

Building Bridges

Helping youth find success. APRIL 2023

Dear Building Bridges supporter,

On behalf of the entire Building Bridges Board of Trustees, we want to thank you for your continuous support over the many years. This organization could not sustain without your willingness to pour your resources to help change the lives of our kids. Since 1974, our vision has not changed, which is to redirect the lives of kids who need a second chance to make better choices, turn their lives around, and find lasting success. Your continued support helps us achieve our mission to act as a "safety net" for at-risk youth involved in the Montgomery County Juvenile Court system. Our Community Based Services Unit provides a litany of non-traditional programming by using Work Therapy groups each week. These group's objectives are the foundation of our organization.

Juvenile Court is one of the most important courts throughout the judicial systems. Unfortunately, it is where many kids' lives begin. A parent or child's decision landing them in Juvenile Court, along with the decisions made thereafter, can change the trajectory of a child's life, and his or her family, for generations to come. This is why we as an organization believe in caring for kids whom many would designate as too "difficult" or "troubled." Many of our kids come from communities that are under-resourced, under-educated, and under-served, which makes it even more important for us provide innovative programming that offers discipline, structure and opportunity in a compassionate and supportive environment. Building Bridges embraces challenges and with your help will continue to rise to the occasion and provide success stories. As we enter into 2023, please be on the lookout for upcoming events to support and engage with our kids. Thank you again for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Hon. E. Gerald Parker, Jr

We are excited to unveil our new logo! Building Bridges had the opportunity to work with a student in Sinclair's Visual Communications department to lead our rebranding as a capstone project. You will see our website and marketing materials updated in the coming months as well. While our branding has evolved, our dedication to serving our youth and families will remain the same.



WINTER EVENTS SPOTLIGHT

WE HAD A BUSY WINTER! CHECK OUT SOME HIGHLIGHTS BELOW AND THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU FOR HELPING MAKE IT HAPPEN!



THE HOLIDAY PARTY IS ALSO HOME TO OUR ANNUAL 5-ON-5 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT EACH YEAR



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

We held our annual Christmas party on December 22, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:30pm at the city of Dayton's Northwest Recreation Center. Building Bridges and Montgomery County Staff Members created an atmosphere of laughter, joy, education, and memories. There were several activities to engage in, photos with Santa, plenty of food to eat, and lots of treats. Sunlight Village worked with several of the youth to write original inspirational poems, which were recited during lunch.

The HAALO Program worked with the youth to create Christmas cards, drawings, ornaments, and so much more. This is always one of the most memorable events of the year for our youth and families!



Thank you to the generous support of our donors, over 200 families were served! No child left empty handed, with over 300 gifts distributed.

ACTIVITIES & WORK THERAPY SPOTLIGHT

Work Therapy groups are the backbone of our program. Check out some group highlights and other activities below.



VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

The City of Dayton's Dakota Center hosted our annual Valentine's party. Participants enjoyed a three-on-three basketball tournament, crafts and all the chicken and snacks they could eat! The Civitan Club sponsored this event, and joined our youth for exciting board games, face painting and more! The Civitan Club has participated in and supported many Building Bridges events over the years and we are grateful for their continued involvement!



Building Bridges Board Members with Civitan Club Members, who have become loyal supporters of our mission! THANK YOU Civitan Club!



CROSSFIT

We would like to extend our thanks to Centerville CrossFit who has provided continuous support for our youth by providing them with encouragement and support to push them outside their comfort zone. Mr. Josh and Mr. James push our youth to their limits every week while also educating them on how to exercise safely and effectively. CCF supports our youth by providing them with meals after every workout, and donating and participating in our activities. You are appreciated!





**THE DONATIONS BUILDING BRIDGES RECEIVES AS A 501C3 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION ENABLES US TO SUPPORT THE YOUTH WE SERVE AT A CROSSROAD IN THEIR LIVES. FOR DECADES, BUILDING BRIDGES HAS POSITIVELY IMPACTED THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE. YOUR DONATIONS WILL ALLOW US TO CONTINUE THIS IMPORTANT WORK. ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND CAN BE SENT TO:
BUILDING BRIDGES, INC. P.O. BOX 1 DAYTON, OH 45405.
WE ARE IN THE PROCESSING OF UPDATING THE WEBSITE TO MAKE ONLINE DONATIONS EASIER, SO LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THOSE OPTIONS COMING SOON! THANK YOU!**

**BUILDING BRIDGES, INC.
P.O. BOX 1
DAYTON, OH 45405**

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