



BBCC Annual Church Report – 2020-2021

March 20, 2021 @3:00pm

SUMMARY

This past year has been one of the most challenging years imaginable for all of us, but it has also provided a bittersweet opportunity for positive change, growth and development. As a community of faith, we continue to trust in God's goodness and favor as He leads us through these unprecedented times. We recognized the implications of the emerging COVID-19 crisis early on and acted quickly to safeguard the health and well-being of our most vulnerable staff, volunteers, and families we serve.

Bronx Bethany Community Corporation (BBCC) and Bronx Bethany Church of the Nazarene (BBCN) continue to partner together as the demand for food and basic essentials rapidly increase. We have also used this time to evaluate the needs of the community and how we can be most effective in the programs we offer.

Bronx Bethany Community Corporation (BBCC) is a 501(c) 3 institute, created in 2003 out of a growing number of children and families in desperate need of quality educational services and the increase of individuals in food insecure homes. BBCC is registered and recognized as a Compassionate Ministry Center (CMC) of the Church of the Nazarene. BBCC is the major arm through which Bronx Bethany Church of the Nazarene (BBCN) will *serve the world*. We take a holistic approach in meeting the needs of our community, through our programs that provide counsel and give access to resources, information and support.

THE MISSION

The mission of Bronx Bethany Community Corporation is to respond practically and compassionately to human need through servant-hood, by providing: counsel, information, academic support and access to resources, to offer hope to youth of the Bronx and to improve the quality of life in the community at large.

BBCC seeks to live out this mission through the programs it offers as we continue to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic. We strive to serve members of our community with dignity and love.

THE PROGRAMS



Program Director: Roodlyne Altidor, "Woods"

The Food Pantry is a yearlong temporary relief program that has reverted to distributing pre-packaged pantry bags due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pantry closed for five (5) weeks from March 26th 2020 and re-opened May 6, 2020 distributing food twice per week, Wednesdays (9am-11am) and Thursdays (3pm-6pm). We also recognize that with food insecurity, economic challenges may present additional difficulties. Therefore, clients have access to a variety of integral social services such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) enrollment, referrals for tax assistance and housing grants (when available). Volunteers signed up to serve through the church's Planning Center and In It Together, a volunteer organization, sent volunteers each week. In 2020, we served **45,315** adults, children and seniors (an average of almost 5,000 individuals per month). This is double the number of individuals served the previous year. There continues to be a steady increase of individuals and families in need of food within our community due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Food Bank for NYC, Human Resources Administration (HRA), City Harvest and United Way have allocated over 23K in food grants for 2020.

The Food Pantry is closed during major holidays (New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and every 5th Wednesday and Thursday of the year.)



Program Director: Charmaine Bennett

The After School Enrichment Program (ASEP) is a 10-month daily program that empowers young 5- to 12-year-old scholars to become critical, creative and resourceful thinkers through the arts. ASEP closed on March 13, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We started a Virtual ASEP program that launched on March 1, 2021 offering: tutoring, art, violin, piano and devotion classes, Monday-Friday via Zoom. Currently, there are 13 students enrolled.



Program Director: Charmaine Bennett

The Summer Day Camp is a 6-week program for children ages 5-12 that promotes the creative arts and develops the imagination of our youth in a fun, Christian environment. Last year camp was closed due to COVID-19. This year, our Camp Director will propose an outdoor camp experience adhering to a camp experience that is fun, safe and healthy for all staff and campers.

THE PERSONNEL

Our vision is that Bronx Bethany Church members will always comprise BBCC's volunteer core. We want each member's faith to be manifested through an expression of service and an alignment with the mission, vision, and strategy of the corporation. We are currently staffed with two (1) full-time employee, 9 part-time employees and over 10 active volunteers who are the backbone of the organization.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In 2020, we received 93K from Board donations and individual donors.
- We applied for the 1st Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan and was approved for 56K. The loan was forgiven on 1/6/2021.
- Applied for 2nd PPP Loan and received 50K on 2/26/2021.
- Re-opened Food Pantry on May 6, 2020 to serve increasing need of food insecurity.
- Hired a Pantry Director, Roodlyne Altidor, also known as "Woods".
- 78 volunteers signed up through the church's Planning Center to aid in the distribution, storing and delivery of food to the community and to the sick & shut-in.
- Received a 5K grant from Hyde and Watson Foundation to be used in 2021 towards the upgrade of the air filtration system for the church building.
- Partnership with other churches, individuals and pantries when we had excess of food.

THE GOALS

- Plan for virtual fundraising
- Continue to work closely with BBCN's re-opening committee
- To offer relevant services to our community in a safe, healthy environment.
- To reengage our youth and family services

These goals are particularly important as we strive to keep in line with the mission and vision of the organization and while meeting the needs of the community we serve.

THANKS

In everything we give thanks. I want to specially thank the volunteers and staff who selflessly dedicate their time and resources to help thousands of our neighbors secure food during the COVID-19 pandemic. You all have been the driving force of our food pantry. I thank God for our Lead Pastor, Richard Griffiths, for his vision and leadership in our community. I am excited as we look ahead to where God is leading us.

A special thank you to Pastor Althea Taylor, our new Pantry Director, Roodlyne Altidor along with our core volunteers (Charmaine Wagstaff, Doreen Atherton, Walter Cassanova, Claudette Daley-Johnson, Delroy Welsh, Moyra Taylor, Carol Pitter, Mark Grant, Mark Mayne, Caryl Trocard, Valerie Coates, Brother Ashley, Maurice Byron, Rick Ferguson and David Blackwood).

Charmaine Bennett (ASEP Director), thank you for your dedication, leadership, patience and understanding as we continue to work through ways to keep our youth and community engaged. Thanks to Carole Liston (Administrator), who has remained committed to serving.

I sincerely appreciate our committed Board Members: Wayne Elliott (Executive Chair), Jim Daniels (Vice Chair), Lenworth Williams (Treasurer), Dr. Deborah Hunter-Brown (Secretary), Directors: Vanessa Abrahams-John, Loisen Jacobs, Karrie Edwards, Isola Wilson and Nicole Dyer.

I would also like to thank Bronx Bethany Church of the Nazarene, Robert Nathan *the Maxine Nathan Scholarship, Linde* (formally known as Praxair), Food Bank for New York City, United Way, Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) and City Harvest for continual partnership.

Finally, I give God thanks for the life of our beloved Sis. Doreen Rutty who dedicated her entire life to serving others. She was a phenomenal ambassador for BBCC and she taught many of us the true meaning of being a faithful servant of God.

We serve a God who can do exceedingly and abundantly more than we could ever think or imagine. "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen Ephesians 3:20 (NIV).

Prayerfully submitted,



Melanie Snape-Blackwood
Bronx Bethany Community Corporation
Executive Director

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