



Bethany Outreach Center

254 East Tenth Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

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Dear Friends of Bethany,

Bethany Outreach Center is located at ground zero for poverty in Erie County. Our neighbors inhabit an area more blighted than 98.7% of the neighborhoods in the United States. Unemployment hovers near 17%, triple the national average. The childhood poverty rate is higher than 99% of the neighborhoods in the United States. This is especially concerning as 694 of our clients are children. Historically our neighborhood has been a kind of Ellis Island for Erie County, and this continues to be true today. While English is spoken by over 75% of the residents, it is a second language to many.

We exist for one reason only, to improve the lives of our neighbors through hands-on ministry. Although we cannot eliminate poverty, we are making a difference in this neighborhood. With your continued support, this is possible. Together we provide our clients with food, clothing, learning opportunities, loving support, and hope for a better future. Week after week, numerous volunteers assist our two part-time employees by providing hours of unpaid time. With these volunteers we continue to meet our clients' daily needs free of any charge.

We are truly blessed to have supporters like you! The Board of Directors and I thank you for your generosity and support this past year. This annual report illustrates how together we are making a difference in this neighborhood. I hope that you will take a few minutes to read it and learn of the many opportunities, provided by your generosity, that have increased hope in our neighborhood. Together we are making a difference.

We ask that you continue to support this outreach ministry as we struggle to meet the new and continuing challenges of this lower eastside neighborhood. Become a sustaining member of our "Circle of Friends" by making a three to five year financial commitment to Bethany. Consider volunteering for programs and fundraisers or serving on our Board of Directors. Continue to donate your unused clothing and household items, and supplying additional food items and funds for the food pantry. Please purchase a ticket and join the fun at our annual Neighborhood Sole Search fundraiser.

In return for your commitment, we promise that the time, items and funds that you provide will be used in personal face to face ministry with cost effectiveness second to none. Every donation will be used wisely to meet our clients' current and future needs. Together we can make a difference! Thank you for blessing this ministry with your support.

Sincerely,

Deb Galloway, Board Chair

BETHANY OUTREACH CENTER 2015

The Bethany Outreach Center is a volunteer driven Christian organization, rooted in Erie's east side, reaching out to ALL people who need a hand up and hope for life change. Our broad based ministries address the material, vocational and spiritual needs for people on the edge.



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2015 A Year in Review



FOOD PANTRY

Every Wed. 9:00—11:00 AM
4572 visits were made to our pantry by 2,131 unduplicated households.

CLOTHES CLOSET

Every Tues. and Wed. 9:00—11:00 AM
4,698 visits were made to our closet and 33,747 pounds of clothing were donated this past year.

IMPACT

Our After School Teen Program for ages 14-18 began in October and is held every Wednesday 3:30-7:00 PM. We hope to add more days of programming in this new year.

STORYTIME

Our Saturday Reading Program was held in the Spring and Fall for youth ages 3-10. Each program was held for six weeks.



SPECIAL EVENTS

CYCLING FOR BETHANY

May 24—30



From Washington, DC to Pittsburgh
Raised \$5,394

SOLE SEARCH

October 3

Our Annual Fundraiser held on
October 3rd Raised \$3,226.43

NEIGHBORHOOD
SOLE SEARCH



OTHER EVENTS IN 2015

- Saint Vincent Mobile Unit visited our Food Pantry every other Wednesday
- Fifty cases of toilet paper were delivered by the GE Community Service Fund
- District Rep. Pat Harkins, helped pass out socks on Sock Day in May
- LECOM provided free dental screening for clients in September
- Ye Ole Sweet Shoppe raised funds for Bethany on Community Day
- Erie Insurance donated 28 office chairs
- Flu shots were provided by Life Works were given to clients in October
- Turkey distribution— 50 volunteers came to help
- A donated freezer for our Food Pantry from St. Patrick's RC Church

Why We Need to Continue to Make it Happen in This Neighborhood

- 98.7% of all neighborhoods in the U.S. have a higher per capita income than ours
- 99.0% of our neighborhood's children live in poverty compared to a national average of 25%
- Our neighborhood is a kind of Ellis Island for the Erie County area. While English is spoken by over 75% of the residents, it is a second language to many. Other important languages spoken include Spanish, Vietnamese, plus a variety of South Asian, African and Eastern European languages.
- A large percentage of our neighbors are dependent on public transportation when what they need is not within walking distance
- Unemployment hovers near 17% -triple the national average

Out of 910 unduplicated households in 2015 our clients are made up of:

Ethnic Background: Asian, Caucasian, African American , Hispanic, Russian, African

Elderly: 150
Adults: 1,265
Children: 694

What We Face

Bethany Outreach Center owns very little. We rent space; we have no mortgage, the furniture and office equipment have seen better days. We have one part-time executive director and one part-time Administrative assistant both of whom work wonders in finding and inspiring volunteer help.

Last year 241 unduplicated volunteers gave 7631.5 hours of their time.

We are engaged in developing our future. Looking long-term, we now have an account at the Erie Community Foundation. Our fundraising efforts have increased and are bringing our budget into a sustainable balance.

Our main goal is not to invest in "stuff" but in people. Expanding our staffing to at least full time positions is critical. Not only for simple fairness to the folks involved, but also to the future board that will eventually face replacing them.

Those Who Make It Happen

Coming to Bethany Outreach is something that gives me pleasure in helping the people of the neighborhood. The volunteers that work here enjoy the work they do for the Community. I, myself, am able to give a little something back for what Bethany has given me.

Bethany Outreach is one of the few places in Erie that thrives on helping others and asking for nothing in return. Bethany is my most enjoyable place to spend a morning.

-Marlin Collins

657 Volunteers supplied 7,632 hours

Special Volunteers included:

Behrend Cheerleaders
The 4th Grade from Erie Day School
Erie Insurance
GECAC Senior Aides
Volunteers through "Get Connected"
Gannon University
Mercyhurst University
Perseus House
Storytime Reading Volunteers

Corporate Matches

Erie Indemnity (Erie Insurance), GE Community Foundation and Thrivent Choice Dollars

Gifts and Grants

Grant: Erie Insurance in the amount of \$10,000, Erie Cares Fund of the Erie Community Foundation \$400

Other Financial Gifts:

Champion Cheer Central, Crop Hunger Walk, LCBA Branch 49, Lord Corporation and the Lord Good Neighbor Fund, Luther Memorial Church and Congregation's Food Pantry donations, Morlin Incorporated, Mount Calvary Lutheran Church and Vacation Bible School, Northwest Savings Bank, NW PA Synod, St. Mary's Auditorium, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, VASA, Wesleyville American Legion Carl Neff Post 571

Erie Gives Day (raised (\$8,708) - Thank You Erie

Event Sponsors: Bayfront Sheraton, Better Baked Foods, Country Fair, Doug Cornelius Insurance Agency, Erie General Tire, Erie Playhouse, Highmark, Life Changes Massage Therapy, Northwest Savings Bank, Presque Isle Downs and Wegmans

Food and Clothing Donations: Many from our community including Abiding Hope Lutheran Church, Connecting Hands, Faith Lutheran Church, Lamb of God, Luther Memorial Church, Millcreek and East Erie Kiwanis and St. Martin's Center

Board of Directors and Staff



Our Board: Chair: Deb Galloway, Vice Chair: Jim Reese, Secretary: Eric Hedlund, Treasurer: Rev. Bill Coleman.
Members: Linda Graffius, Mark Howell, Doug Massey and Ed Whitbred



Diane Giannelli, Executive Director



Luanne Churchill, Assistant



Cornerstone Construction delivers our Food Pantry order each week

Volunteering Five Days Each Week



The St. Vincent Mobile Unit Visits the Pantry by-weekly

2015 Team Members

Lynn Ackerman
Bill Alamon
Kimberley Arvickson
Melanie Baldonado
Dean and Vicki Baldwin
Robert and Diane Banks
Joe and Sandy Barbaro
Dr. Chester Battersby
Patricia Bellingham
Robert and Nancy Benacci
Robert and Diane Bestvina
Better Baked Foods
Richard Braendel
William Braendel, Jr.
Emma Braine
Mary Ann Brence and Len Posway
Mary Breyley
Sandra Brindle
Cheryl Brown
Jim and Shirley Brown
Paul and Mary Ann Brugger
Sharon Burke
Leona Carlson
William Carney
Barbara Chaffee
Douglas Chaffee
Rob and Misty Chambers
Champion Cheer Central
James Clement
Robert and Mary Ellen Coleman
Rev. William Coleman
Montie and Shirley Collier
Mary Conboy
Cornerstone Construction
Country Fair
Joyce Crishock
Sandra Lee Crow
Martha Crowell
Linda Thurston Cummings
Mary D'Annibale
Joanne Dahlstrand
Sharon Davenport
Nancy Dipko
Harold and Nancy Downey
Shirley Dudenhoefer
Timothy and Catherine Dugan
Steve and Tara Durian
Albert and Marilyn Eelman
Keith and Carolyn Eller
Helen Engesser
Jane Erickson
Erie County Crop Hunger Walk

Erie Gives
Erie Indemnity Insurance
Rachelle Eskelin
Annabelle Fischer
Gary and Ann Flick
Les and Lois Fobes
Suzanne Franks
James Fried
Garrett and Margaret Fuhrman
Walt Gaber
Bill and Deb Galloway
GE Employee Community Service Fund
GE United Way Campaign
General Exterminating
Rev. Albert Gesler
Bob and Diane Giannelli
Peter and Jane Gilewicz
David and Nancy Glod
Ed Goodwin
Jessie and Danielle Graffius
Linda Graffius
Beth Gruber
Fr. Jim Gutting
Larry and Pam Gutting
Thomas B. Hagen
Rev. Cliff Hamilton
Judie Harrison Means
Donna Hecker
Eric and Cindy Hedlund
Beverly Held
Joseph Helm
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Henry
Highmark
Michael and Carol Hirsch
Lorianne Holt
Linda Hooper
Marion Howell
Mark Howell
Brian Hubbard
Emily Andree and Aaron Louis Iverson
Martin and Catherine Jaskiewicz
Richard Jeffords
Marjorie and Harry Johnson
Ron and Judy Johnson
Sylvia Johnson
Carol Joyce
Sara Juers
Sarah Karasack
Allison Keenan
Grace Kennedy
Greg and Wendy Kern

Sheryl Kern
Ron and Denise King
David and Jane Kinzig
Mr. and Mrs. James Koenig
Kimber Kopple and Craig Conover
Lori Krause
Jennifer Trich Kremer
Vincent and Jennifer Kremer
Robert and Kim Krespan
Greg and Sandra Krivonak
Rhonda Kuhrmann
Rev. J. Kenneth Laber
Patricia Lacy
Lake Country Bike
Mr. and Mrs. John Laver III
LCBA Association
LCBA Branch 49
Beatrice Leemhuis
Charles and Kathleen Lewis
Roberta Lobaugh
Lord Good Neighbor Fund
Lord Corporation
Rev. Karen Lundwall
Luther Memorial Church
L.M. Congregational Life
Luther Memorial WELCA
Winifred Lyons
Donald and Jan MacInnes
Jerry Manchester
Cynthia Manna
Michael and Sandra Mantsch
Daniel Marple
Leo and Nancy Marzka, Jr.
Doug Massey
Betty May
Philip and Sally McAfee
John and Judy McKibben
Dr. and Mrs. Peter McLaughlin
H. Jean McMillin
Linda and Alberico Melaragno
Erik and Anna Meyer
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Michel
Patricia Mitchell
Barbara Montgomery
Brian and Jane Moran
Kathy Morey
Morlin Incorporated
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
Rev. and Mrs. J. David Mumford
Patricia Murphy
Ruth Mussett
Joyce Navecky
Scott Newell

Northwest Savings Bank
NW PA Synod
Thomas and Nettie Ohmer
Dorothy Overberg
Elsie Page
Gary and Diane Parsons
Rinaldo and Letizia Pellizzari
Mary Peters
Bob Peterson
Carmella Petz
Mrs. Erika Pirschel
Betty Pletz
Carol Polaski
Presque Isle Downs, Inc.
Michael and Karen Pretz
Timothy and Susan
Primerano
Red Hot Mamas of Erie
Barbara Reese
Carol J. Reese
Jim Reese
Rita Reichard
Dorothea M. Reilly
Dorothy Respecki
TJ and Cami Robie
Marilyn Rositer

Paul and Susan Russoniello
Kurt and Katherine Sahlmann
John and Mary K. Sanner
Mark and Solveig Santillano
Deborah Schaaf
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schaal
Eloise R. Schaper
James Schlabach
Charles and Rosalie
Schlaufman
Evelyn Schlipf
Christine Sedgwick
Jean Shirley
Mr. and Mrs. David Silvis
Slovak National Club
Alan and Carol Smith
Katherine Sue Smith
Lois Smith
St. John's Lutheran Church
St. Mary of the Immaculate
Conception
Mr. and Mrs. John Steff
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sturtevant
Sharon Swanson
Stephen and Judith Taylor
St. Mary's Auditorium Assn.

John and Rosalie Swenson
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran
Church
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Staszewski
John and Jane Tell, Sr.
Jessie Thompson
Thrivent Insurance
VASA
Rev. and Mrs. Roy Washill
Nancy Way
Wesleyville American Legion
Carl Neff Post 571
Karen West
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Whitbred
Greg Williams
Ken and Alice Winkelman and
Helen Hitchcock
Caroline Wolff
Jack Wonner
Susan Wright
Harriet Yeager
June Yentes
Dr. Daniel Young
Frank and Linda Young
Robert and Pat Young
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Zamperini

*Thank you for your support over the past year.
We are truly blessed to have supporters like you!*

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Volunteer to help with various programs through the year**
 - **Volunteer to help with our various fundraisers**
 - **Consider serving on our Board of Directors**
 - **Volunteer your time as a Committee Member**

BECOME A SUSTAINING MEMBER OF OUR "CIRCLE OF FRIENDS"

- **Make a three to five year commitment to our annual pledge drive**
- **Consider making Bethany Outreach a beneficiary in your estate planning**
 - **Attend, support and/or volunteer for our neighborhood events**
 - **Remember us during "Erie Gives" on August 9, 2016**
- **Make us part of your investment at the Erie Community Foundation**

**Bethany Outreach Center
BUDGET 2016**

	Budget 2015	Actual Jan - Dec 2015	Budget 2016
<u>INCOME</u>			
Corporate Contributions	10,000	10,500	10,000
Matching Funds	1,500	9,727	7,000
Thrivent Choice Dollars	700	1,131	1,000
Individual	20,000	20,292	20,000
Small Business / Organizations	1,500	5,168	5,000
Church Support	12,000	2,448	2,500
Luther Memorial Church	0	15,000	15,000
Fundraisers	8,000	19,337	15,000
After School Program	0	540	500
Interest/Checking	10	6	5
Food Pantry Individual Contributions	9,000	7,570	8,000
Food Pantry - Other	0	900	900
Membership Dues and Fees	200	(107)	0
TOTAL INCOME	63,410	92,512	84,905
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Building Rent	20,600	18,175	19,020
BOC Office	3,765	4,885	5,058
Memberships and Conferences	500	275	300
Director and Assistant Salaries	39,000	37,548	39,723
Insurance	1,795	3,158	3,150
Contract Labor	1,350	1,691	1,850
Equipment	3,230	4,694	3,980
Program Expenses	4,980	3,886	4,640
BOC Operations	500	1,777	1,050
Utilities	1,960	1,545	1,300
Fundraising Expenses	0	396	1,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	77,660	78,030	81,071
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(14,250)	14,482	3,834