

## Announcements

### Upcoming Events

- Summer Crisis begins July 1, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2020
- Office Closures:
  - Independence Day Observed, Friday, July 3, 2020
  - Labor Day, Monday, September 7, 2020

### Special Note:

HEAP Appointment line phone number changed: 567-803-0010

Walk in Number changed: 567-803-0017

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Robert Jordan

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## Pathway Quarterly Post Q2 2020

### Pathway becomes a HUD Envision Center

Congratulations to Pathway, Inc. as the agency has been designated as the EnVision Center of NW Ohio through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). We are one of 44 across the country and the 5th to receive the designation in Ohio. We are also the first Community Action Agency to receive the designation.

The designation was received through the hard work provided to customers to help them achieve self-sufficiency. The Pathway's Workforce Development Program, under the leadership of Tomeka Rushing, Workforce Director, has made this possible along with the partnership efforts with Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority and the Jobs Plus Initiative. We would also like to thank Wade Kapszukiewicz, Mayor of Toledo, Owens/Aspire, NorthWest State Community College, City of Toledo, Detroit Manufacturing Systems and Harold Martin Technologies, and Med Certs for your continued support and partnership efforts.

Robert Jordan, Interim CEO has done a phenomenal job in supporting this effort and ensured that we did not lose any momentum during our agency transition. This designation will serve as an honor for the organization and give us the ability to leverage resources through HUD.

Please watch the You Tube link below as it honors the agency and staff for the great work that we do for our community.

<https://t.co/lfRrex3lQ7?amp=1>

# Our CEO's Message

## Interim CEO, Robert Jordan

The second quarter of 2020 turned into a very unique and stressful situation for us all. Starting in mid-March, Pathway employees worked remotely, assisting our clients in their time of need. The staff contacted clients and were able to continue their application process online.

Even though 2020 hasn't gone the way that we expected, we still have an obligation to assist the Community. I am truly proud of how hard the staff has worked to keep the applications processed and moving through the system.

Starting June 1, 2020, all staff returned to the building to continue helping clients. Even though the clients are still not entering the building, they are utilizing a drop box, email and other ways of communication in order for staff to process their applications.

Another item that I would like to remind everyone about is the 2020 Census. COVID-19 has most likely impacted the reporting numbers to-date. Participating in the 2020 Census helps give us the visibility we need to demand real change for our communities. Filling out the Census says, "We're here, we're part of America, and our needs count." Political change starts with political power, and everyone can build their power by participating in the 2020 Census.

Lastly, I wanted to remind everyone that the HEAP Summer Crisis starts July 1, 2020 and runs through September 30, 2020 this year. The 2020 SCP will provide eligible households with a one-time benefit to assist with electric utility bills, central air conditioning repairs, and air conditioning unit and/or fan purchases.

The maximum benefit amounts for the 2020 program are: \$500 for customers of regulated utilities and \$800 for customers of un-regulated utilities (municipal utilities or cooperatives). Air conditioning units and/ or fans may only be provided to eligible customers who have not received an air conditioning unit or fan in the last three years.

**THE CENSUS**  
**DETERMINES FEDERAL**  
**FUNDING FOR YOUR**  
**COMMUNITY**

Make Sure You Count  
Complete Your Census

## Pathway CDBG Beautification Project



*Pathway volunteers getting ready to clean up the local area.*

Pathway, Inc. employees participated in a spring clean-up day for the CDBG beautification project in June.

Thank you to all of the volunteers! We could not have accomplished all that we did without each of you!



## HEAP, PIPP, UTILITY AND FUEL FUND PROGRAMS

These programs are designed to assist low income households in paying their heating bills in the winter and summer months. During winter months in addition to providing help with heating bills, furnace repairs are allowable. During summer months, fans and air conditioners may also be provided to those with qualifying medical conditions.

- **All Appointment Methods will be conducted via phone interview**
  1. Schedule an appointment using the 24/7 automated phone line:  
\*\*567-803-0010\*\*
  2. Schedule a same-day appointment—Wednesdays and Thursdays  
\*\*567-803-0017\*\*
  3. Schedule a PIPP re-certification ONLY—Call Friday to receive a Mon-Tues timeslot \*\*567-803-0017
  4. Apply online  
[www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov)

**Apply online for the Ohio Energy Assistance Programs from July 1, 2020 thru March 31, 2021. You may now re-certify your HEAP and PIPP application online. Visit [www.energyhelp.ohio.gov](http://www.energyhelp.ohio.gov)**



# Congratulations



*Claudia Rodriguez-Salazar successfully completed her certification to become a Nationally Certified ROMA Implementer. ROMA stands for Results Oriented Management and Accountability  
Congratulations Claudia!*

*Congrats to Tomeka Rushing and Kaneshia Yowpp for earning their Certified Workforce Development Professional certifications!!*

PATHWAY INC. BROTHERS UNITED RECEIVED \$3,500 FROM OHIO COMMISSION ON FATHERHOOD FOR A SPECIAL DAY FOR FATHERS ON JUNE 20, 2020. ALL GUESTS WERE FROM THE BU FATHERHOOD COALITION. VALUABLE INFO WAS SHARED INCLUDING CHILD SUPPORT, HEALTH, & EDUCATION. KUDOS TO BROTHERS UNITED!!

Alonia Lewis, BU Healthy Start staff will be leaving Pathway, Inc. after 2 years of dedicated service. Alonia worked for one year for Brothers United before taking a position as BU Healthy Start Recruiter/ Coach. We are sad to see her go, but excited for her future. We wish her God's speed!

## *Paying Back*

Meet Mr. Charles King

*“Being the only boy with 3 sisters, I saw a lot of stuff that my sisters didn’t see. If Pop was leaving, he’d always take me with him, and it’d be times where they’d just do an impromptu robbery on a gas station or hotel or something. He might be with my uncle or with a friend of his and they’d do it, and I’d just be in the car. Even though I knew our quality of life increased financially, just for a moment, I knew I didn’t want to do that. Even though I really felt like I knew how.”*

Charles began experiencing this type of lifestyle in his childhood years. He remembers being introduced to certain behaviors around 7 or 8 years old when he got up to use the bathroom around 3 one morning.

*“In the back room of our apartment, there was like 30, 40 guys. Smelled like weed, liquor, must, and they had been gambling for hours. So when I flushed the toilet, my ole’ man saw that I was up and invited me into the room, gave me a dollar, told me I could win or lose and here are the rules. And so I ended up making \$12 that night off that one dollar. I think that’s what started it for real.”*

Because he didn’t want to add to the plague of selling drugs in the black community, Charles tried to preserve his way of living up into his teenage years. He juggled two jobs at a time between the ages of 16 and 18.

*“I was trying to do the right thing, but all my friends were hustling.”*

Even though he tried to refrain from adopting the lifestyle he was surrounded by, those circumstances eventually pushed Charles to doing so.

He remembers his car breaking down, which led him to depending on a coworker for transportation. When he got caught driving his coworker’s car without a license, he ran from the police.

*“Right there, I had no idea how I was about to survive.”*

His first robbery was when he was 18 years old. He was struggling and recalled how easy it was to access money at one of his previous jobs at KFC. He instantaneously robbed them of around 11 grand, took off running, and never looked back. That was his first robbery until about 20 years old. From there, he devised and executed solo robberies (except for his last two) of which he obtained thousands of dollars. *“From 21 to 23, I did a robbery every month and nobody knew.”*

Charles ended up going to jail for 13 years. His son was nine months old when he first went in. Up until his son was around 7, he wasn't able to talk to him. He called his mom's house one day, and his son answered the phone. That opened the door for his co-parent to allow them to have regular contact. She had told their son that Charles was in Iraq, but eventually his son found out the truth. When he was released, Charles' son was 14 years old.

*“We didn't know how to approach each other. We were both a little timid, both a little uncomfortable. I was kind of torn. I tell people all the time, I wish I did have something like BU when I got out.”*

Even without the resources or guidance, Charles applied himself to being present in his son's life. They got to know each other first and eventually worked their way to a father/son relationship. Their relationship today is good, and Charles himself has become a guide for his son's life.

*“Looking back, I think about the lies I believed. I didn't think me getting locked up would have any ramifications on anybody else. That's why it was OK for me to do it. I had no idea of the psychological or emotional ramifications that would come from me being locked up. Not just for my son or his mom, but my mom, my dad, my sisters, their kids.”*

When he first got out, he struggled with being able to find a job, which tempted him to turn back to his old ways. Going to UT and getting his Bachelor's degree in film was the thing that kept him from robbing.

Eventually, Charles began working with Brothers United. Working with them has changed his stance on not only fatherhood, but on manhood as well.

*“I look back and remember watching New Jack City. That sparked in me this idea that I owe back. I owe churches, I owe my mom, I owe Malcom. Now that's my approach to life. So when I got a job at BU, that's how I felt like I was paying back what I owed. By sharing my story. If 20 of them are in the streets doing illegal stuff, maybe only 2 or 3 of them catch it, but that's still something. It's an opportunity to pay back what I owe. And in my mind, that's a lifelong debt.”*



## Contact Us

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### 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.



## Welcome, New Hires:

- ~ **Darnell Allen**, BU Coach
- ~ **Alicia Rex**, Skill up to Move Up
- ~ **LaTanya Preston**, Outreach Aide



### PATHWAY, INC. OBSERVED HOLIDAYS 2020

- Wednesday, January 1: New Year's Day
- Thursday, January 2: New Year's (extended)
- Monday, January 20: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Monday, February 17: President's Day
- Friday, April 10: Good Friday
- Monday, May 25: Memorial Day
- Friday, July 3: Independence Day
- Monday, September 7: Labor Day
- Monday, October 12: Columbus Day
- Wednesday, November 11: Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 26: Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, November 27: Thanksgiving (extended)
- Thursday, December 24: ½ Day-Christmas Eve
- Friday, December 25: Christmas Day
- Thursday, December 31: ½ Day-New Year's Eve