



Bethel Neighborhood Center **2019 Annual Report**

Our Mission is to empower individuals to achieve a renewed sense of hope, wellness, and self-sufficiency.

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Youth After School and Summer Enrichment Programs

Children/Youth – Grades 1st through 12th

Description: Our program impacts the lives of more than 115 children/youth in grades 1-12. We provide educational and recreational programs in a safe and nurturing environment and includes reading, homework assistance, leadership training, community service, health education, social skills, cultural awareness, and educational and recreational field trips. Our high school program emphasizes on college readiness, career options, community service, and job training.



Outcomes: In 2019 - 99% of our elementary students completed their homework and were ready for school the next day, 98% of our middle school students self-reported improving their social skills because of their participation in our program. We visited 1 college campus with our high school students.



Our students participated in two intown community service projects and enjoyed 19 fun-filled and educational field trips to various places including Deanna Rose Farmstead, Ceramic Café, Skate City, Bonner Springs Aquatic Park, Cinemark, and a college campus.

Senior Program

Senior adults 60 years and better

Description: Our seniors attend lunch Monday-Friday accompanied by programs allowing them to socialize, participate in Bingo, games, music, arts and crafts, Healthy Lifestyle classes, community service and field trips. We have a nurse teaching healthy lifestyles and a visiting nurse who monitors blood pressure/glucose and weight on a monthly basis.



Outcomes: In 2019, out of the 39 seniors enrolled, 13 of them attended regularly. While 64% of our seniors reported looking for more whole grain foods while shopping, 71% said they have increased the amount of water they drink and 64% said they eat more fruits and veggies. Seniors received 13,177 lbs. of fresh produce during the year. Seniors also did community service stuffing bone pillows and donating them to Children's Mercy Hospital. Seniors also enjoyed going to the movies, Jamesport town, seeing a youth performance by a local dance group Los Bailadores de Kansas City, attending a senior retreat, and seeing a presentation by the Messner Puppet Theater.

Food Pantry

Residents of Wyandotte County

Description: Our food pantry offers a variety of culturally appropriate foods, baby diapers, wipes, and formula to neighborhood residents. We also hand out hygiene products, clothes, and other household items when available. Our pantry is stocked with donations from KCK public schools, US Postal Carriers, churches, and individuals and in partnership with the Junior League of Wyandotte and Johnson County. A weekly food drop from First Baptist Church of Stilwell, Kansas helps us to distribute more fresh produce and bread to our community.



Outcomes: In 2019, we expanded our pantry as part of the building renovations. We helped more than 9,429 adults, senior citizens and children and handed out more than 93,126 pounds of food. We also provided baby diapers, baby foods, and baby wipes to 257 infants/toddlers: giving out 3,855 baby diapers throughout the year.

Assistance with Language Translation and Notary Refugees, Immigrants, Economically Disadvantaged

Description: Bethel staff members speak more than 10 languages helping us to provide culturally appropriate programs and services to our community. They help in advocacy, filling forms for schools, jobs, and clinics, translation of documents like birth certificates, legal matters, proof of income, authorization forms and much more. A staff notarizes important documents for low-income families.

Outcome: Bethel was able to assist 63 individuals in 2019. The assistance we provided ranges from translation of forms, notarized court documents, income letters, permission to travel letters, daycare forms, deeds, and helped in reading/interpreting and replying important mails.



ESL/Citizenship Classes

Immigrants, Newcomers, Refugees

Description: Adult ESL/Citizenship classes meet weekly for two hours on Fridays. They work on conversational English, learn new vocabulary, and listen to, read and learn pronunciation. For immigrants who have lived in the US for five years or more, we have been preparing them to become citizens by teaching the 100 civic questions and answers they have to know to pass the citizenship interview. We had 39 registered adult students from the Burmese, Nepali and Spanish community attend throughout the year and had 3 immigrants got their citizenship.

Bethel Christmas Shop

Bethel Families



Description: Bethel offers a Christmas Shop in partnership with Prairie Baptist Church since 1968 and other churches and individuals, providing gifts and much needed items for low-income families year after year. Families submit their needs list which included request for food, basic needs and

other household items. Families receiving Christmas baskets are asked to attend financial literacy training to help their family.

Outcomes: In December, Bethel helped 79 families, 37 seniors and more than 100 Bethel youth. 49 different churches, Sunday school groups, businesses, families, individuals, and KU hospital departments assisted us in providing items for Christmas. Bethel seniors were adopted by an anonymous individual of Grace Baptist Church. Elementary youth received shoebox gifts from Woodlawn Baptist Church ABW, Bethany Baptist Church, Arkansas City Baptist ABWM, City Life ABWM, Della Vantuyal and Co-Workers, Wilma Engle, and Vonda Brecheisen. Kansas City Police adopted 10 youth for shopping at Target.



Capital Campaign: Magnifying the Light & Hope

Description: Over 3 million dollars had been raised at the end of 2019 for our capital campaign to renovate and expand our existing building and programs since we began in May 2015. Renovations

include a safer drop off entry way, updated outdoor recreation areas, updated existing building with an addition of a garage and a large multipurpose room that will allow us to double our capacity for students.

Groundbreaking held on April 8, 2017 after reaching our initial goal. Temporarily moved to two separate locations in July 2017 to continue running our programs. Construction began much later than anticipated in winter of 2017 and was expected to be complete by mid-April 2019. During construction we were faced with over \$200,000 in unexpected cost. We received our temporary certificate of occupancy on April 05, 2019 and we began to prepare rooms to resume our programs.

Service Breakdown Statistics

Youth Program Participants

Total Youth 137
Ages 6-18 years old

Hispanic	85 participants
Asian	46 participants
Black	03 participants
White	02 participants
Other	01 participant



Summer Program Theme: Freedom

- To Dream & Act
- To Be Creative & Serve
- To Choose Healthy Lifestyles

Senior Program Participants

Total seniors: 39
60 years and better

Hispanic	25 participants
Black	07 participants
White	07 participants



Food Pantry Users

Total: 9,429 individuals served

Hispanic	38%
Asian	22%
Black	14%
White	24%
Other	02%

ESL/Citizenship Class

Asian	98%
Hispanic	02%



Bethel Personal Impacts

“I enjoy coming and doing activities with my children. I have already learned a lot from the Family Nights I’ve been to.

Thank you.”

- A refugee parent



“I am volunteering to help the younger students to learn what is right from wrong and to become better citizens.

Bethel has helped my brothers and me all these years, and I want to give back to the community.” – Cristian, Bethel volunteer



“Omg! I am so excited to see it. So many years at Bethel and I never even thought of it looking any different. I can't even imagine. I can't wait!”

- Kelley Rogers, Bethel parent



“Bethel is a fun place as I get to learn and experience a lot of things that I will not learn or experience anywhere else.”

-Flor, Bethel middle school youth

“The reflections we do at the end of the day are meaningful to our staff and students. It gives us the opportunity reflect on how the day goes.”

-Nico, Bethel staff



2019 Snap Shot

January 09, 2019

Removal of the old tree on the NW corner of Bethel campus to make way for the new playground.



February 22, 2019

Bethel seniors come to visit the almost completely renovated building.

March 13, 2019

First Bethel Family Night at Dynamic Life Baptist Church temporary location as we wait for inspections



April 05, 2019

Bethel granted Temporary Occupancy Certificate to begin transition back home

May 07, 2019

Last Bethel Family Night of the school year.

June 15, 2019

Bethel high schoolers get artistic at Ceramic Café in Overland Park, KS



July 17, 2019

Bethel Lanterns field trip to KC Community Gardens



August 31, 2019

Paul Rollet, visits & speaks about his work in the Philippines

September 07, 2019

Bethel ministry is highlighted at the annual CABA Parade in Bethany Park

October 18, 2019

Bethel Seniors enjoy performance by Los Bailadores de KC – dancers include two former Bethel youth & volunteers

November 23, 2019

Financial Literacy Training held for families receiving Christmas gifts in December

December 11, 2019

Bethel Youth receive Christmas Shoebox gifts from ABW churches and individuals



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Bethel Staff

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