



Media contact:

Ania Czarnecka

713-869-0707

ACzarnecka@wardcc.com

Westchase District Employees Raise \$20,000 for Area Organizations in 21st

Westchase District Corporate Challenge

Funds allow dozens of youth to attend Quillian Center Summer Camps

and the Summer Business Camp for Girls

(Houston, TX – April 26, 2018) – Earlier this month, more than 50 teams competed in the 21st Westchase District Corporate Challenge. More than 300 employees from a cross section of area companies, including engineering firms, banks, real estate companies, schools and universities, got a paid day off to kick ball, run a briefcase relay, and play dodge ball, all while raising funds for summer camps for underserved children.

Since the event, the funds and scores have been tallied. Thanks to the generosity of participating companies and event sponsors, including title sponsor Frost Bank, the event brought in more than \$20,000. Since 1998, the annual event has raised and awarded more than \$260,000 to area charities through the Westchase District Community Fund.

“It is incredibly gratifying to watch our corporate community come out to compete in the Corporate Challenge year after year,” said Sherry Fox, vice president of communications for Westchase District. “They enjoy the competition, team building and networking, but most of all they appreciate knowing that their support of the event generates thousands of dollars for worthwhile organizations that do meaningful, needed work right here in the Westchase community.”

On April 25, at the Westchase District Corporate Challenge Awards Luncheon, Quillian Center was presented with a check for \$10,100, which will allow 25 deserving area children to attend the Quillian Center’s summer day camp program for up to ten weeks. To date, Westchase District Community Fund has donated \$234,000 to Quillian Center, and more than 500 children have been able to participate in the camps.

“Thanks to the generous support of the Westchase District Community Fund and the companies participating in the Corporate Challenge each year, we have been able to assist many families for more than 20 years,” said Tom Gaden, Executive Director at Quillian Recreation Center. “It is a wonderful thing to tell a family who cannot afford to provide meaningful summer activities to their children, ‘Hey, don’t worry about it, we’ve got it covered.’”



Another beneficiary of the 21st Corporate Challenge is the Summer Business Camp for Girls program developed by Nerdy Girl Success, a Westchase area non-profit. The \$1,500 donation will help 8th & 9th grade girls experience the processes involved in running a business, flex their leadership muscles and learn from successful female business leaders.

“The Westchase District Community Fund has been instrumental in helping me with the Summer Business Camp for Girls,” said Christina Meade, founder of Nerdy Girl Success. “Not only have they provided funding that will help provide the materials for the week but they connected me with fabulous resources who are hosting the camp as well as helping me grow Nerdy Girl Success.”

The remaining funds will be awarded to a number of area community organizations by the Westchase District Community Fund throughout the year.

And in a big Corporate Challenge upset, the Paul Revere Middle School team ended the seven-year reign of Costello Engineering, who came second this year, when the faculty took home the trophy for highest game scores at the Corporate Challenge Awards Luncheon. Another Westchase engineering firm, Van De Wiele & Vogler, finished third.

“I’m so proud of our team of educators and coaches from Revere Middle School who earned the top award in the Westchase District Corporate Challenge,” said team captain, Johnny Davis. “Our students were thrilled to learn of their success at the event and are so proud to display the traveling trophy at Revere. This event is a great opportunity for our school to connect with the area business community.”

The Westchase District Corporate Challenge was conceived in 1997 to bring Westchase District businesses together for a day of fun, networking and corporate team-building. Over the years, the initiative has grown into a highly-competitive event that sells out every year, while generating thousands of dollars for area charities. Past recipients include Alief ISD Auto Tech Program; Alief ISD COMET Program; Girls, Inc.; Literacy Advance; Making It Better; Playworks; Walnut Bend Elementary School; West Houston Assistance Ministries and Westside Homeless Partnership.

2018 Winners:

First Place Overall - Revere Middle School

First Place Briefcase Relay - Revere Middle School

Second Place Overall - Costello, Inc.

First Place Soccer - Revere Middle School

Third Place Overall - Van De Wiele & Vogler

First Place Dodge Ball - Tailored Brands

First Place Kickball - Revere Middle School

First Place Crack The Code - Amegy Bank

First Place NBA Around The World - Amegy Bank



Photo credits – Courtesy of Westchase District

Photo IDs:

Corporate Challenge Photos

An employee from LSPI participates in Briefcase Relay at the 21st Annual Westchase District Corporate

An employee from Tailored Brands participates in Crack the Code at the 21st Annual Westchase District Corporate

An employee from DBR Engineering Consultants participates in Dodgeball at the 21st Annual Westchase District Corporate

Cameron Brown from Amegy Bank participates in Kickball at the 21st Annual Westchase District Corporate

An employee from First Methodist Houston participates in NBA Around The World at the 21st Annual Westchase District Corporate

An employee from First Methodist Houston participates in Soccer at the 21st Annual Westchase District Corporate

Award Luncheon Photos

First place – Paul Revere Middle School. From left: Sherry Fox (Westchase District); Trenton Bell; Johnny Davis; Dora Ruiz and Kyle Lloyd (Revere School)

Second Place: Costello, Inc. From left: Sherry Fox (WD); Brent Palermo; Sabrina Armstrong and Joey Sitzman (Costello)

Third Place: Van DeWiele & Vogler - From left: Sherry Fox (Westchase District); Jolie Kraft, Darren Brown, Sam Hill, Andreas Aranzales and Taylor Spencer (Van DeWiele & Vogler)

Nerdy Girl Check presentation: (l-r) Dave Gilkeson, Louis Jullien, Kim Peck, Craig Eichhorn, Christina Meade, Ricky Gonzalez, Blair Johnson, Tim Johnson. (All are Westchase District Community Fund officers, except for Christina Meade who is the founder of Nerdy Girl Success.)

Quillian Center Check Presentation: (l-r), Tim Johnson and Dave Gilkeson, representing Westchase District Community Fund; Tom Gaden from Quillian Center; Scott Odom, Frost Bank.

About Westchase District

Westchase District was created in 1995 to promote economic growth in the area by enhancing mobility, beautification, public safety, planning and development of the District. It offers an attractive suburban lifestyle in one of Houston's largest, most dynamic business centers. The unique character of the District has made it a magnet for corporate headquarters from around the world. As a result, tens of thousands of highly-paid professionals and their families choose to live here too, to enjoy highly-rated schools, a wealth of amenities, attractive housing, improved mobility and more – all within minutes from work.

###