

From: [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation - The Optimist](#)
To: ctcinfohub@gmail.com
Subject: Mark Suzman's trip to Texas, in photos
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The Optimist

Relentless pursuit of an equitable world

Hello,

On his recent trip to Texas, foundation CEO Mark Suzman [discovered how one of America's largest and most populous states is leading the way in strengthening education pathways.](#)

One in ten students in the United States lives in Texas, so when the state finds new ways to unlock opportunities for students, it can have an enormous impact in meeting workforce needs and strengthening communities.

Mark saw these ripple effects up close when visiting with education partners and grantees across Houston: High schools working in partnership with local community colleges to establish clear paths to good jobs, while providing innovative 1:1 advising to make sure students can build the futures they want for themselves.

[And of course, Mark had to sample some famous Texas barbecue.](#)

See photos of the most memorable moments from Mark's visit to Texas (including that barbecue!), this week on Ideas.

— *The Optimist* Editors

See the photos

Featured photo essay



By Mark Suzman

From the interview chair to serious barbecue: CEO Mark Suzman in Texas

Mark shares some of his favorite moments from a recent trip to Houston, Texas to meet with education partners and grantees.

[Read article](#)

What we're reading

CNN Connect



[Gates Foundation and the WTA launch new global health fund](#)

Dr. Anita Zaidi explains how the foundation’s new partnership with the Women's Tennis Association will “change the game” for the growing gender nutrition gap.

Global Polio Eradication Initiative



Punjab’s dholwallas—the drums of change for polio eradication in Pakistan

See how UNICEF and the Pakistani government are placing music at the heart of their polio vaccination campaign.

NBC News



After decades of failures, researchers have renewed hopes for an effective HIV vaccine

HIV infects over a million people per year, but researchers hope to finally produce a vaccine by the 2030s.

Stanford Social Innovation Review



Removing barriers for women entrepreneurs online

Mesh, a professional social networking platform in Kenya, is teaching other platforms about advancing gender inclusion in the digital world.

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