



Building Bridges™

Helping youth find success.

OCTOBER 2023

DEAR FRIENDS OF BUILDING BRIDGES,

AS THE HOLIDAYS APPROACH, WE ASK THAT YOU REMEMBER BUILDING BRIDGES IN YOUR END-OF-YEAR GIVING. AS YOU REPREPARE FOR JOYOUS HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, IT'S IMPORTANT TO STOP AND REFLECT ON THE JOY AND BLESSINGS IN YOUR OWN LIFE, WHILE ALSO BEING AWARE THAT NOT EVERYONE IS SO FORTUNATE.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE WORK OF BUILDING BRIDGES WITH A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION THIS HOLIDAY SEASON! AS YOU KNOW, IT HAS BEEN OUR TRADITION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN NEED THROUGH OUR HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAMS. WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING ONE OF THESE PROGRAMS AGAIN THIS YEAR. IT IS OUR MISSION TO ENSURE THAT THE YOUTH AND FAMILIES THAT WE SERVE ARE NOT FORGOTTEN DURING THE UPCOMING HOLIDAY SEASON AND YOUR GENEROSITY WILL DEMONSTRATE TO THESE FAMILIES THE KINDNESS THAT CAN COME FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES.

THE FIRST OF THESE HOLIDAY INITIATIVES IS OUR THANKSGIVING MEAL PROGRAM. THE COST OF EACH FAMILY MEAL, WHICH INCLUDES TURKEY, POTATOES, STUFFING, GREEN BEANS, DINNER ROLLS, AND DESSERT, IS APPROXIMATELY \$60 FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO "ADOPT" ONE OF OUR FAMILIES FOR THANKSGIVING, WE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH A FAMILY, OR FAMILIES, IN NEED. YOU ARE ABLE TO EITHER PROVIDE AND DELIVER THE MEAL TO THE FAMILY DIRECTLY, OR SIMPLY MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION THAT WILL ALLOW US TO PURCHASE AND DELIVER THE MEAL ON OUR OWN. EITHER OPTION HELPS TO GUARANTEE THAT ALL OF OUR FAMILIES WILL HAVE A GREAT THANKSGIVING!

OUR SECOND HOLIDAY INITIATIVE IS OUR ADOPT-A-KID FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM. OUR GOAL IS TO PROVIDE CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO OVER 200 CHILDREN. THE SMILES WE SEE ON THEIR FACES AS THEY OPEN THE PRESENTS CHOSEN JUST FOR THEM ARE PRICELESS! WE HOPE THAT YOU CAN JOIN US IN SPREADING SOME OF THAT JOY BY ADOPTING ONE OF OUR CHILDREN FOR CHRISTMAS. WE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH THE CHILD'S WISH LIST SO THAT YOU CAN PURCHASE AND WRAP THE GIFTS YOURSELF, OR YOU CAN SIMPLY MAKE A DONATION THAT WILL ALLOW OUR 'ELVES' TO PURCHASE AND WRAP THE GIFTS. THERE IS A SPENDING LIMIT OF \$60 PER CHILD.

REMEMBER - A MAJOR PART OF OUR PROGRAMMING DEPENDS SOLELY ON THE GENEROSITY OF OUR CONTRIBUTORS. YOUR SUPPORT ALLOWS US TO CARRY OUT OUR VISION AND MISSION OF REDIRECTING THE LIVES OF KIDS WHO NEED A SECOND CHANCE TO MAKE BETTER CHOICES, TURN THEIR LIVES AROUND, AND FIND LASTING SUCCESS. NO CONTRIBUTION IS TOO SMALL. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

WARMEST REGARDS,
LUIGI DODIEU



SUMMER EVENTS SPOTLIGHT

WHAT A BUSY SUMMER! CHECK OUT SOME HIGHLIGHTS BELOW AND THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU FOR HELPING MAKE IT HAPPEN!



On July 19 the Building Bridges Annual Softball Tournament sponsored by the Riverdale Optimists was held at Delco Park. Three teams vied for the title including participants from five departments of the Montgomery County Juvenile Court including the Traditional Unit, Resource Planning Program, Treatment Court, Nicholas Residential Treatment Center, and Community Based Services, otherwise known as Building Bridges. Riverdale Optimists picked up the tab again this year for shirts, pizza, ice cream and more. The Building Bridges team won the overall tournament after three hard-fought games. Congratulations to all our teams! THANK YOU RIVERDALE OPTIMISTS FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT ALL THESE YEARS!





BUILDING BRIDGES 5K SUCCESS!
WHAT A FANTASTIC EVENING IT WAS!
ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST, BUILDING BRIDGES CELEBRATED THEIR 23RD ANNUAL BUILDING BRIDGES 5K CLASSIC.
THIS YEAR IT WAS HELD AT RIP RAP ROADHOUSE IN DAYTON. THE NEW VENUE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS AS NEARLY 100 RUNNERS KICKED BACKED AND RELAXED AFTER A SCENIC RUN ALONG THE RIVER. THE RUNNERS AND WALKERS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO DOZEN VOLUNTEERS, WHO ENJOYED THE AMAZING FOOD PROVIDED BY RIP RAP ROADHOUSE. THE EVENING SUNSET WAS A BEAUTIFUL BACKDROP AS WE SAT ON THE PATIO, BREAKING BREAD AND SHARING STORIES OF GOOD TIMES. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE NUMEROUS SPONSORS THAT SUPPORTED OUR EVENT AND THE BUILDING BRIDGES CAUSE. WE ARE APPRECIATIVE OF THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS SO WE CAN PROVIDE VITAL PROGRAMMING TO THE CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY. MUCH GRATITUDE FOR YOUR UNSELFISH KINDNESS AND UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT!



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS WHO HELPED MAKE OUR SUMMER FUNDRAISING EVENTS SUCCESSFUL!
 CORNER CUPBOARD
 CENTERVILLE CROSS FIT
 SINCLAIR, EAGLE MOLD
 RIP RAP ROADHOUSE
 FIVE SEASONS
 SERTOMA OF DAYTON
 LASERTOMA
 PLANET FITNESS
 SUPPORT AIR
 CHICK-FIL-A
 CITY BARBEQUE
 HAMMERMAN, GRAF, HUGHES & COMPANY
 TOBY'S TAVERN
 CASSANO'S
 FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 NORMANDY UNITED
 METHODIST WOMEN
 LUANN & JACK EDDINGTON
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF RON
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF JUDGE KRUMHOLTZ
 FAMILY OF JAMES KENNEDY



ON OCTOBER 7TH BUILDING BRIDGES HOSTED THEIR FIRST ANNUAL PICKLEBALL CLASSIC AT FIVE SEASONS COUNTRY CLUB. THE DAY WAS FILLED WITH FUN AND COMPETITION AS 21 TEAMS SQUARED OFF FOR BRAGGING RIGHTS AND PRIZES. THE PICKLEBALL CLASSIC CONSISTED OF SIX GAMES OF PLAY IN A ROUND ROBIN, BRACKET FORMAT. OUT OF FIVE GAMES THAT WERE PLAYED, ONLY 16 TEAMS ADVANCED INTO THE TOURNAMENT FOR THE HEFTY COMPETITION! THE EVENT WAS LED BY OUR GREAT TEAM OF BB VOLUNTEERS AND PARTICIPANTS. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS! DAN AND NICK (1ST PLACE), SAMI AND NOAH (2ND PLACE), MEGHAN AND ANNA (3RD PLACE), AND BRIAN AND WENDY (4TH PLACE). EACH FINALIST WAS AWARDED A FREE YEAR MEMBERSHIP TO PLANET FITNESS- OUR MAIN SPONSOR-ALONG WITH OTHER PRIZES. THANK YOU AGAIN TO ALL OUR FANTASTIC SPONSORS FOR A SUCCESSFUL INAUGURAL FUNDRAISING EVENT!





MODERN CIVILIZATION AFFORDS ONE TO ASCRIBE TO WHAT IS KNOWN AS A LIFESTYLE. THIS LIFESTYLE INFLUENCES ONE'S CHOICES & THE DECISIONS THEY MAKE, OFTEN WITHOUT MUCH CONSIDERATION. AS TIME GOES ON, ONE WILL BECOME DEPENDENT UPON THE VICES OF HABITATION. A TRUE TEST OF STRENGTH IS TO REMOVE EVERY COMPONENT OF ADAPTABILITY & CHALLENGE ONESELF TO OPERATE WITHOUT THEM. NONETHELESS, THE ONE COMPONENT THAT STAYS WITH ONESELF WILL ALWAYS BE THE MIND. THIS BECOMES THE GREATEST CHALLENGE AND THUS, THIS IS WHAT THE BOUNDARY WATERS BOYS TRIP IS ALL ABOUT. THIS YEAR'S TRIP WAS HELD JULY 28TH TO AUG 4TH 2023. THIS CANOE TRIP IS TEACHES OUR YOUNG PEOPLE HOW TO NAVIGATE THROUGH BARRIERS AND DEPEND ON EACH OTHER WHILE REMOVING THE DISTRACTIONS OF CELL PHONES, CITY LIGHTS, CAR SOUNDS, & THE LUXURY OF RUNNING WATER & A FUNCTIONING TOILET. BOUNDARY WATERS FORCES ONESELF TO TUNE INTO ONE'S INNER THOUGHTS. IT ALLOWS ONE TO FOCUS ON WHAT THEY HAVE TO BE GRATEFUL FOR. THE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCES CONTINUES TO TEACH THE YOUTH AND STAFF A GREAT DEAL OF SELF-AWARENESS, TEAMWORK, COMMUNICATION, PATIENCE, CREATIVITY, AND FAR GREATER, THE POWER OF BELIEVING IN SELF WHEN FACED WITH CHALLENGES.





WE CANNOT DO THIS WORK WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT!

TO DONATE, VOLUNTEER, OR SUPPORT, PLEASE CALL LUIGI AT 937-496-7800
OR EMAIL BB.YOUTH.BUILDINGBRIDGES@GMAIL.COM

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

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**THANK YOU BETH KLOSTERMAN AND
ELIZABETH SELOVER OF MAYBERRY
MARKET FOR ALLOWING US TO BE A
PART OF THIS YEAR'S DAYTON EVENT
AND SHARE THE BUILDING BRIDGES
MISSION!**