BAY AREA HOUSTON ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP 50 Years

BUSINESS — to — BUSINESS

BAY AREA HOUSTON Economic Partnership

BAHEP extends its sincere appreciation for the continued support of THE DAILY NEWS through this monthly supplement.

www.bayareahouston.com
October 2026
Kaitlyn McMillan

BAHEP Healthcare Committee Hosts Panel Discussion

BAHEP's Healthcare Committee met October 13, 2026 for a discussion on cross-institutional teamwork within the region.

Attendees began with networking and lunch, followed by around the room introductions.

The Grant Study Panel was moderated by Dr. Glenn Freedman, who offered insight into the day's activities to come, including an open Q&A after the panel.

Dr. Courtney Hunt with Houston Methodist, Dr. Ya Fatou Njie Mbye with Texas Southern University (TSU), Dr. Massoud Motamedi, Dr. Melinda Sheffield-Moore, and Dr. Randall Urban with The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), and Dr. Glenn Sanford with the Univeristy of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL) presented on their work creating the Greater Gulf Coast Translational Science Alliance (CTSA).



Dr. Ya Fatou Njie Mbye and Dr. Randall Urban networking.

Panel participants spoke about how this cross-institutional alliance is improving the region's capacity to address workforce needs, promote medical research, and provide better community health outcomes.

The CTSA four-institution hub successfully applied for a 7-year, $29 million Clinical Translational Science Award from the National Institutes of Health.



Dr. Glenn Sanford presenting on community engagement.

This initiative was an important part of the CTSA's goal to reimagine how they educate and train their healthcare workforce, expand clinical research, and drive innovation.

Each institution highlighted how pooling their resources lead to breaking down traditional silos. This helped equip students, researchers, and care providers with the skills needed to tackle current and emerging health challenges.

The discussion also touched on the importance of building stronger connections between academic institutions and healthcare organizations in the region.

BAHEP thanks Dr. Glenn Freedman, the panelists, and Healthcare Committee Chair Jennifer Anderson for their contributions.

BAHEP's Healthcare Committee continues to be at the forefront of healthcare issues and developments in the Bay Area Houston region.

Aerospace Advisory Committee Hears Legislative Updates

BAHEP's Aerospace Advisory Committee (AAC) met October 7, 2026 to discuss current developments across the region's aerospace community, aerospace industry legislative priorities, and initiatives relevant to the continued development of the industry.



AAC members eating lunch and networking.

The meeting began with a legislative update from State Representative Dr. Greg Bonnen. Dr. Bonnen touched on the region's role in the growing aerospace landscape and how future initiatives will continue to advance the region.

Members also heard from Rick Hashop of SpaceRock about public market readiness.

James Blue of Storyboard Studios spoke about the Space State initiative and its role in highlighting the Bay Area Houston region's position in the growing space economy.

Joyce Abbey of SAIC provided an update on Team NASA/Space Center Volunteers, including their contributions to NASA and Space Center Houston.

The committee also heard from Rodolfo Gonzeles with the Rotary National Award for Space Achievement about the organization, its mission, and their banquet held annually in April.

BAHEP thanks State Representative Dr. Greg Bonnen, along with each presentor, for taking the time to speak to the AAC.

The BAHEP Aerospace Advisory Committee continues to be the epicenter of development in the region's aerospace industry.



State Rep. Dr. Greg Bonnen addressing members of the AAC.

BUSINESS to BUSINESS is a monthly Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership publication in partnership with THE DAILY NEWS. BAHEP is a member-driven organization that provides the leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in southeastern Texas. Its members include more than 340 business partners encompassing 18 cities, Galveston and Harris counties, the Houston Airport System, and Port Houston.

For membership information, contact Membership Director Harriet Pilgrim at 832.536.3250.

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership
1150 Gemini Street
Suite 1050
Houston, TX 77058
832.536.3255

"Like" us on Facebook: BayAreaHoustonEcon

BAHEP Hosts Regional ISD Superintendents

BAHEP hosted the September General Membership Meeting September 16, 2026 at Lakewood Yacht Club.

The meeting featured five of the Bay Area Houston region's public-school superintendents: Dr. Melissa Duarte of Texas City ISD, Dr. Karen Engle of Clear Creek ISD, Dr. Walter Jackson of La Porte ISD, Dr. Toni Lopez of Pasadena ISD, and Mr. Thad Roher of Friendswood ISD.

Moderated by Dr. Greg Smith, the panel provided updates on the region's current education priorities and workforce development needs.



(L to R): Dr. Karen Engle, Dr. Toni Lopez, Mr. Thad Roher, Dr. Melissa Duarte, Dr. Walter Jackson.

The superindendents also offered insight into the issues influencing their respective districts.

Public education remains an important part of regional economic development. Through discussions like this panel, BAHEP provides a forum for regional leaders to exchange perspectives, share updates, and explore areas of common interest.

BAHEP thanks everyone who attended the meeting, especially the sponsors: Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union, Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Joiner Architects, and Moak-Casey.