Dallas County and the broader North Texas region tell two stories. One story speaks of economic opportunity, a sparkling skyline and a city full of food and culture. The other tells of stark racial inequity, financial insecurity and uncertain answers to life’s most basic questions. The statistics are startling and despite the wealth of available data, vulnerable populations in Dallas continue to climb.

“We have the data. I can cite all the statistics by heart, but it’s time to stop talking about the problem and start solving it,” said Janie Bordner, CEO of the Community Council of Greater Dallas. “We need to come together to reduce poverty in North Texas, enable individuals and families to become self-sufficient and revitalize our low-income communities.”

The need is too great for one agency alone to address, which is why the Community Council of Greater Dallas has partnered with community agencies, individuals and city stakeholders for the last 79 years to help families move forward, leaving poverty behind.

In total, the agency serves over 500,000 requests annually for social services of all types. Community Council is the home of the Dallas Area Agency on Aging, which encompasses numerous services for seniors and the disabled including MyRIDE Dallas, Texas Healthy at Home, and local implementation of an evidence-based strategic partnership with Stanford University for chronic disease management. They are also the lead agency for a highly successful Community Youth Development Program targeting post-secondary readiness and crime prevention and provide the local area 2-1-1 Information Referral Service.
In addition, the agency provides healthcare navigator services for Enroll Texas, CHIP/Children’s Medicaid and several behavioral health interventions for youth, seniors and working families.

“We’re proud of all the work we’ve been able to accomplish so far, but there is still much work left to be done. Too many families are suffering and not able to move forward out of poverty without our help,” said Bordner. “We rely on the support of our partnering organizations to be able to fulfill our mission. Our community needs us, and we know that by working together we can make a difference in the lives of thousands of Dallas families.”

Through their annual luncheon, the nonprofit encourages other organizations and individuals to join the fight to knock out poverty and provide financial support or additional resources to the Community Council. The event will be emceed by former Emmy Award-winning TV reporter Jeff Crilley with Dr. Joe May, Chancellor of Dallas County Community College District, scheduled to deliver the keynote address.

The program will include a touching tribute to former Dallas Area Agency on Aging Director Dr. Morehead, who passed away earlier this year. The luncheon will also recognize top leaders and agencies who are positively making a difference in the community, including:

- Arcilia Acosta, President and CEO of CARCON Industries and STL Engineers;
- Dr. Terry Flowers, Perot Family Headmaster and Executive Director of St. Philip’s School & Community Center; and
- Distinguished leaders in service and education

The annual event will be held at The Statler, located at 1914 Commerce Street in Dallas, on November 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase online starting at $150 for general admission and $250 for VIP admission which also includes valet parking, access to the VIP reception, priority seating and admission to the gifting suite. Tables of 10 can be purchased for $1,250 and will include a table sign to display the organization’s logo. Sponsorship opportunities are also available starting at $2,500. All donations over $10,000 will have $2,500 go toward student scholarships.

Individuals unable to attend the event can still support the mission of the Community Council of Greater Dallas by making donating online through the nonprofit’s website.

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About Community Council
The Community Council of Greater Dallas was founded in 1940 and currently offers a wide variety of programs and services for seniors, working families and high-risk youth; health care enrollment and health education; and the Skill QUEST workforce development program. The agency also hosts the 2-1-1 Information and Referral Call Center that answers 350,000 calls annually. In 2017, the Council was awarded the Community Services Block Grant by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to help alleviate poverty in Dallas County. To learn more about the Community Council of Greater Dallas, their programs and resources, visit www.ccadvance.org and www.skillquestcareers.org and follow them on Facebook.

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