



February Update



Dear Bethel friends,

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of Bethel Neighborhood Center. We are able to offer hope and help to all ages in our community because of generous donors like you. Thank you for enabling us to meet emergency food needs, rent/utilities assistance, provide diapers, baby wipes and baby food, and masks; educate our community members on COVID-19 and Covid vaccine, work with students from grades 1-12 in our online after school program, continue our job training through the sewing class, deliver groceries to our senior citizens, and interpret and advocate for our community members. The pandemic does not slow down our work but increases opportunities to work with our struggling families, children/youth, and individuals in our community.



The need to provide scholarships to Bethel high school students to go to college has been in our mind for a long time. Bethel staff have been teaching a **college preparedness class** to our upper middle and high school students for years - taking them to several college campuses, inviting guest speakers from different fields, researching grants for college, helping them with ACT, career interest assessment, college application and much more. **We are very pleased to announce that the Bethel board has set aside \$3,000 to begin the scholarship program for our high school students.** Some of the Bethel alumni we

talked to are energized and are very much interested in helping us in this project. We are in the process of working out the details and a committee consisting of alumni, board members, and Bethel staff will be formed soon. **If you are interested in helping us, the door is wide-open to transform lives through college education.** You may send your designated donation to Bethel Neighborhood Center.

Our community mourns the passing of a dear friend and faithful supporter Donna Buck on January 23rd at Kindred Northland Hospital in Kansas City, MO. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Holton, Kansas. Ed and Donna Buck demonstrated their love for God and our community by faithfully sending their **monthly** donation for years. Ed and his family even designated her memorials to be sent to us at Bethel Neighborhood Center. We will miss Donna! Please keep Ed, her children, and grandchildren in your prayer.



We feel blessed for playing an important role in educating our community members with Covid-19, Covid testing, and Covid vaccine at this critical time. Our executive director has been very busy representing our community in the Health Equity Task Force of Wyandotte County. In addition to attending many meetings, he has been organizing meetings for refugees community leaders and pastors. Under the leadership of the Bethel board, three town hall meetings are being organized to discuss about the Covid vaccine in three different languages - Nepali, Swahili and Burmese. The Bethel board members who will serve as our panelists are Dr. Carlos Monzon, Gordon Criswell, JD Rios, and Sandra Olivas.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Bethel ministry. May God bless you abundantly!

Rev. Mang & Nem Sonna, Bethel Neighborhood Center