

2017

**DBR SUSTAINABILITY
YEAR IN REVIEW**



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Letter from the Director

I am thrilled to have joined DBR at the end of 2017 to lead and expand on our sustainability expertise. Having achieved previous success in green-building and over 120 sustainable projects, I am excited to share our company achievements over the last year.

In 2017, we continued our initiatives towards sustainable projects and made advancements to our business operations by adopting new policies and sustainable practices for a greener workplace. DBR also completed over 30 green-building projects

in 2017. This report will provide you with an overview of our accomplishments and highlight a few of our achievements.

Looking forward to 2018, we will continue our efforts, as sustainability is instilled in our company core values. With our new eco-services, we will better consult our clients and elevate our sustainability efforts in our practice and projects. Additionally, we have joined the AIA 2030 Commitment in 2018 to show reinforce our endeavors and to encourage our clients to participate in the commitment as well.



Projects

In 2017, DBR completed 33 sustainable projects for clients, ranging from tax rebates to LEED certifications to Austin Energy Green Building certifications to ENERGY STAR certifications to CHPS. Since the inception of the Sustainability Department at DBR, our firm has diligently worked to encourage and partner with clients on building and operating sustainable, efficient buildings to improve environmental performance.

DBR has extensive experience in delivering optimized designs and high-performance buildings through estimating building loads and recommending optimal energy efficiency scenarios using both Trane Trace 700 and eQuest energy modeling software.

Since its first LEED certification in 2006, DBR has valued using the third-party verification green building standard as a metric for designing successful, sustainable buildings.



Spring Fire Station

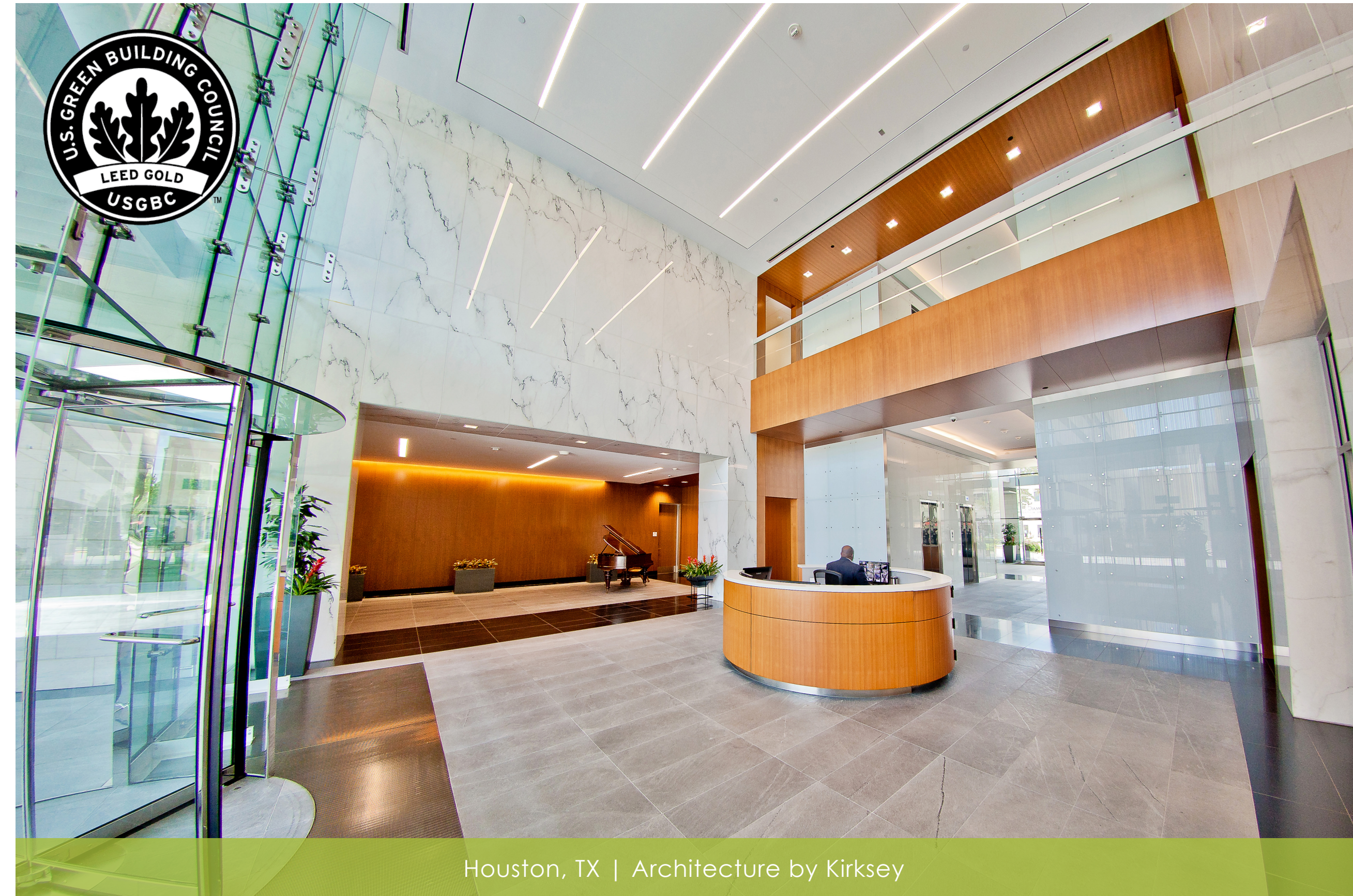
Spring Fire Station No. 70 is an 18,937 SF fire station in Springwoods Village, a new master-planned development in north Houston. Despite inheriting the project as a LEED Administrator midway through construction, DBR successfully overcame documentation challenges and earned a LEED Silver certification. The project earned 45% water use reduction by using ultra-low flush and flow fixtures. Additionally, 100% of individual and multi-occupant spaces were equipped with lighting and thermal controls.



Spring, TX | Architecture by Joiner Partnership, Inc.

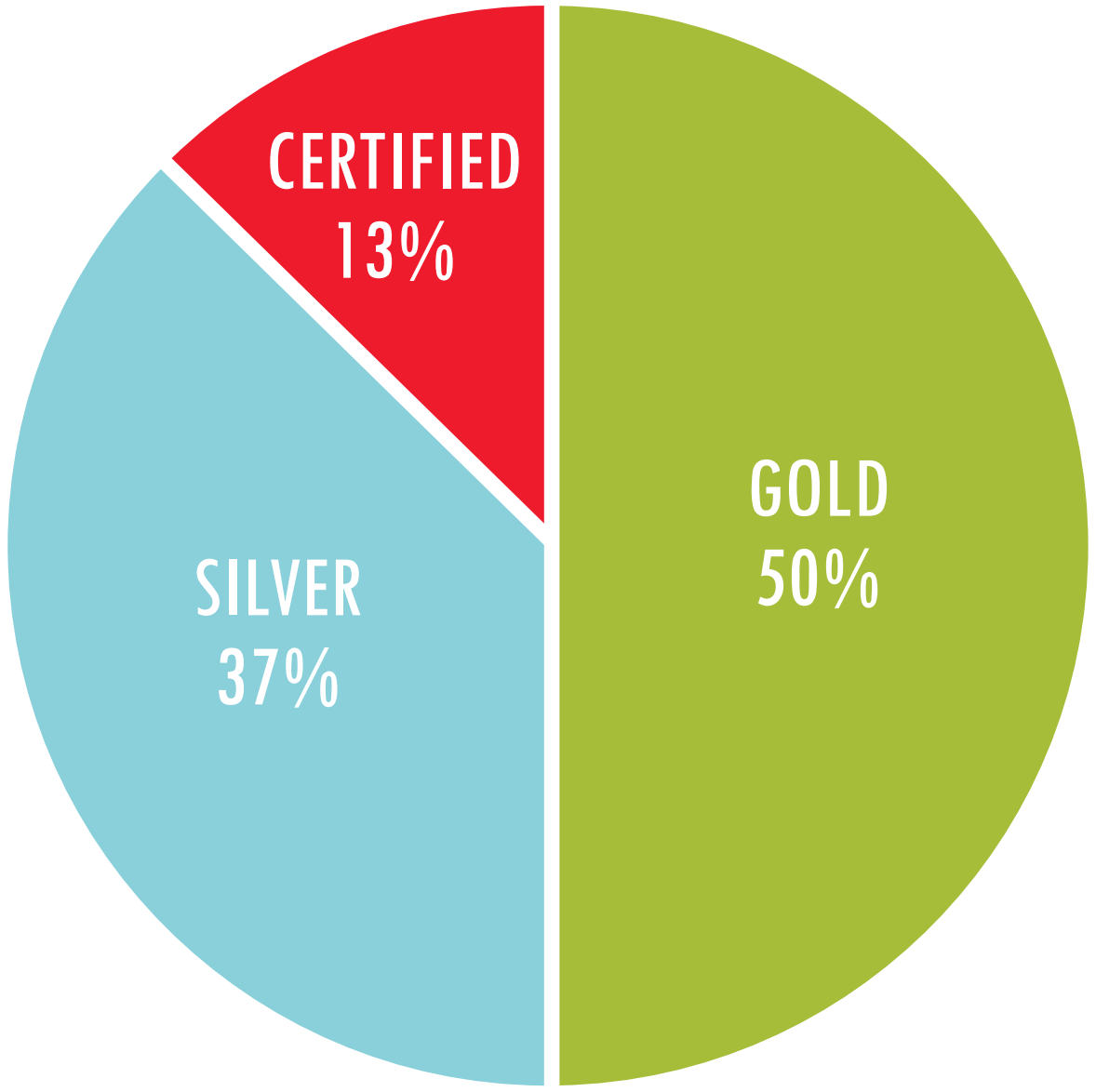
Town Centre One

Town Centre One is a 10-story, 250,000 SF Core & Shell building that earned LEED Gold certification in 2017. As the MEP engineer, DBR helped the project save 39% of water by designing with low flush and flow rate fixtures. Additionally, tenant spaces were submetered, allowing for future tenants and building managers to accurately monitor energy usage across the building.

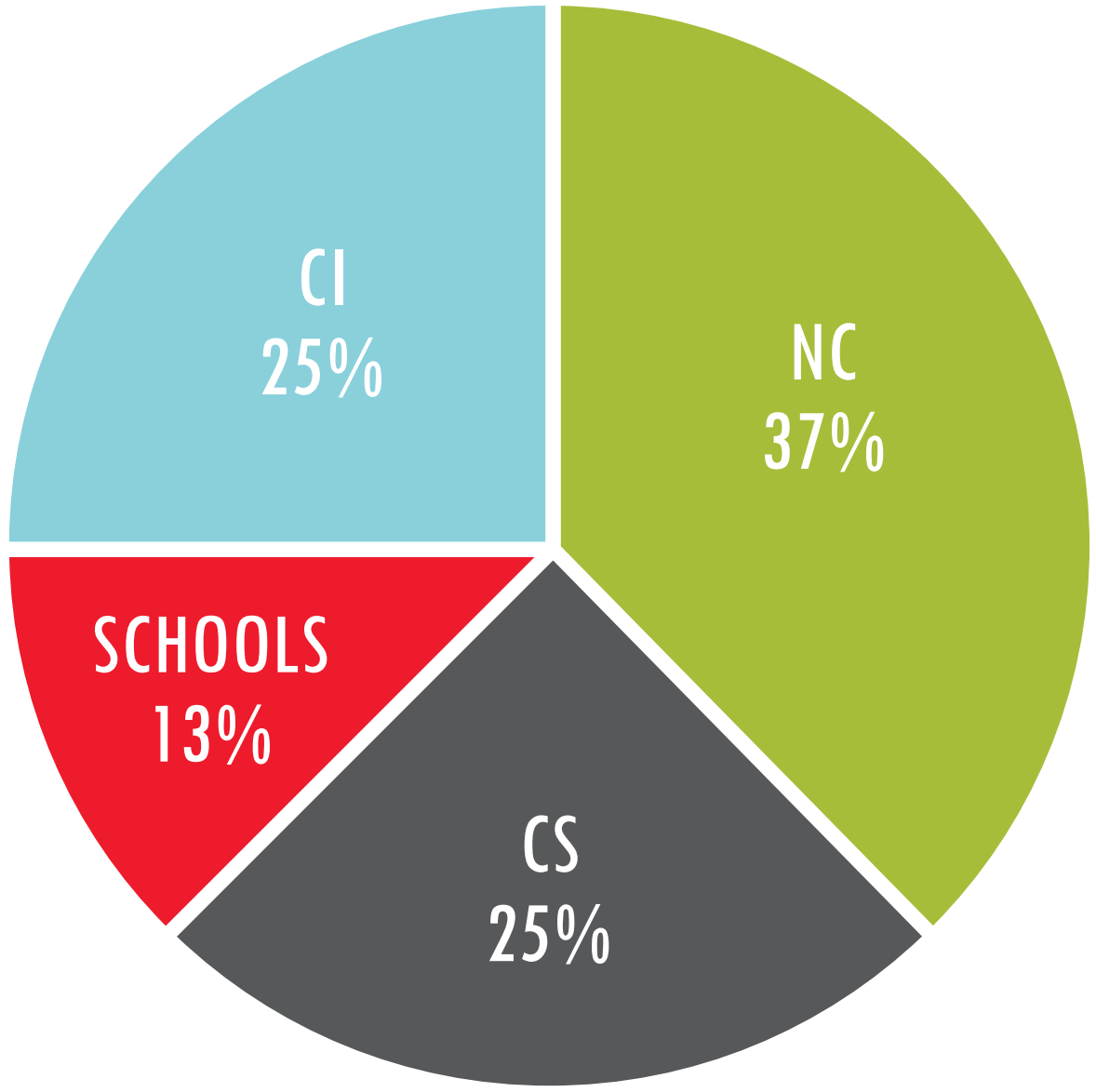


Houston, TX | Architecture by Kirksey

Projects Certified LEED in 2017



2017 LEED® Awards



2017 LEED® Rating Systems

Office Operations



Waste
Reduction



Plug
Loads



Community
Service

Office
Greenery



Dining



Continuing
Education



Office Greenery

More and more research shows that plants in the office are not only aesthetically pleasing, but are also good for employee health and well-being. In 2017, the Houston office invested in greenery for the office, helping contribute to cleaner air, improved employee productivity, and an increased feeling of comfort in the office.



Waste Reduction

Understanding that most office waste can be diverted from landfills, DBR has been increasing its efforts to promote recycling in all 7 of its offices. By reducing the use of virgin materials, reusing what we can, and recycling the rest, we have been making progress to reduce the waste our offices produce.

- Encourage recycling paper, cardboard, aluminum, and plastic
- 2-sided default printer settings and bins to collect single-sided print for reuse
- 100% of the Houston office employees now have recycling bins with mini trash cans



Dining

DBR is in the process of updating its catering standards in an effort to reduce waste and provide healthy food options for its employees. Lunches are now purchased in bulk, rather than in individual boxes, reducing the amount of waste accumulated during lunch meetings while also reducing cost. Additionally, multiple offices offer durable kitchen goods for staff like plates, glasses, and coffee mugs. Finally, all new employees are given a DBR-branded thermal tumbler.



Plug Loads

Standby power, also known as vampire power, can be as high as 10% of electricity usage. For appliances and equipment that are not even being used, this can be a waste of energy. DBR is initiating new operational policies to help decrease the amount of unnecessary energy used in the office.

- New policy to unplug all computers and equipment not in use
- Printers are set to default energy efficiency mode
- Computers and monitors are set to default energy saving mode



Continuing Education

DBR values continuing education by encouraging staff to keep up-to-date on the latest sustainability technologies by attending educational seminars, conferences, and webinars. In 2017, DBR employees attended seminars like the USGBC Gulf Coast LEED v4 Series and participated as a sponsor at the following local conferences.

- AIA Gulf Coast Green
- USGBC Texas Energy Summit
- USGBC High Performance Building Summit



Community Service

DBR values giving back to its local communities and all the offices participate in service events throughout the year. Volunteers from the Houston office were involved in a clean-up event Trails Without Trash in the Westchase District. All offices raised money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Light the Night events in San Antonio and Houston.

Houston office employees participated in a spin class, raised funds, and DBR matched employee donations to the Green Beret Foundation on behalf of an employee whose brother was killed. Finally, all the offices generously donated to the DBR Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund, with a match from DBR, raising \$9,252 for Houston employees who were negatively impacted by the storm.



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