

Latest Happenings



Top to Bottom (L to R):
 Back to School Bash
 Our Friend Has A Home
 PJ is 9 Years Old
 Ministry During COVID
 Hurricane Relief
 Tuesday Ministry
 Community Meal



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



A Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

We want to thank all of you who have continued to support our ministry during these unprecedented times. We started out the year as normal with ministry to homeless, human trafficking survivors, and to strengthen our community. Our Friendship Fest went well with 59 attending and 29 volunteers. GenSend teams and volunteer teams started coming at the beginning of March and then the pandemic began. During the pandemic, we learned to be innovative with ministry. Assessing needs and determining the best way to meet each need was important. Initially children across our city were being home schooled. We realized families needed school supplies and we had backpacks containing school supplies. With the help of our local pastors and church planters, 575 backpacks with school supplies were given to families in need throughout our city.

Our city worked hard to get many of our homeless off the streets and into hotels. The city also designated one area to provide meals for homeless. BFH staff took backpacks and needed supplies to locations where meals were being served. Realizing some homeless were not in hotels we took backpacks, masks, socks, hand sanitizer, and cleansing cloths out to homeless. Send Relief sent us several pallets of cleansing cloths. When taking out the backpacks we encountered a homeless man who had no shirt, no shoes, and pants he had worn for quiet a while. When we told him about the cleansing clothes in the backpack, his face lit up. We often forget that homeless do not have a home to shelter in place nor the ability to wash hands as we have all been told to do.

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Continued from Director's Note

Send Relief sent us 1,000 healthcare packs that we were able to get to our hospitals and clinics to let healthcare providers know we care about them and are thankful for what they are doing. Through zoom we connected with churches throughout North America to provide updates on our ministry and provide human trafficking trainings.

After many hurricanes targeting the gulf coast, hurricane season is finally over. We were blessed to only receive minor roof damage and a couple of our neighbor's trees fell on fence in yard. Send Relief provided food for us to take to Alabama to our Baptist Disaster Relief Teams to prepare and get to those in need.

We have begun most of our programs back and are praying for more normal times as the New Year begins. Thank you for praying, giving of your time to volunteer, proving needed donations, and for financially supporting our ministry. You are part of our team and help us to share Jesus and His love with others. We appreciate you helping us to meet needs, build relationships, and change lives.

Changing Our World Together,
Kay, Kendall, and Kayleigh

In-10se Update

When the pandemic began, we watched as trafficking continued happening despite the significant risks associated with COVID. We have continued to be able to provide assistance to survivors of human trafficking in a variety of ways. One partnership we value greatly is with a local hospital that has a forensic/rape crisis unit. Since we began working with this hospital and through donations from individuals, churches and organizations, we have been able to provide hundreds of backpacks filled with scrubs/comfort clothes, socks, undergarments, hygiene items, blankets, encouragement cards, and first aid supplies to victims of sexual assault and sex trafficking. When New Orleans experienced a surge of cases and our hospitals we overwhelmed, we were able to provide care packages from Send Relief to the staff at this hospital. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work together to meet the needs of trafficking victims. If you are interested in supporting this part of our ministry, send us and email to bfhjobs@aol.com and we will provide you with more information.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the pandemic, many of our events have been modified to follow the regulations of our parish and state with the safety of our staff, volunteers, and friends of utmost importance. Currently, we are planning to host events in 2021. We ask for your flexibility and adaptability in the case of events changing in 2021. We look forward to serving with you.

Friendship Fest will be held on Saturday, February 12, 2021 from 10 am to 12 pm. Volunteers will assist with preparing and serving a meal, distributing various items (hygiene kits, backpacks, Valentine's candy, cards) with opportunities to make a friend and share the gospel.

Health Fair will be held on Saturday, April 10, 2021 from 10 am to 12 pm. Volunteers will assist with serving and preparing a meal, conduct basic health screenings, guiding individuals through health care stations, provide haircuts and footcare, distribute hygiene supplies and first aid kits. Help us meet basic health care needs while sharing the greatest need of all.

Back to School Bash will be held Saturday, July 17, 2021 from 10 am to 12 pm. Volunteers will assist with packing and distributing backpacks with school supplies, play games with children, prepare and serve a meal, and distribute hygiene items and food bags to families. Help children in our community start school with an encouraging spirit.

Thanksgiving will be held Thursday, November 25, 2021 from 10 am to 12 pm. Volunteers will assist with preparing and serving a wonderful Thanksgiving lunch for individuals and families in our community. Join us in sharing the goodness of our Lord as we sit around a table and share a meal.

Vision Tours: are you interesting in learning how you can replicate BFH ministries in your community. Come spend two days with us as you participate in our ministry and learn from our leaders best practices to take back to your area.

Mission Trips: are you a church leader looking for mission opportunities in New Orleans in 2021. Contact us for the dates we have available to host teams to serve in New Orleans.

Prayer Requests and Praises

- Pray for wisdom and direction as we continue to navigate ministry in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Pray for all of our students who will begin/resume classes in January as part of our CWJC program
- Pray for the women who attend our weekly bible study as they continue to grow in their knowledge of the Word and mature in their faith
- Pray for the families of some of our ladies who attend bible study. Their family members live in the areas of Central America that were destroyed in recent hurricanes.
- Pray for our friends who currently do not have houses. Winter is arriving. Pray for us to be able to meet their physical needs and for their receptivity to hearing the Gospel

Current Needs

- Paper towels, toilet paper, and napkins
- Snack pack items (Vienna sausage, crackers, protein bars)
- Fleece blankets and hand warmers
- Plastic utensils, bowls, and plates
- Canned food and other non-perishable food items

Stay Tuned! Our staff will be leading a webinar on human trafficking on January 21, 2021. It will be hosted by Send Relief. Details will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Congrats Graduates

Our Assistant Director, Kayleigh White graduated in December 2019 with a Master of Arts in Church and Community Ministry from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. In December 2020, our food service coordinator will graduate with a Culinary Management certificate. Two of our young women graduated from high school last year. We look forward to celebrating our new graduates when it is safe to do so.

