

Building pathways for Houston's next generation.

The Queen's Foundation is a Houston-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit investing in low-income youth and families across Harris County — one cohort, one backpack, one conversation at a time.

In 2022, founder Chekesha Johnson launched The Queen's Foundation to address a gap she'd seen firsthand in her own Houston community: young people — especially girls — in under-resourced neighborhoods rarely had access to the mentorship, financial literacy, and leadership training that could shape their futures. Three years later, our work now reaches across Harris County through a growing continuum of programs designed to meet youth and families where they are.

We serve youth and families in historically underserved Houston neighborhoods — Sunnyside, South Park, Third Ward, and surrounding communities. **Approximately 98% of those we serve live in households earning below 80% of Area Median Income**, and 100% of our programming is delivered free of charge.

1,200+

Houston youth and families reached this year

98%

Low-to-moderate income beneficiaries

90%

Queen's Academy completion rate, inaugural cohort

OUR WORK THIS YEAR

The Queen's Academy

Our cornerstone program is an 8-week summer enrichment experience for girls ages 13–18, combining financial literacy, leadership development, career readiness, and mentorship. In our inaugural 2025 cohort, approximately 20 girls completed the program. Exit surveys showed a 95% increase in personal finance understanding and an 88% rise in leadership confidence — outcomes we'll build on as our second cohort wraps this summer.

Back-to-School Drive

Each August, we distribute fully stocked backpacks to students across Houston's lowest-income neighborhoods. This year, over 1,200 students started the school year with the supplies they needed — made possible by donors, volunteers, and local businesses who believe no child should walk into class unprepared.

Holiday Toy Drive

During the winter season, we bring joy to hundreds of Houston children and families experiencing economic hardship — providing gifts and essentials during the months when resources stretch thinnest.

Foster Care & CPS Outreach

We provide quarterly care products, mentorship, and support to youth ages 8–18 involved in the Child Protective Services system — one of the most overlooked populations in Harris County.

Queen's House (Launching 2026)

In FY 2025, we secured the physical location in Katy, Texas for The Queen's House — a licensed Transitional Living Program under the Texas Health and Human Services Commission for youth aging out of foster care.

Preliminary licensing is complete and partnerships with social service agencies are in place.

RECOGNITION & PARTNERSHIPS

Our work has been formally recognized by Texas State Representatives on three separate occasions. We are proud to partner with Walmart Spark Good Local Grants (three awards to date), Media Eyecon, the Law Firm of Willie Powell, MPAC Houston, the Houston Food Bank, and a growing network of individual donors and community volunteers whose time, resources, and belief in our mission make everything possible.

A note for community bank partners: The Queen's Foundation qualifies as a Community Development organization under the federal Community Reinvestment Act. With 98% of beneficiaries below 80% AMI and 100% of programming delivered within Harris County, grants to our organization directly support CRA community development lending and investment goals in the Houston assessment area.

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