



Pathway, Inc. Newsletter Quarterly Post

Pathway Quarterly Post | Fall 2018

Announcements

Upcoming events:

- HEAP Winter Crisis begins November 1, 2018- March 31, 2019
 - Annual Board Meeting: December 10, 2018
 - Holiday Office Closures: Christmas & New Year's
 - December 24, 2018 @ Noon
 - December 25 & 26, 2018 All Day
 - December 31, 2018 @ Noon
 - January 1 & 2, 2019 All Day

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Our CEO's Message

As we rapidly approach the holidays, I find myself thinking about the many children whose families are in poverty and for whom there will be little to no celebration because the families do not have the means to provide their children food and holiday gifts that many of us take for granted. This hurts my heart.

Far too many children are living in impoverished circumstances. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2018 Kids Count Data Book, Ohio is rated 25th in overall child well-being, 22nd in economic well-being, 16th in education, 23rd in health and 31st in family and community among the states across the nation.

The thought of children not consistently having three meals a day, no electricity or gas for cooking and/or to heat their homes as we enter the coldest period of the year, brings tears to my eyes. These are not livable conditions. With the wealth in this nation, the fact that there are 14,116,000 children in poverty is obscene.

Each year Pathway departments identify fifty families to receive holiday meals and toys for Thanksgiving and Christmas. However, that is a mere drop in the bucket compared to the ongoing need poor families in Lucas County have trying to feed and provide shelter for their children.

The most recent Ohio Poverty Report published by the Ohio Development Services Agency in February 2018 states that 19.8 percent of Lucas County residents are in poverty, representing 83,600 people.

I welcome any effort you might make to assist Pathway in making the holidays enjoyable for families in poverty right here in Lucas County. You can do so in a variety of ways:

1. Donating a new toy for a boy or girl
2. Donating socks, gloves and/or hats for children and teens.
3. Making a donation via a check made payable to Pathway, Inc. or PayPal, via a debit or credit card to adopt a family for the holidays so that the family receives a basket of food, including a turkey and all of the trimmings.

The gift of giving is a blessing to those who receive as well as to those who give. We at Pathway, wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday season.



Pathway Inc. Brothers United Fatherhood Program: Year 3 Community Partnership is Key

In September, 2018 Pathway Inc. the Brothers United Program celebrated its third year of service to the Toledo Community by asking their partners to celebrate with them at the last partner meeting of 2018 as they shared their successes and challenges.

Dr. Joseph Donnelly and members of Educational Evaluators traveled to Toledo, to share 9 key Continuous Quality Improvement points that Brothers United began working on in August, 2017. The Brothers United and Educational Evaluators team along with sustainability Contractor Geneva Ware-Rice spent one year reviewing data the program collected and data from the Nform system, the federal government data collection tool. After collecting the data the team spent time reviewing and preparing for the year- end review with the community partners.

Pathway Inc. Community Partners include Lucas County Children Services, Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services, Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services Child Support Division, Volunteers of America, Bethany House, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, Toledo Public Schools, Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center, RFS Behavioral Health, TASC of Northwest Ohio, Toledo Lucas County Health Department, Toledo Lucas County Getting to 1 and Lucas County Metropolitan Housing Authority.

As Brothers United learns and grows they will have the opportunity to provide Toledo, Lucas County Ohio with credible data that will not only inform the local community but will impact policy and legislation for the next 10 years in The Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood field.

“We are excited about what the future holds” said Avis Files, Director of Family Supportive Services “Through Brothers United we are learning how to serve fathers better and when you serve fathers you serve families.”



Thanks to our community partners for all that they do to make Brothers United one of the best Fatherhood programs in the Country.

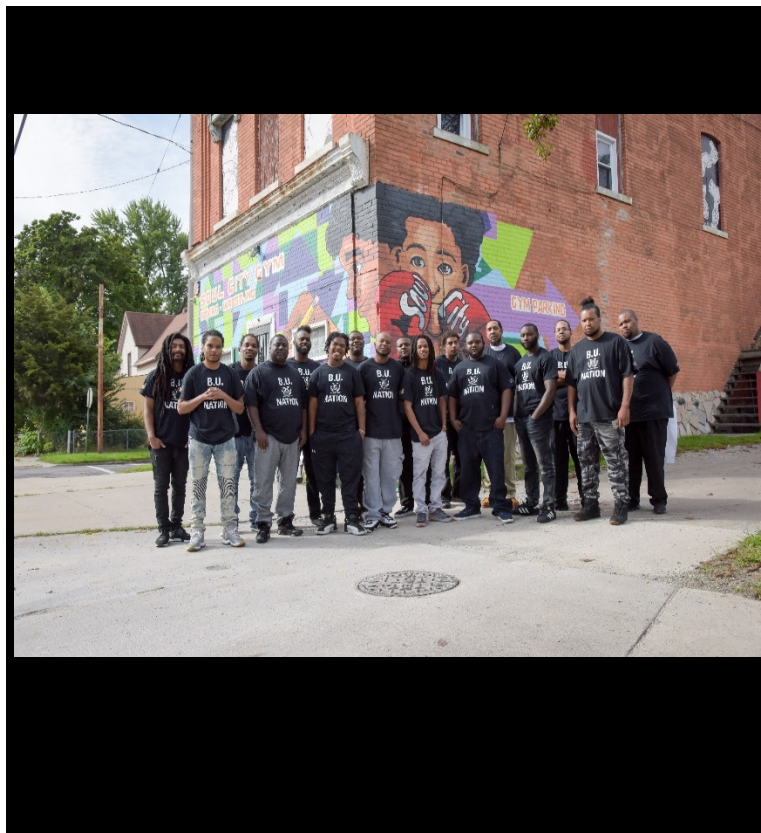




Figure 1 Job Seekers in line outside DMS/Pathway Hiring Event



Figure 2 DMS Security conducting traffic and Job Seekers outside in line to apply

On-Site Hiring Event with Detroit Manufacturing Systems (DMS)

On the morning of Saturday, October 6, 2018, Pathway hosted an on-site hiring event in collaboration with DMS. The event was scheduled to take place from 9am – 2pm. People began to arrive before 8am and lined up outside on the sidewalk. Due to the overwhelming response, the doors were opened early, and attendees were able to begin the process. An estimated 1,000 people attended the event, with approximately half of them being able to complete the process. The event was closed at 10am due to reaching its full capacity. Those who were standing outside were provided stamped cards with info as to where they could send their resume's for consideration. The DMS staff were a pleasure to collaborate with.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead

"It isn't what we say or think that defines us, but what we do." ~ Jane Austen

"We need community action and policies to support healthy communities." ~ Mark Hyman



Figure 3 Zepf Staff Conducting Seven A's Workshop to Attendees at Pathway

Pathway Professional and Individual Development Program (P.A.I.D.)

On the mornings of September 20th and 21st the Pathway P.A.I.D staff hosted the staff of the Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ)/One Stop Zepf Center. The staff conducted the “Bring Your A Game” Seven A’s soft skills workshop as two 3 hr. morning sessions vs the traditional full day. The workshop was very successful and garnered an RSVP response of approximately 30, with 25 attendees who ultimately participated. Customer surveys specific to the event conducted by Pathway resulted in 100% satisfaction with the workshop, staff collaboration, duration and location held. This follows previously successful collaborations held on-site at Pathway (HPOG HealthCare 101). Both organizations enjoy the partnership, and discussions for future collaborations to serve the community have ensued.



Recent P.A.I.D. Graduate, Dedra Brown





Food for Thought Volunteers distributing Thanksgiving Holiday Baskets

On November 20, 2018, Pathway and Food for Thought partnered together to distribute 52 Thanksgiving Holiday Gift baskets. The morning started out very cold, but everyone worked together to load up the vehicles to distribute the gift baskets to our chosen recipients.



"You can give without loving, but you can never love without giving."
-Robert Louis Stevenson

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."
- H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love."
- Lao Tzu



The HEAP program at Pathway provides utility assistance

Winter Crisis Program

The Winter Crisis Program runs from November 1st through March 31st annually. Eligible households in emergency situations may qualify to receive (once per heating season) up to \$175 in payment assistance to help maintain, restore, transfer or initiate their gas or electric utility services.

In addition, those with 25% or less supply of bulk fuel (propane, fuel oil, wood) may also qualify to receive up to \$750 in assistance. The program also helps to pay for heating system repairs in limited situations.

Regular HEAP

The Regular HEAP Program provides a one-time HEAP benefit to income eligible households and is applied as a direct credit to your main source of heat or fuel vendor. The amount of your benefit will vary and is dependent upon federal funding levels, how many people live with you, total household income, and the primary fuel you use to heat your home. HEAP benefits do not cover monthly utility bills unless you have a zero balance on your utility account.

Households residing in federally-subsidized housing where the heat is included in the rent are not eligible for the regular component of the HEAP program.

Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP+)

The PIPP Plus Program is a long-term solution to maintaining home energy services. The program helps income eligible households maintain their gas and electric services by paying their utility company a percentage of their household income.

Eligible households pay six (6) percent of their monthly income or \$10 a month (whichever is greater) to their electric and gas utilities. Customers residing in all electric homes pay ten percent (10%) or \$10 (whichever is greater).

PIPP+ payment amounts remain the same year-round and households who make their payments on-time and in-full each month will have 1/24th of their monthly arrearages and rest of that month's bills forgiven.

To be eligible for PIPP Plus, customers must have a household income at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and they are required to re-verify household income annually or as income changes throughout the year.





Akron Summit Community Action, Inc.
 Cincinnati Hamilton County Community Action
 Agency
 Community Action Commission of Erie, Huron &
 Richland Counties
 Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater
 Cleveland
 IMPACT Community Action
 Lorain County Community Action Agency
 Mahoning Youngstown Community Action
 Partnership
 Pathway Toledo
 Stark County Community Action Agency
 Trumbull Community Action Program



OURS Conference Attendees

3rd Annual Ohio Urban Resources System Conference,

"Let's Get Back to Work"

This year's conference was held from October 24-26, 2018 and focused on ready-to-work strategies by matching skilled workers with career employment and eliminating workforce barriers in Ohio's Urban Communities. Workshop presenters provided strategies and tools required to place individuals and families in employment that provides livable wages, creating cradle to career pathways and diversifying the work pool with innovative entrepreneurial and social enterprise ventures.



Pathway Staff, Pathway Board Members &
 Toledo City Councilmen, Sykes, Johnson &
 [unclear]



Top Left to Right: Randy Hunt, Joe Jones, Malcolm Costa, Bo Chilton & Randy Reasonover

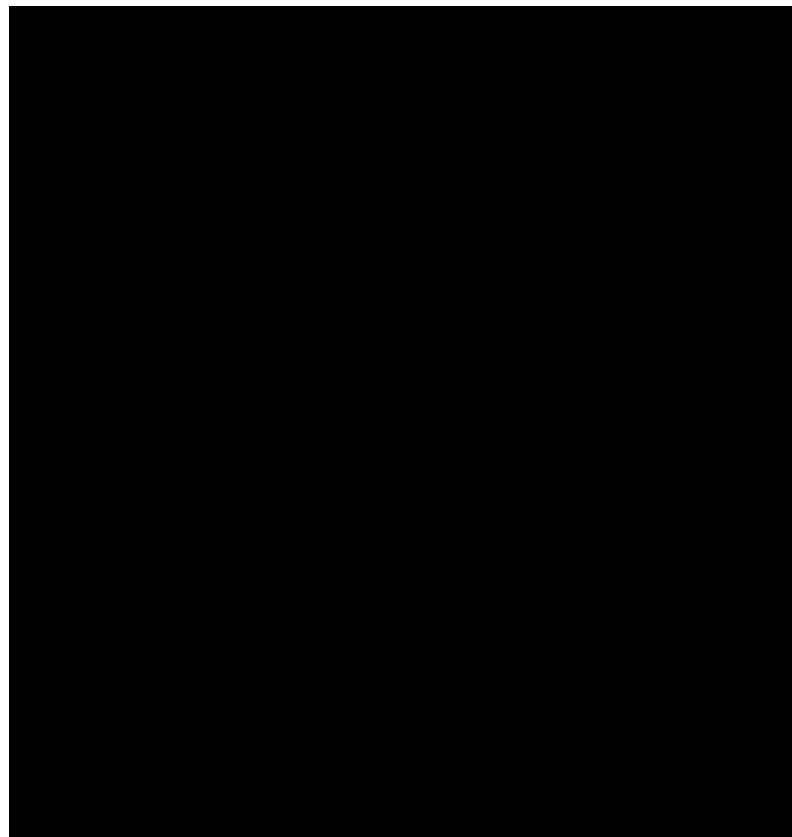
Sitting: Janice Warner, Cheryl Grice & Gwen

Community Action Agencies provide a variety of services that support and empower low-income individuals and families in their efforts to achieve self-sufficiency. They include: energy bill payment; home energy conservation measures to lower energy bills; financial literacy classes to teach money management techniques; computer classes to enhance opportunities for employment; community health services to reduce infant mortality and improve individual and family health conditions; childcare services to provide childcare and educational experiences for children while parents work; youth services to help youth access employment, personal and career development; re-entry services to enable restored citizens to reduce recidivism and find living wage employment; fatherhood programming to enhance father and child engagement; comprehensive case management to ensure individuals and families have a plan to achieve self-sufficiency and access to resources needed to accomplish their goals; and comprehensive workforce development

programming necessary to find and retain living-wage employment.



Brothers United Staff, along with CEO, Cheryl Grice and Presenter, Joe Jones



New Hires

- Serena Allen: Senior Emergency Home Repair Assistant
- Jennifer Barrett: Emergency Assistance Representative, HEAP
- Kristie Clark: Operations Coordinator to CEO, Cheryl Grice
- Hayleigh Garcia: Emergency Assistance Representative, HEAP
- Alexus Huntley: Program Coordinator, Brothers United
- Alonia Lewis: Coach, Brothers United
- Marco Rico: Emergency Assistance Representative, HEAP
- Daquze Stephens: Outreach Coordinator, Brothers United
- Lamont Taylor: Outreach Aide, Brothers United



505 Hamilton St.

Toledo, OH 43604

(419) 242-7304

To learn more about Pathway Inc.,
visit us online at
www.pathwaytoledo.org



OUR VISION:

To reduce poverty by inspiring hope
and delivering services to those who
seek self-sufficiency.

OUR MISSION:

PATHWAY reduces poverty by
providing comprehensive services that
create pathways to self-sufficiency.