

NAME OF COMPONENT: AIA Houston

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COMPONENT SIZE: More than 1,000 members

PROGRAM TITLE: Complete the Communities Housing & Urban Design Competition

CORE SERVICE: Advocacy

PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM:

AIA Houston partnered with the City of Houston, City Council, the Mayor's office, The City of Houston Housing Department, the City Chief Resiliency Officer and the Super Neighborhood Alliance to host a housing design competition among AIA Houston members to design resilient, sustainable, low cost housing for neighborhoods devastated by Hurricane Harvey. AIA members were asked to submit preliminary designs under the understanding the winning entries would be built and the architects fairly compensated for their work.

HOW DOES YOUR PROGRAM ADDRESS THE CORE MEMBER SERVICE?

Advocacy is about relationships at the local level and we now have friends in agencies we didn't think possible. Also, we were able to spread the gospel of good design to communities we haven't been able to reach in the past.

WHO IS THE INTENDED AUDIENCE (include size and demographic)

For AIAH, the audience was several agencies of city government, the Mayor, City Council and the neighborhoods included in the contest. For the city officials involved, the audience was the entire region. Given the size and diversity of our city, those demographics are hard to quantify.

WHAT IS THE BUDGET? (include all costs including sponsors, grants, and other outside funding)

Low cost, huge ROI!

Competition Prizes \$5000

Juror Travel (1) \$1000

Refreshments (paid by a City Council member) \$500

Staff Time \$priceless

HOW (list the steps or process to implement this program, be as specific as possible)

1. Find a champion within city government - we worked first with an architect on City Council and the tailored the competition to enhance the Mayor's previously announced Complete Communities program.
2. Get the Housing Department and Mayor's office on board.
3. Write a competition brief

4. Come up with a timeline and a jury
5. Choose the winners
6. Follow up with the housing department regarding contracting for services