

CASE for Kids City Connections Youth Initiative 2025 Grant Award List

The Center for Afterschool, Summer and Enrichment for Kids, or CASE for Kids, is a division of Harris County Department of Education (HCDE) that was formed in 1999. The vision of CASE for Kids is to ensure that every child in Harris County will have access to high-quality, expanded learning opportunities. CASE for Kids believes a quality out-of-school time program provides avenues for opportunities for youth to excel, explore and expand their horizons before school, after school, on weekends and during the summer. A quality program provides a safe and inclusive environment, diverse learning opportunities, effective administrative strategies, collaborative relationships, and intentional program promotion.

City Connections funded directly by City of Houston, supports nonprofit organizations that address the need for youth services during the school year. Initiatives funded by the CASE for Kids City Connections program provide comprehensive programs and short-term projects hosted in-person, virtually, or as a hybrid from a variety of locations including schools, community centers, apartment complexes and churches.

The nonprofit organizations listed below have been awarded a **2025 - 2026 City Connections (CiC)** grant award. Funding for the **City Connections** project is provided by the **City of Houston** and administered by the Center for Afterschool, Summer and Enrichment for Kids or CASE for Kids, a division of Harris County Department of Education. A total of 77 applications were received requesting funding. In 2025-2026, eleven district council members will award up to \$43,000 each, in funding for CiC grants. Please note, as indicated by the asterisk symbol (*), some council districts exercised their option to increase their overall grants budget this year. The organizations listed below will provide diverse activities for youth after school including fine arts, academic enrichment, college exploration and youth mentoring. Congratulations to all grant recipients! We are grateful to the City of Houston for their investment and support of out-of-school time programming here in Houston, TX. All City Connections funding is contingent upon City Council approval.

District A – Council Member Amy Peck*

Grantee	Award Amount
Boys and Girls of Greater Houston	\$10,000
Girls on the Run Greater Houston	\$10,000
YMCA of Greater Houston	\$10,000
Legends Do Live	\$10,000
SpringSpirit, Inc.	\$10,000
Young Audiences, Inc. of Houston	\$10,000
Living Word Christian Academy	\$10,000

District B – Council Member Tarsha Jackson

Grantee	Award Amount
Autism Meets Faith	\$10,000
American Festival for the Arts (AFA)	\$10,000
Consumer Energy Education Foundation	\$10,000
BenCheri Educational Center	\$6,500
The Sanders Hand	\$6,500

District C – Council Member Abbie Kamin*

Grantee	Award Amount
Friendship Circle Houston	\$10,000
YUTH UNITED THROUGH HEARTZ	\$10,000
The Woods Project	\$10,000
Evelyn Rubenstein JCC	\$10,000
Monarch Academy	\$10,000
Helms Elementary PTA	\$10,000
Gordon Education Initiatives for the Performing Arts	\$6,250
Nameless Sound	\$6,000

District D – Council Member Carolyn Evans-Shabazz*

Grantee	Award Amount
World Youth Foundation Inc,	\$5,000
Intertwined	\$5,000
MEN Incorporated	\$5,000
HYPE Freedom School, Inc.	\$5,000
U.S. Dream Academy	\$5,000
Civic Heart Community Services (Change Happens)	\$5,000
Consumer Energy Education Foundation	\$5,000
Girls on the Run Greater Houston	\$5,000
The FORGE for Families	\$5,000
Nameless Sound	\$5,000
BenCheri Educational Center	\$5,000
Legends Do Live	\$5,000
The Parent Teacher Collaborative	\$5,000

District E – Council Member Fred Flickinger*

Grantee	Award Amount
Autism Meets Faith	\$10,000
Diaz Music Institute	\$10,000
EZ Kids Creativity Shell	\$10,000
St. Martha Catholic School	\$10,000
Purpose Kids (Fellowship of Purpose Early Childhood Learning Center)	\$6,500

District F – Council Member Tiffany D. Thomas*

Grantee	Award Amount
Chinese Community Center, Inc.	\$15,000
Bricks Foundation	\$15,000
JJ's I'm Me Foundation	\$15,000
Good News Church (Agape Christian Fellowship Church)	\$15,000
Girlstart	\$6,500
Young Audiences, Inc. of Houston	\$6,500

District G – Council Member Mary Nan Huffman

Grantee	Award Amount
CollegeCommunity Career	\$10,000
YMCA of Greater Houston	\$10,000
FamilyPoint Resources	\$10,000
Partnership for the Advancement and Immersion of Refugees	\$6,500
Sewa International, Inc.	\$6,500

District H – Council Member Mario Castillo*

Grantee	Award Amount
Houston Youth Symphony	\$10,000
Avenue	\$10,000
Multicultural Education and Counseling through the Arts	\$10,000
Wesley Community Center	\$10,000
American Festival For the Arts (AFA)	\$10,000
Spectrum Linx Foundation, Inc.	\$10,000
Segundo Barrio Children's Chorus	\$10,000

District I – Council Member Joaquin Martinez*

Grantee	Award Amount
Diaz Music Institute	\$10,000
Community Family Centers	\$10,000
Segundo Barrio Children's Chorus	\$10,000
The Woods Project	\$10,000
Promoters of Education, Awareness & Community Engagement (PEACE)	\$10,000
BE A CHAMPION Inc.	\$10,000
Today's Youth (My Brother's and Sister's Restoration)	\$9,000
Da Camera Society of Texas	\$5,400

District J – Council Member Edward Pollard*

Grantee	Award Amount
Agape Christian Fellowship	\$10,000
Bricks Foundation	\$7,500
Houston: reVision	\$7,500
Partnership for the Advancement and Immersion of Refugees	\$7,500
Sewa International, Inc.	\$ 7,500
World Youth Foundation Inc,	\$ 5,000
Brave Little Company	\$ 5,000
Gordon Education Initiatives for the Performing Arts	\$ 5,000
Credible Messengers United (CMU)	\$ 5,000
The Sanders Hand	\$ 5,000
Boykins Youth Foundation	\$ 5,000

District K – Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum*

Grantee	Award Amount
Houston Youth Symphony	\$5,000
Friendship Circle Houston	\$5,000
Intertwined	\$5,000
One Church at Bethel's	\$5,000
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston	\$5,000
CollegeCommunityCareer	\$5,000
CHAT (Culture of Health-Advancing Together) dba MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE	\$5,000
Today's Youth (My Brother's and Sister's Restoration)	\$5,000
TWST4Girls	\$5,000
RSA of Dance & Performing Arts	\$5,000
Bridging The Digital Divide	\$5,000