



May Update

Dear Bethel friends,

Thank you very much for your recent donation to Bethel Neighborhood Center. We are able to provide hope and help to our community all these years because of generous donors like you. Thank you also for the prayers you have said for our community. Our partnership has enabled us to reach out to a community that is hard to reach due to language, economic, social, and cultural barriers. Bethel is blessed to have a diverse staff that welcomes everyone, speaks several languages, and is culturally sensitive to the needs of the diverse community we serve in Kansas City, Kansas.



We are encouraged by the recent visit of our sisters from the American Baptist Women Ministries of First Baptist Church of McPherson, Kansas. We gave them a tour of our building, and they were very pleased with our renovated building, the new garage, and the sewing training we do. They were all very excited to see their names on our donors recognition wall. We took many pictures with them, and we thanked them for the white cross donations they brought from their church. Their love for Bethel and the people we serve is very encouraging. As more and more people get their Covid vaccine, and restrictions are slowly lifted, we would like to have more visitors to see our renovated building.

As the spring semester is winding down, we are all very excited to have our Summer Youth Enrichment Program in person. Our staff and volunteers are busy preparing their curriculum and are undergoing staff training. The theme we have chosen for this summer is **“Rebuilding.”** Our summer program will begin on June 7 and ends on July 30th. We are enrolling neighborhood children and youth at this time, and we are expecting to enroll 100 students or more to participate in our summer program. Our plan is to have 25 students each day to avoid overcrowding our facility and to follow the CDC and state/city safety guidelines. We are focusing on college and career readiness with our high school students, and we will take them to visit at least three college campuses during the summer. We cannot wait to have our children and youth back in person in our building and play outdoor with them. They expressed their readiness and excitement to come back as well.



Thank you once again for your continued prayer and financial support of our ministry! Many at-risk children and youth in our neighborhood will have something to look forward to this summer because of your donation. May God bless you and your family for your generosity!

Mang & Nem Sonna

Rev. Mang & Nem Sonna, Bethel Neighborhood Center.