pre-Kindergarten Educational Opportunities: Examining Student Differences in Access to High Quality Pre-Kindergarten (Part 1):** This analysis of Houston Independent School District programs showed that students with limited English language proficiency tended to attend pre-kindergarten schools that met fewer nationally-recognized benchmarks for program quality than their peers.

**Equality of Pre-Kindergarten Educational Opportunities: Examining Student Differences in Access to High Quality Pre-Kindergarten (Part 2):** Following the first analysis, this report looks at whether pre-kindergarten quality benchmarks corresponded to student achievement on standardized tests, finding no overall correlation. Some student groups did appear to have different outcomes based on the quality of their programs.

**Eligiendo Escuelas: English Learners and Access to School Choice:** The Houston Independent School District touts its school choice policy and diverse program offerings. However, this study revealed unequal access for English language learners, specifically current English language learners at all levels.

Go beyond the highlights:  
[kinder.rice.edu/research](http://kinder.rice.edu/research)

# Kinder In Action

## Kinder Foundation Invests \$10.7 Million to Improve Education

A generous \$10.7 million, seven-year grant from the Kinder Foundation allowed the Houston Education Research Consortium to greatly expand its research capacity in 2017, increasing its ability to identify solutions to the most pressing educational issues facing our communities.

It's the largest contribution the Institute has received since philanthropists Nancy and Rich Kinder endowed the Institute with \$15 million in 2010.

The funding supports the expansion of the Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC), a unique partnership between the Kinder Institute and the Houston Independent School District (HISD). Since 2011, HERC has brought together Rice University education researchers and HISD decision-makers to improve education quality through analysis. The idea is that by connecting researchers and policymakers, the district can better understand the challenges it faces and identify the solutions that best serve Houston students. The grant will allow HERC to extend its reach beyond HISD. While the work with that district will continue, HERC's mission will broaden to include research in school

districts across the Houston area, studying issues of regional importance. "We don't simply want to duplicate what we've done with HISD," explains Dr. Ruth López Turley, director of HERC and a professor of sociology in the School of Social Sciences at Rice. "This is something different. We want to develop a regional research agenda."

Districts have shown great interest in participating in these regional efforts, and HISD is eager to collaborate.

**Looking Ahead:** In 2018, HERC expanded its partnerships to Alief, Cypress Fairbanks, Sheldon, and Spring Branch school districts.

## Community Bridges

The Community Bridges program is a service-learning fellowship for Rice undergraduate students, which aims to strengthen Rice University's relationship with Greater Houston through active fieldwork and course learning. During 2017, 11 fellows provided nearly 1,000 service hours at nine partner sites in Houston's historic Fifth Ward.

Each project is unique in its own way. Recent Rice graduate Wesley Chou utilized data from Kinder Institute and other metropolitan areas to map changes in the Fifth Ward from 2005–2015 in his work with



"Through our partnership with Rice University's Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC), the Houston Independent School District is able to expand our access to objective, third-party, rigorous research on topics that directly support the work of the district. The research agenda that is planned for the next several years with the extension of a regional research agenda will continue to position HERC to provide research services to HISD and other area districts, and broaden the scope of influence not only to the greater Houston area but to a wider national audience as well."

**Carla Stevens**

*Associate Director*

Houston Independent School District

Kinder Institute for Urban Research



Community Bridges intern D'Anna Young working with children at the Rice Oral and Written Language Laboratory at HISD's Gabriela Mistral Center for Early Childhood in the Gulfton area. D'Anna began her work with School Literacy and Culture through Community Bridges during her sophomore year at Rice and has continued her work as she has moved into graduate school.

CAN DO Houston, which addressed gentrification. Junior Michael Do and senior Ben Herndon-Miller researched project-based learning effectiveness with Fifth Ward Enrichment Program to create after-school programming on STEM education and ACT preparation.

Community Bridges expanded to include partners—Air Alliance and BakerRipley—in Third Ward and East End. Projects with Air Alliance centered on environmental justice and air quality, while students with BakerRipley connected with low-income families to share available opportunities.

A Community Bridges reunion took place in March 2017 with about 40 people including former students along with supervisors and staff from partnering agencies for fellowship and networking.

**Looking Ahead:** In 2018, the Community Bridges program will explore program changes that increase exposure of the students' work such as publicizing their research on the Houston Community Data Connections Gallery.

"Since 2013, the Community Bridges program in Fifth Ward has provided our agency outstanding working interns, tutors, class facilitators, project designers and, most importantly, peer mentors. These Rice men very effectively inform and influence our adolescent and teen boys regarding the college-going experience. Community Bridges has become a valuable program component as we support our boys toward high school graduation and beyond."



**Charles L. Savage**  
Executive Director  
Fifth Ward Enrichment Program, Inc.

Go beyond the highlights:  
[kinder.rice.edu/bridges](http://kinder.rice.edu/bridges)

# Data Driven Decisions

## Urban Data Platform

**T**he Kinder Institute's Urban Data Platform, poised to fundamentally change the way we—and other researchers—study Houston, launched in 2017.

The new Urban Data Platform (UDP), under the direction of Rice Statistics Professors Dr. Kathy Ensor and Dr. Rudy Guerra, brings together hundreds of datasets about Houston, covering demographics, housing, health, education, transportation, and other urban related issues. The goal of the project is to help encourage new ways of understanding urban environments to improve communities.

The platform's innovation is its ability to integrate data from seemingly different sectors—and then detect connections. For example, researchers can examine the links between absenteeism in school, air pollution, and diseases.

The UDP—developed with support from Houston Endowment—focuses on spatial data, or information with a geographic component. The idea is to provide the data as a resource to researchers so they can focus on research itself, as opposed to tracking down data and cleaning it up.

The UDP team is regularly updating data sets and working with new users.

**Looking Ahead:** In 2018, access to the UDP became available to researchers, government agencies and community groups outside of Rice University.

## Houston Solutions Lab

**T**he Houston Solutions Lab, a partnership between Rice University and the City of Houston, is part of the larger MetroLab Network, which pairs universities and cities to use academic research to address city problems. The partnership began in fall 2017 when three proposals received funding up to \$75,000 each.

### Funded Projects in Round 1:

*Project 1:* Phil Bedient, Civil Engineering, will assist the Chief Resilience Officer and use hydrological modeling to document street-flooding in Houston and identify problem areas.

*Project 2:* Jamie Padgett, Civil Engineering, will assist the Chief Resilience Officer in creating an early warning flood system for White Oak Bayou.

*Project 3:* Andrew Schafer and Illya Hicks, Computational and Applied Math, will assist the Houston Police Department in helping locate new holding facilities.

**Looking Ahead:** In 2018, the city of Houston identified the following five areas as those where HSL could assist most, including Flooding and Mitigation, Emergency Preparedness, Food Access, Illegal Dumping, and Fleet Sustainability. Decisions about Round 2 research projects will be released mid-year.

## Speaker's Bureau

The Kinder Institute extends its reach deep into the Houston community and beyond through its Speaker's Bureau. With a focus on community engagement and an understanding that not everyone can attend its public offerings, the Institute provides experts to a broad range of organizations including civic, non-profits and corporations. In 2017, experts represented the Kinder Institute at 100+ speaking engagements in Houston, Austin, Dallas, Chicago and the Sunbelt region.

With the goal of furthering its translational research agenda, experts, which included the Institute's Director Bill Fulton, the Institute's Founding

Director Stephen Klineberg, HERC's Director Ruth López Turley, Director of Strategic Partnerships Kyle Shelton, and the Director of Research Management Jie Wu, spoke on a variety of issues such as education, housing, local demographics, transportation, and post-Harvey recovery and resiliency efforts.

Engagements in 2017 included presentations to groups at Kimberly Clark, Shell, Houston Independent School District, Southern Historical Association, Texas Christian Community Development Network, Univision, Houston Association of Realtors, and the Association of Corporate Counsel Houston.

"The Kinder Institute serves as an invaluable partner in elevating the important issues that impact the Houston community now and in the long term. Our city is stronger, in part, due to the thoughtful and diligent work that the Kinder Institute puts forward for the benefit of the community."

**Amanda Edwards**

*City Council Member, At-Large Position 4  
Houston*



Go beyond the highlights:  
[kinder.rice.edu/speakers-bureau](http://kinder.rice.edu/speakers-bureau)

# Public Programs

## February 15

### KI Forum: Governor Martin O'Malley



The former Governor of Maryland and presidential candidate discussed a data-driven approach to running cities and state government.

**Attendees: 200**

## February 17

### Houston & Harris County Housing Conversation

Kinder Institute and LISC hosted a daylong housing conversation where attendees along with housing experts from Houston and beyond explored how the city and county are currently dealing with housing issues and future needs.

**Attendees: 200**

## June 28

### Houston: A Walkable City

A panel of local experts explored current policies, which help and hinder Houston from becoming more of a walkable city.

**Attendees: 169**



## September 13

### Undocumented City



The Kinder Institute and Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative examined the issues that undocumented immigrants in Houston confront daily. Experts explored employment, healthcare and other obstacles undocumented immigrants must navigate.

**Attendees: 216**



"The Kinder Institute is an invaluable resource and essential partner for local decision makers. Their extensive knowledge and thoughtful analysis is critical to solving some of our urban region's most difficult challenges."

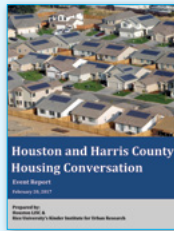
**Rodney Ellis**  
*Commissioner*  
Harris County

## March 21

### Housing for All: Panel Discussion

Kinder Institute and LISC hosted a follow-up event to the Houston & Harris County Housing Conversation where the results from the event were presented along with a panel discussion with local experts on how the City of Houston can make affordable housing more accessible.

**Attendees: 190**



## May 9

### KI Forum: Matthew Desmond



Pulitzer Prize-winning author Matthew Desmond discussed evictions and the lack of affordable housing in America as well as its impact on families.

**Attendees: 304**

## October 4

### KI Forum: Sean Reardon



Sean Reardon, Stanford University's Professor of Poverty and Inequality in Education, provided insight into educational opportunities in Houston and across the United States.

**Attendees: 148**

## November 15

### KI Forum: Cecilia Munoz



Cecilia Munoz, Vice President for Policy and Technology and Director of the New America National Network and former senior staffer for President Barack Obama's administration, reflected on her eight years in the White House as well as lessons learned to help non-profits and local governments harness technology and innovation to improve communities.

**Attendees: 118**

# 2017 Highlights

The Kinder Institute Forum lecture series brings thought leaders from around the world to Houston to share ideas about the most pressing urban issues facing residents today. In 2017, the Kinder Institute welcomed four well-known speakers, whose expertise is respected across the globe. The experts addressed key urban issues including innovation, disparity, and education. The free of charge discussions cover a range of issues, from housing to education and local innovation.



Former Maryland Governor and presidential candidate **Martin O'Malley** spoke to a packed audience about harnessing data to inform public policy. His interest in data started when he served as mayor of Baltimore from 1999 to 2007 and implemented the CitiStat program. The initiative, considered groundbreaking at the time, relied on data analytics to foster accountability and problem-solving in government.

When he served as Maryland Governor from 2007 to 2015, he continued that work at the state level through his StateStat program. And now, through his involvement with the MetroLab Network, he continues to champion the coming together of research, data and policy across the country.



In May, sociologist and author **Matthew Desmond** visited Houston shortly after winning the Pulitzer Prize for his groundbreaking work, *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. Eviction, argues Desmond, is an under-covered process

that fundamentally shapes our urban landscapes. Armed with interviews and new research, Desmond explored the ways in which eviction is not merely a symptom of poverty but a cause of it.



Pushing the conversation about education quality beyond testing and achievement gaps, Stanford University researcher **Sean Reardon** presented a compelling new approach to measuring educational inequality and in capturing how

effective school districts are in closing those gaps. To Reardon, these patterns suggest that it isn't simply that the quality of schools is unequal or even that students from low-income families tend to have fewer resources to set them up for academic success. Instead, he said, it reflects something discriminatory in how opportunity itself is structured in the U.S.

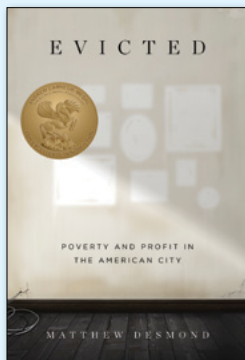


Finally, former senior staffer **Cecilia Muñoz** shared why she is still optimistic about the spirit of change ushered in during President Barack Obama's administration, pointing to the innovations happening at the local level across the country.

Muñoz reflected on her time in the White House and their various place-based programs and initiatives.

Through her new role with New America, Muñoz continues to champion local and place-based approaches to solving critical challenges.

**Looking Ahead:** In 2018, our forums focus primarily on recovery and resiliency, post Hurricane Harvey.



### Forum in Focus: Matthew Desmond

The stories in Matthew Desmond's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* can feel exceptional. The misfortune that weaves its way through the lives of the eight Milwaukee families is so pronounced that the moments of relief, of levity and humor, are like a handful of signs on a winding road, too far apart to keep from getting lost.

But part of Desmond's mission in publishing the book, and now in publicizing it and his continuing efforts, is to reveal how very ordinary the events are for a large part of society. In fact, the events are, because of the policies surrounding their occurrences and the profit that can be extracted from them, he argued, are inevitable.

Since publishing the book in 2016, Desmond has started gathering narratives and data from across the country as well as collecting resources in an online map for folks looking to get involved in housing issues in their communities.

Though still in the process of gathering that data, this work has revealed one obvious thing: "This is not a Milwaukee problem," as he put it before a Houston crowd gathered for the Kinder Institute's KI Forum lecture series last May.

Go beyond the highlights:  
[kinder.rice.edu/events](http://kinder.rice.edu/events)

# Urban Edge

A meeting place for residents, experts and journalists, the *Urban Edge* blog serves as a critical source of news and information.

The blog's motto: "Sharing stories about why cities are great, and how they can be better." That means highlighting stories about innovation and best practices happening in Houston and nationwide, as well as shedding light on ways cities can serve their communities more effectively.

During and following Harvey, the blog served as a resource for readers interested in understanding how Houston's development policies might have been impacted by the flooding and what an equitable recovery would require.

The blog was cited by preeminent publications including *The Atlantic/CityLab*, *New York Magazine*, the *Texas Tribune*, the *Seattle Times*, the *Houston Chronicle*, *Slate*, the *DailyBeast* and *The Washington Post* among other notable media outlets.

Through thoughtful, daily blog content our work is able to become part of the continuing conversation on urban issues. The blog's traffic increased with the number of page views per month 15 percent higher than in 2016.

## Top 10 Urban Edge blog posts:

1. Estimates Show the Houston Neighborhoods with the Most Flooding
2. New Study Examines How Racism Shaped Atlanta's Transportation Network
3. Mapping Tool Helps Neighborhoods Better Understand Harvey
4. Turns Out Houstonians Really Like Living in Houston
5. Mapping Montrose's Gay History
6. The Five Biggest Questions Facing Houston in 2017
7. Sure Houston Has Some Sprawl But Some Areas Have East Coast-Levels of Density
8. Houston Mayor Announces Complete Communities Initiative
9. How Can We Make Sprawling Houston Feel Urban and Walkable
10. Report: Understanding the Unzoned City

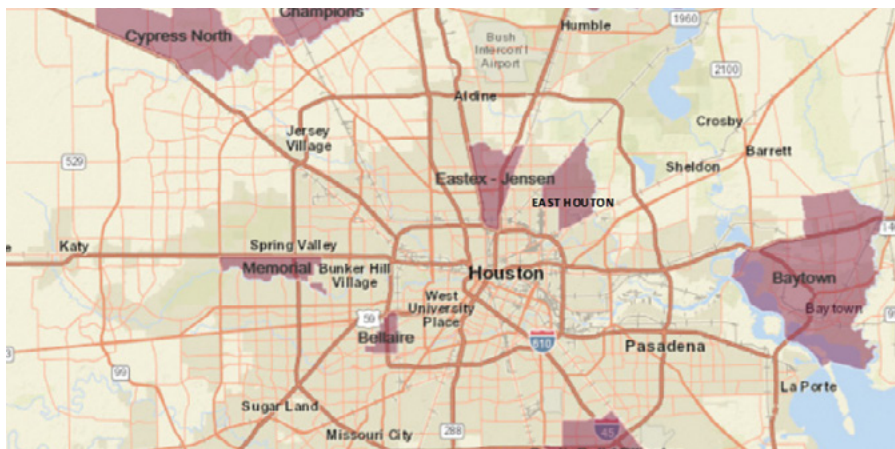


"Houston has problems. But through the long-running Houston Area Survey, publicly accessible data platforms, studies and reports, live events, blog posts and more, the Kinder Institute provides the region with a unique opportunity to think critically about these problems. And as Houston begins its latest transformation into a region that more and more people recognize needs to be more and more resilient, equitable and urban, this opportunity to think critically—and make informed decisions that might lead to lasting solutions—has never been more important."

**Allyn West**  
Editor,  
*Houston Chronicle*

Excerpt from the most read Urban Edge post in 2017:

## Estimates Show the Houston Neighborhoods with the Most Flooding



### Still just estimates, but the analysis is a start to understanding the damage.

Harvey dumped an unprecedented amount of rain across the Houston metropolitan area and the flooding was widespread. Some of the hardest hit areas, like Memorial, gained ongoing media attention. The curfew in place in that neighborhood was only lifted Friday, 10 days after the citywide curfew had been lifted. But understanding which of the neighborhoods turned inside out, households' now toxic contents piled on the street, are facing the most flood damage has been tough.

Using data from the Federal Emergency Management Agency that estimates which homes could be expected to flood given the rainfall between August 27 and September 2, an analysis by the Kinder Institute found that roughly 29 percent of Houston's parcels with some sort of housing on them and 9 percent of Harris County's parcels with housing on them were likely affected by flooding. Those numbers are conservative since a given parcel could have multiple units on it, as in the case of an apartment building. Notably, that estimate also does not include elevated structures that may have avoided floodwaters or account for wind damage, flooding from dam or levee breaks, flooding as a result of failure of irrigation ditches, use of spillways and weirs, small tributary flooding with minimal or no gauge data or storm water backup."

Go beyond the highlights:  
[kinder.rice.edu/urban-edge](http://kinder.rice.edu/urban-edge)

# Fundraising Highlights

## Kinder Institute Luncheon

Rice University's largest annual fundraising event, the Kinder Institute Luncheon showcases one of the hallmark reports of the Institute's growing library of research and data resources. Dr. Stephen Klineberg regularly gives his enthusiastic look at Greater Houston through a lively keynote on the *Kinder Houston Area Survey*, the longest running study of its kind in the nation.

The 2017 luncheon continued a track record of unprecedented attendance and revenue. Harris County Judge Ed Emmett introduced Dr. Klineberg and his survey findings, with Rice President David

Leebron providing an overview of the Institute's work and the larger Rice engagement with Houston. New to the luncheon was the **Stephen L. Klineberg Award**, created in Dr. Klineberg's honor to recognize an individual's impact on the urban stage in Houston. For his work on the Bayou Greenways 2020 Initiative, Houston Parks Board Chairman Tom Bacon was the inaugural Klineberg Award recipient. With more than 1,400 people in attendance, the luncheon became the most-attended event in the Institute's history. Revenue also broke records with \$650,000 raised.



Bill Fulton, 2017 Klineberg Award Recipient Tom Bacon, and Rice President David Leebron



Dr. Stephen Klineberg presenting the 2017 *Kinder Houston Area Survey*

Photos by Jeff Farnich

# Strategic Support & Engagement

Beyond luncheon revenue, the Kinder Institute saw an increase in annual support thanks to generous investments from a coterie of individuals, corporations, foundations, and other organizations spanning Greater Houston. The Institute's giving groups—**Friends of Kinder Institute** and the **Kinder Institute Corporate Council**—continue to engage contributors through a combination of timely communication via the *Kinder Quarterly* newsletter and two unique event series, *Urban Salon* and *Kinder Insiders*.



Guests at Urban Salon in home of Anne and Charles Duncan.

## Urban Salon

Launched in fall 2016, the *Urban Salon* draws contributors of \$5,000 or more annually to a private home for an informal conversation between a local expert and a Kinder Institute leader. In 2017, we saw two such salons hosted by Rice Chairman Bobby Tudor and Mrs. Phoebe Tudor in the spring, and Rice Chairman Emeritus Charles Duncan and Mrs. Anne Duncan in the fall. The Tudor Salon featured Houston Parks Board CEO Beth White in conversation with Institute Director Bill Fulton; 40 guests enjoyed a lively discussion on Houston greenspaces at the stately Tudor home near Rice campus. The Duncan Salon centered on transportation, with

METRO Chair Carrin Patman, local expert Christof Spieler, and the Institute's Dr. Kyle Shelton in a lively repartee shared by 60 guests.

## Kinder Insiders

The historic Rice University Faculty Club (Cohen House) plays home to the invitation-only *Kinder Insiders* breakfast series for annual contributors of \$2,500 or more. Also launched in fall 2016, *Kinder Insiders* highlights the depth and breadth of the Institute's research initiatives and presents a wide range of topics and scholars. Attendees in 2017 numbered between 30 and 50 people with featured speakers Dr. Ruth López Turley on equity in education (January), Dr. Melissa Marschall on mayoral elections (April), and Dr. Rachel Kimbro on local food insecurity (September). The year concluded with a panel discussion on the Institute's post-Harvey work, with remarks from Dr. Turley, Dr. Kyle Shelton and Institute Director Bill Fulton.



Dr. Klineberg making remarks at Kinder Insiders.

Photos by Jeff Farnich

# Kinder Institute Supporters

## Friends of Kinder Institute

*Gifts from January 1 through December 31, 2017*

### Benefactor's Circle \$100,000 and above

Nancy and Rich Kinder<sup>†</sup>

Laura and John Arnold<sup>‡</sup>

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Reinnette and Stan Marek<sup>\*</sup>

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Kathryn and Hank Coleman<sup>\*</sup>

Aliyya and Herman Stude<sup>‡</sup>

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Tracy and Ken Janda<sup>\*</sup>

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Katie and Patrick Oxford

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Susan and Faye Sarofim

Louisa Stude Sarofim

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John H. Duncan Jr.<sup>‡</sup>

Bill Fulton

Jill and Dunham Jewett

Phuong and George Levan

Nena Duncan Marsh<sup>‡</sup>

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Stuart West Stedman<sup>‡</sup>

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Joan and Stanford Alexander<sup>‡</sup>

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Joy and Paul Posoli

Macey and Harry Reasoner

Leslie and Shannon Sasser

Nina and Michael Zilkha

<sup>\*</sup> Includes gifts made through family foundations, donor-advised funds, or other organizations.

<sup>‡</sup> Denotes multi-year commitments to the Kinder Institute.

Supporter's Circle \$1,000–\$2,499

Michael Ablon  
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 Mila Golvine<sup>†</sup>  
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 Elizabeth and Albert Kidd  
 Margaret and Stephen L. Klineberg, Ph.D.  
 Carla Knobloch  
 Carole and K. Terry Koonce  
 Harriet and Truett Latimer  
 Y. Ping Sun and David Leebron  
 Nancy Manderson  
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 Beth Robertson  
 Rob Rogers<sup>†</sup>  
 Gary Tinterow<sup>†</sup>  
 Kristine and Stephen Wallace  
 Andrea and Bill White  
 Lorraine and Ed Wulfe<sup>†</sup>

**Kinder Institute Corporate Council**

*Gifts from January 1 through December 31, 2017*

Founder's Circle \$50,000–\$99,999

BP America Inc.  
 Chevron

Chairman's Circle \$25,000–\$49,999

CenterPoint Energy  
 ExxonMobil  
 Silver Eagle Distributors  
 United Way of Greater Houston

Director's Circle \$15,000–\$24,999

Bank of America  
 Bracewell LLP  
 H-E-B  
 Lionstone Investments

Visionary Circle \$10,000–\$14,999

Hanover Company  
 Hines

Leadership Circle \$5,000–\$9,999

Edens  
 Gensler  
 Greater Houston Community Foundation  
 Heritage Title Company of Austin  
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 Houston Association of Realtors  
 Houston First  
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 Memorial Hermann  
 Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

## 2017 CONTRIBUTORS

Texas Children's Hospital  
Transwestern  
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Endeavor Real Estate Group  
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Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center  
Houston Methodist  
Huitt-Zollars  
JLL  
KHOU-TV  
KPRC Channel 2  
Legacy Community Health  
Neighbors in Action  
Page  
Port Houston  
Rice Management Company  
Rice University Development and Alumni Relations  
Rice University Jones Graduate School  
of Business (April 2018)  
Rice Village  
Texas Aromatics, LP [M.G. Glasscock]  
University of Houston-Downtown  
Wells Fargo

### Supporter's Circle \$1,000–\$2,499

Asakura Robinson  
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The Kingdom Builders' Center  
MasterWord Services  
Rice Design Alliance  
Rogers Partners  
Traffic Engineers, Inc.  
W.J. Alexander & Associates  
Wulfe & Co.

## Supporting Foundations and Other Funds

*Gifts from January 1 through December 31, 2017*

### Research Grants

Annie E. Casey Foundation  
 Feeding America  
 Foundation for Child Development  
 Houston Endowment Inc.  
 Kinder Foundation  
 John S. and James L. Knight Foundation  
 Laura and John Arnold Foundation  
 National Conference on Citizenship  
 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
 Spencer Foundation  
 University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research  
 University of Texas at Austin  
 Wallace Foundation  
 William T. Grant Foundation

### Other Grants and Contributions

Joan and Stanford Alexander Foundation  
 Don and Sue Sue Aron Foundation  
 Baxter Trust  
 The Brown Foundation, Inc.  
 Duncan Genesis Foundation  
 Jenny and Jim Elkins Family Fund  
 Larsen Family Charitable Foundation  
 Ellen and Edward Randall III Foundation  
 Robert and Janice McNair Foundation  
 The Rockefeller Foundation  
 Virginia and L.E. Simmons Foundation  
 Sklar Family Foundation  
 Stedman West Foundation

### Additional Supporters of the Kinder Institute

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Apexena Solutions LLC  
Joan Perry-Austin and Robert F. Austin, M.D.  
AVANCE Houston  
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Harris County Public Health  
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City of Houston  
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Houston Airport System  
Houston Area Women's Center  
Houston Arts Alliance  
Houston Ballet  
Houston Community College  
Houston Community College Foundation  
Houston-Galveston Area Council  
Houston Museum District  
Houston Public Library

Pam Howard  
 Rick Morris  
 Lee Huber  
 Pattie Huey  
 Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston  
 Tracey Kearny  
 KiwiEnergy, Ltd.  
 Knudson LP  
 KTRK-TV  
 Craig Lawson  
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 Mike Nichols  
 Joanna Nolte  
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 Alma and Edward Novotny, Jr.  
 Becky and Ralph S. O'Connor  
 Rice University OpenStax  
 C.K. Pang  
 The Parish School  
 Partnership for the Advancement &  
 Immersion of Refugees

People's Trust Federal Credit Union  
 W. Bernard Pieper  
 H. Russell Pitman  
 PKF Texas  
 Donald Poole  
 Alison Porter  
 Rice University Shell Center for Sustainability  
 River Oaks Baptist School  
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 Seeds of Sharpstown MPVP  
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 Urban Genesis  
 Ann Kennedy and Geoffrey Walker  
 Richard W. Weekley Family Fund  
 Evan Wildstein  
 C. Patrick Wilson  
 William Wolff  
 Wortham Insurance and Risk Management  
 YMCA of Greater Houston

# By The Numbers

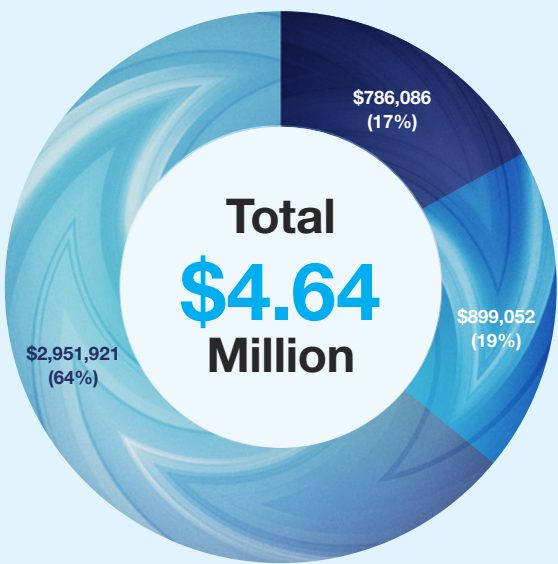
The Kinder Institute’s 2017 revenue totaled \$4.64 million and expenses totaled \$4.57 million. Revenue is a combination of fundraising, research grants and an annual distribution from the Institute’s endowment. As of June 30, 2017, the Institute’s endowments had a market value of \$17.20 million. The annual Kinder Institute Luncheon, a key fundraising event, grossed \$638,000 in 2017, a nine percent increase over 2016.

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, events and public affairs. The Institute has 25 staff; the number of staff stabilized in 2017 after doubling in size in 2016 due to the implementation of a three-year grant from the Houston Endowment.

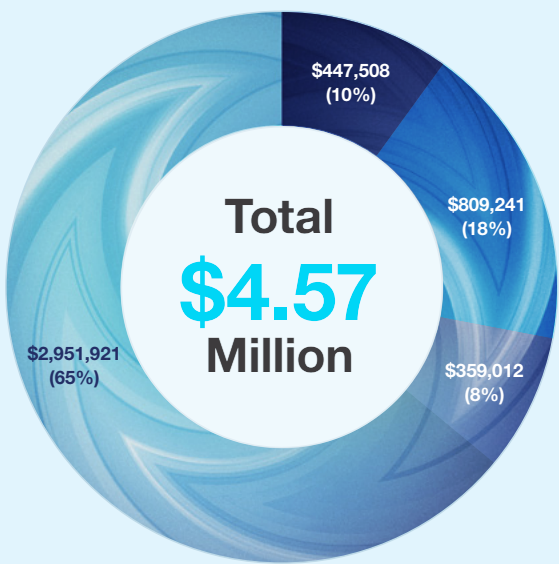
The fiscal year of Rice University’s Kinder Institute for Urban Research corresponds to that of the university, running from July 1 to June 30.

Revenue — Fiscal Year 2017



- Kinder Institute Endowment Distribution
- Current Use Gifts from Supporters
- Research Programs

Expenses — Fiscal Year 2017



- Fundraising
- Public Engagements
- Operations
- Research Programs

## Income Statement — Fiscal Year 2017

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 4,637,059</b>
Kinder Institute Endowment Distribution	786,086
Current Use Gifts from Supporters	899,052
Research Programs	2,951,921
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,567,682</b>
Fundraising	447,508
Operations	809,241
Public Engagements	359,012
Research Programs	2,951,921
<b>Net Income—Fiscal Year 2017</b>	<b>\$ 69,377</b>

## Kinder Institute Endowment History (Fiscal Years 2012–2017)

Fiscal Year	Beginning Endowment Value	Gifts Added	Investment Earnings	Earnings Distributed for Operations	Ending Endowment Value
FY2012	\$ 1,558,378	\$ 2,594,675	\$ 140,599	\$ —	\$ 4,293,652
FY2013	4,293,652	5,230,977	806,301	-412,287	9,918,643
FY2014	9,918,643	2,594,625	1,806,196	-475,830	13,843,635
FY2015	13,843,635	2,659,699	671,042	-767,508	16,406,868
FY2016	16,406,868	100,000	-142,080	-773,320	15,591,467
FY2017	15,591,467	—	2,391,384	-786,086	17,196,765

Note: 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)

# Faculty Advisory Committee

**T**he 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. But 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 it can work collaboratively across the Rice University campus.

The newly-formed committee has representatives across the university, with a goal of having at least one member from each school who can help inform the Institute on 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 also provide some technical guidance to the Kinder Institute, as it seeks research proposals across campus, and they help identify experiential learning opportunities for Rice students interested in urban issues.

## 2017–2018 Faculty Advisory Committee Members

### COMMITTEE CHAIR

**James Elliott**

*Professor of Sociology*

**David Alexander**

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

**Leonardo Dueñas-Osorio**

*Associate Professor of Civil and  
Environmental Engineering*

**Farès El-Dahdah**

*Professor of Humanities  
Director, Humanities Research Center*

**Richard Lavenda**

*Professor of Composition & Theory  
Shepherd School of Music*

**Douglas Schuler**

*Associate Professor of Business and Public Policy*

**Moshe Vardi**

*Karen Ostrum George Distinguished Service Professor  
in Computational Engineering  
Director, Ken Kennedy Institute  
for Information Technology*

**Sarah Whiting**

*William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture  
Dean, School of Architecture*

### 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

**T**he 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 Kinder Institute's overall mission.

## Kinder Fellows

### Dominic Boyer

*Professor of Anthropology*  
*Director, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences (CENHS)*  
 Rice University

### Jenifer Bratter

*Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director 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 (CTBS)*  
 Texas A&M University at Galveston

### Tony Brown

*Professor of Sociology*  
*Associate Director*  
 Kinder Institute's Urban Health Program  
*Founding Director, Racism and Racial Experiences (RARE) Workgroup*  
 Rice University

### Justin Denney

*William Julius Wilson Distinguished Professor of Sociology*  
 Washington State University

### Casey Durand

*Assistant Professor*  
 University of Texas School of Public Health

### James R. Elliott

*Professor of Sociology*  
*Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee, Kinder Institute for Urban Research*  
*Co-Director, Social Analytics Cluster, Center for Energy & Environmental Research in the Human Sciences (CENHS)*  
*Steering Committee Member, CENHS*  
 Rice University

### Michael Emerson

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

### Katherine Bennett Ensor

*Professor of Statistics*  
*Director, Center for Computational Finance and Economic Systems (CoFES)*  
*Co-Director, Kinder Institute Urban Data Platform*  
 Rice University

### Matthew Festa

*Professor of Law*  
 South Texas College of Law Houston

### Rudy Guerra

*Professor of Statistics*  
*Co-Director, 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 of Urban Planning  
and Environmental Policy*  
Texas Southern University

**Melissa Marschall**

*Professor of Political Science*

*Director, Kinder Institute Center for Local  
Elections in American Politics (LEAP)*  
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**

*Assistant Professor of Business and Public Policy*  
Rice University

**Yehuda Sharim**

*Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Jewish Studies*  
Rice University

**Sarah Whiting**

*Dean of Architecture*

*William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture*  
Rice University

**Gordon Wittenberg**

*Professor of Architecture*

*Director, Graduate Studies*  
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.

### Kinder Scholars

**Kiara Douds**

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

**Chris Hakkenberg**

*Rice Academy Postdoctoral Fellow*  
Rice University

**Deirdre Pfeiffer**

*Assistant Professor*  
School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning  
Arizona State University

**Shelly Steward**

*Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Sociology*  
University of California, Berkeley

**Travis Young**

*Ph.D. Candidate*  
Departments of Geography and Demography  
The Pennsylvania State University

# Kinder Institute Staff

## Leadership

### Bill Fulton

*Director, Kinder Institute*

### Stephen Klineberg

*Founding Director, Kinder Institute*

### 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, Administration &*

*University Partnerships*

### Jie Wu

*Director of Research Management*

## Administration

### Lisa Emmite-Baker

*Institute Administrator*

### Angel Galbreath

*Staff Assistant*

### Margaret de Sosa

*Executive Assistant to the Director*

## Development

### Chris Bertaut

*Development Coordinator*

### Evan Wildstein\*

*Associate Director of Development*

## Communication

### Leah Binkovitz

*Senior Editor*

### Web & Social Media Editor

*(Open)*

## Kinder Houston Area Survey

### Samantha Love\*

*Staff Researcher*

## Urban Development, Transportation and Placemaking (DTP) Urban and Metropolitan Governance (UMG)

### John Lappie

*Post-doctoral Research Associate*

### Dian Nostikasari

*DTP Research Fellow*

### Han Park\*

*DTP Research Fellow*

### Grant Patterson\*

*DTP Staff Researcher*

### Carlos Villegas\*

*UMG Staff Researcher*

## Urban Disparity and Opportunity

### Wendie Choudary

*UDO Research Fellow*

### Ellen Stein\*

*Program Coordinator*

### Mingming Zhang\*

*Research Analyst*

## Urban Data Platform

### Kathy Ensor

*Director, Urban Data Platform &*

*Professor of Statistics*

### Rudy Guerra

*Co-director, Urban Data Platform &*

*Professor of Statistics*

### Bryan Evans\*

*GIS Developer*

### Matthew Krause\*

*GIS Analyst*

### Jean Aroom

*GIS Support Specialist*

*Fondren Library*

### Mamta Singh\*

*SAS/R Programmer*

### Julia Schedler

*Graduate Student*

### Joshua Tootoo

*GIS Manager, Children's*

*Environmental Health Initiative*

\* indicates hired in 2017

## KINDER INSTITUTE STAFF

### **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 (HERC)**

### **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*

### **Administration**

#### **Arania Archoleka\***

*Department Coordinator*

#### **Shauna Dunn**

*Program Manager*

#### **Heather Stern\***

*Grant Writer*

### **Research and Data Team**

#### **Irina Chukhray**

*Research Analyst*

### **Joanna Cortez**

*Business Systems Analyst*

### **Vansa Shewakramani Hanson**

*Research Analyst*

### **Matt Martinez**

*Research Analyst*

### **Carla Stevens**

*Associate Director for HISD*

### **Kori Stroub**

*Research Analyst*

### **Diego Torres**

*HISD Research Specialist*

### **Jessica Vasan**

*HISD Research Manager*

### **Postdoctoral Fellows**

#### **Erin Baumgartner**

*Post-doctoral Fellow*

#### **Brian Holzman**

*Post-doctoral Fellow*

#### **DongMei Li\***

*Post-doctoral Fellow*

#### **Jodi Moon\***

*Post-doctoral Fellow*

### **Graduate Students**

#### **Sandra Alvear**

*Graduate Student*

#### **Amanda Bancroft**

*Graduate Student*

#### **Horace Duffy**

*Graduate Student*

#### **Mehreen Gul\***

*Graduate Student*

### **Jie Min**

*Graduate Student*

### **Esmeralda Sanchez**

*Graduate Student*

## **Affiliated Programs:**

[Center for Engaged Research & Collaborative Learning \(CERCL\)](#)

#### **Anthony Pinn**

*Director, CERCL*

#### **Maya Reine**

*Assistant Director, CERCL*

[Local Elections in America Project \(LEAP\)](#)

#### **Melissa Marschall**

*Director, LEAP*

[National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships \(NNERPP\)](#)

#### **Paula Arce-Trigatti**

*National Director, NNERPP*

#### **Nina Spitzley**

*Program Administrator*

[Program for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Culture \(PSERC\)](#)

#### **Jenifer Bratter**

*Director, PSERC*

[Urban Health Program \(UHP\)](#)

#### **Tony Brown**

*Professor of Sociology, Rice University*

#### **Rachel Kimbro**

*Founding Director, UHP*

*\* indicates hired in 2017*



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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:**

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