

Latest Happenings



Top L: Kay accepted the 2018 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award on behalf of BFH **Top R:** We took our sweet friend, Luigi, to the zoo; **Middle L:** Friendship Fest in February; **Middle R:** Footcare Station at our annual Health Fair; **Bottom L:** Luigi got baptized; **Bottom R:** Quentin was king of his school and got to dress up

Baptist
FRIENDSHIP HOUSE
Meeting needs through love, action and truth.
 813 Elysian Fields Ave.
 New Orleans, LA 70117

Baptist
FRIENDSHIP HOUSE
Meeting needs through love, action and truth.
Heart of the City
 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
 VOLUME 16 NUMBER 1 SUMMER 2019

A Message from the Director

On Friday, May 3, 2019, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Christopher A. Wray presented Baptist Friendship House with the 2018 Director's Community Leadership Award (DCLA) on behalf of the FBI New Orleans Field Office. The FBI New Orleans Field Office nominated Baptist Friendship House for the 2018 FBI DCLA for our extensive work in the human trafficking arena. The FBI recognized the significant contributions made by BFH through victim services with those rescued from human trafficking situations, lodging and food for victims, individual counseling, interactions with law enforcement to help stop human trafficking, and training for law enforcement personnel.

Kendall (BFH Assistant Director), Kristi (Kay's Niece), and I went to Washington DC to accept the award. It was an amazing experience. I was honored and humbled to accept the award on behalf of Baptist Friendship House. A photo was taken of all the recipients from each state. I want to acknowledge the teamwork that made this award possible. **First, without Jesus, we would not be here or be equipped to do His ministry. Without your prayers, your support, and your participation our ministry would not be possible.** I am thankful God allows us to serve Him through the ministry of BFH and thankful He works to change people's lives. After 30 years, I still stand amazed at the miracles I see Jesus work in people's lives. I am thankful for you and how you bless our ministry and our lives at BFH. Many times, I open the mail on a tough day to find encouraging words and I am praying for you. We have times when expenses are high, and we open the mail to find a monetary donation.

There are times when we need supplies and the doorbell rings with someone dropping off donations or having shipped them to us. There are times when we need volunteers to help us with ministry and the phone rings with people wanting to serve through volunteering.

I say all of this to say we are blessed and grateful to have you as part of our ministry team at Baptist Friendship House. As we celebrate our 75th Anniversary this year, **WE CELEBRATE YOU!!!** Thank you for believing in our ministry and being on God's great journey with us. You are loved, prayed for, and appreciated.

Changing Our World Together,

Kay Bennett

In-10se Update

When our phones ring and it is either the human trafficking hotline or one of our law enforcement partners, we never know what kind of situation we will encounter. Earlier this month we received a call from a trafficking survivor. She shared with us that she was in a run-down motel and needed help. She had been trafficked for many years and did not have anyone she could reach out to for help. It was unsafe for her to remain in New Orleans. Through our partnership with the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-3737-888) we were able to locate a shelter in a different state that had an opening for her. Through your support, we were able to purchase her transportation to get to the shelter. We also provided her with a backpack filled with the items she would need until she reached her new destination. As we drove her to the airport, she said "I've got my bible and my ticket to a new life." She then shared with us her favorite scripture, quoted from memory. Please continue to pray for individuals who are able to get away from trafficking situations. Pray for healing, renewal, and transformation.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please let us know via email at bfhjobs@aol.com. If you have submitted a request for removal, please re-submit. If you would rather receive an email copy of the newsletter, send us an email at bfhjobs@aol.com to be added to the listserv.

Campbell's Labels for Education program changed/ended. As a result, we can no longer use labels. We do still accept old cell phones and empty ink cartridges that we can recycle and receive compensation. Let us know if you have any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

6,000 Backpack Project/Back to School Bash

Friday, July 12 and Saturday, July 13:

We are so excited for our 2nd Backpack Packing Event and our Back to School Bash this summer. We will be packing 6,000 backpacks for homeless, trafficking survivors, and children. We currently have needs for school supplies, hygiene items, and socks. For a complete list, please give us a call or send us an email (bfhjobs@aol.com). We are also accepting gift cards that can be used to purchase items we are still in need of closer to the event. Please be in prayer for the volunteers who will help make this event possible and for each person who will receive a backpack.



Fall Festival

Saturday, October 27: After the heat of the summer, we always look forward to the cooler days in October which is a perfect time to celebrate Fall. Each year we host a festival to give our community a safe place to enjoy fellowship, food, and fun. It is a great opportunity for us to meet new individuals and families in our area and to identify their needs. Pray for the individuals and families that will join us on this date. Pray specifically that they will experience the love of God through the people who will serve.



Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 28: Each year on Thanksgiving day we host a community meal open to anyone who wants to attend. It is a beautiful picture of individuals and families from every walk of life enjoying a meal together and fellowship with one another. If you are interested in helping prepare/serve the meal, we would love to have you join us.

Prayer Requests and Praises

- Pray for our summer missionaries who will be serving from May to July. Ari, Julie, Kali, and Kristen are from Mississippi and Tennessee. Pray for a smooth, quick adjustment to New Orleans and full-time ministry.
- Pray for our friend Luigi as he battles cancer and several other health issues. Pray that he continues to grow in his walk with the Lord. Pray for pain-free days, joy and peace.
- Praise— God has opened doors for us to become a WorldCrafts artisan group through National WMU. We will have two pottery pieces debuting this summer and fall.
- Praise— we received a text message from a trafficking survivor we were able to assist earlier this year. She shared with us that she had recently gained employment and was doing very well now that she is free from her trafficker.

You Are Invited!

We are hosting a 75th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at Baptist Friendship House at 12:00 pm. We are looking forward to celebrating 75 years of ministry, love, friendship, and hearts changed. It will be a time of fellowship, sharing the many Friendship House stories. We will have a few guest speakers, refreshments, and opportunities to learn how Friendship House has ministered to people for 75 years.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP in one of the following ways:

1. Call us (504)-949-4469 and leave a message letting us know you plan to attend the BFH 75th Anniversary Celebration. Be sure to let us know your name, contact information, and how many will be in your party.
2. Email us at bfhjobs@aol.com and let us know you plan to attend with the number of people who will be in your party.
3. Go to the following website and RSVP online: <https://bfh75.app.rsvpify.com/>

Please RSVP by Friday, September 6, 2019. Seats will be limited so RSVP early!