



# HARVESTING HOPE

## *A Table for Everyone*

**PRESERVATION, PREVENTION AND PARTNERSHIPS**

### TEXAS INITIATIVE CULTIVATES COMMUNITY CHANGE THROUGH URBAN AGRICULTURE

Beneath the expansive Texas sky, a powerful transformation is moving through the soil, the **Texas Family Wellbeing Initiative (TFWI)** alongside its heavy-hitter friends **Families of Conviction** and **A Steady Hand** in Dallas, TFWI isn't just selling bell peppers—they are growing a revolution.



### THE CEO NEXT DOOR: YOUTH-LED INNOVATION

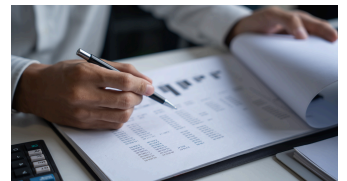


At the **Super Seeds Youth Farmer's Market**, local youth aren't just "helping out." They are the CEOs, logisticians, and masterminds co-designing business solutions to age-old social issues. Meanwhile, Be A Steady Hand and the parishioners of True Lee Baptist Church are using radical imagination to rewrite the destiny of South Dallas. Collectively, they are putting the power back where it belongs: in the hands of the community.

### THE POWER OF CODESIGN

### "EXPERT BRILLIANCE"

TFWI treasurers lived experience as the fuel for their business-driven social solutions.



By centering those who have navigated the child serving systems, ensures that community wellbeing efforts are designed with a deep, practical understanding of the barriers families face. The voices of all: caseworkers, teachers, system leaders interweave well with those impacted by the system and cultivate the resources needed to overcome it, fostering a unique brand of wellbeing that promotes resilience to turn historical challenges into a blueprint for future economic and social independence leading to prevention of generational system involvement

# BREAKING THE CYCLE: FROM POVERTY TO PROSPERITY

The reality is tough: many families get tangled in child protection services not because of a lack of love, but because of a poverty coupled within the limitations of a fragmented system. TFWI with partners like Families of Conviction and A Steady Hand are disrupting this by tackling the roots:

- **Food as a Shield:** By growing and distributing fresh produce, TFWI works to prevent food insecurity from turning into a child welfare report. They are keeping families together by filling their plates.
- **Root Work:** In the South, TFWI works with roots—it's the culture. TFWI believes lasting change is fueled by grassroots action.
- **Data with a Heart:** TFWI partners with HBCUs and other institutions to use community heat maps to pinpoint exactly where families face the greatest risk. The goal centers on youth—rooted in a simple design thinking principle: ensure every child lives long enough to graduate high school and make their grandmother proud.



## CONNECTING THE DOTS: BLACK & LATINO FARMERS

TFWI Friends are bridging the gap between local production and neighborhood needs by partnering with **Black and Latino farmers**. This is a strategic economic play. By community leaders mastering the **Farm Bill**, they can redirect the flow of resources directly into the pockets and bellies of their community.



## SETTING THE TABLE: A NEW BLUEPRINT

TFWI is plowing forward to build vibrant communities that can help narrow the entry point to the "system." TFWI invites system and civic leaders to the table as contributors to address needs "upstream," aiming to stop the over-pathologizing of poverty and allow systems to focus their resources where they belong: on real, imminent risk to the safety of children.



## THE HARVEST OF HOPE

Through radical hope and direct community transformation, TFWI is showing that the most powerful tool for change is the community itself. The youth of TFWI and their families aren't just surviving; they are harvesting a future of wellness filled with rising opportunities.