

South Houston Update March 2021

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Cor. 1:3-4

A New Location

Over the past few years Orphan Grain Train (OGT) has been laying the groundwork for the start of a new Branch in South Houston, Texas. We are excited to be a part of the OGT team expanding the outreach of care and relief to people in this southern region.

Our Board members are in place receiving guidance from Pastor Ralph Schmidt as we search for a warehouse location south of Beltway 8 and east of I45 near the Pasadena, Clear Lake, Pearland, and Friendswood region. If you have or know of an available warehouse in our area, let us know.

Our First Project

Currently our Branch launched a multi-week donation drive through April 12th supporting *Today's Harbor for Children* located in La Porte, Texas. Donation collection boxes are available at multiple churches including Hope, Friendswood and Zion, Pasadena.

Serving Now Into the Future

Within the last few years OGT - Norfolk, NE teamed with many area churches in the greater Houston area to provide support for families whose homes flooded during Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Not only does Houston provide manpower and relief within Texas but we also reach out to Louisiana after natural disasters along the gulf coast.

Plans are to grow our branch with a warehouse as a distribution hub so we can offer greater and quicker relief for the coastal region in Texas and Louisiana. As well, goals for the future would encompass the South Houston branch as a global distribution center using the proximity of the port for the shipping of aid.

How to Support and Connect with Us

Donations of soft goods, water, and monetary gifts are always appreciated so we will be prepared to meet the needs of others when domestic and global relief is essential.

Monetary gifts: submit an online contribution - locate the button on this web page titled 'Donate to South Houston Branch.' Checks may be made out to 'OGT South Houston' then mailed to:

C/O Bernice Wolf, 1216 Norwood St. - Deer Park, TX 77536

Use our QR code to access this web page in the future. If you would like to add the code to a church publication, website or email, contact Erika Adams for assistance.

Email a Board member - our volunteer Board members look forward to working with you.

South Houston Board members:

<u>Mike Rathje – Branch Manager</u>

<u>Steve Harris – Assistant Manager</u>

<u>Lonnie Loehr – Warehouse Manager</u>

Bernice Wolf – Treasurer

<u>Erika Adams - Development</u>

<u>Desine Norris – Public Relations</u>

<u>Holly Harris – Volunteer Coordinator</u>

Jeff Bibler – At Large

Greg Balfany – Secretary