

CELEBRATING 100



BRIDGING FOR TOMORROW

Respond. Invest. Empower.



Annual Report
2022

Executive Director's Message



Hi Friends!

I am very pleased to present to you our Annual Report for 2022. First and foremost, I would like to thank our donors, partners, volunteers, staff and friends for your support during 2022. You'll find much to celebrate in these pages - all these accomplishments are a testament to your faithfulness and never could have happened without you!

Bridging For Tomorrow was launched by a faithful group of servants who desired to walk side by side with neighbors, empowering them to discover their potential. And 10 years later, our commitment remains the same. Stronger communities are built by recognizing our neighbors, investing in relationships, learning from each other, and creating opportunities for families to thrive. Of course, we can't do that alone, and 2022 was a year where more of you than ever showed up faithfully and consistently for your neighbors, in ways both big and small.

Because of you, stories like Juanita's are possible! I'm so inspired by her drive and commitment to not only seek a better life for her family, but also to fulfill her own aspirations of a dream career. It's often not an easy road, but having the support of a community who claims "¡Si se puede!" can make all the difference.

So, thank you for saying "Yes, we can!" to the BFT community. We are grateful for your support, your confidence in our work, and your commitment to affecting positive change in the lives of families all over Houston. Together, we are helping to make Houston a place where all families can flourish.

Joyfully,

Christy Sprague

Board of Tom Hargrove Jennifer Burton Maria Belusar
Directors: Brian McGown Shane Herzog Dan Slagle

Bridging For Tomorrow could not serve our community the way we do without our volunteers. Their generous gifts of time, kindness, and service always go the extra mile. Our volunteers make it possible for BFT to respond and invest in the lives of each family member that comes through our doors. Together, BFT and our volunteers are empowering them for a brighter future.

In 2022 our volunteers spent 4,580 hours working alongside our staff, inside schools, serving in our pantry, and preparing for and working events.

Many of our volunteers are regulars, they serve weekly and they love helping to change lives. Some of our past and current clients have even chosen to volunteer to show their gratitude for the impact BFT has made in their own lives.



Volunteers are the hands and feet of our ministry here at BFT!

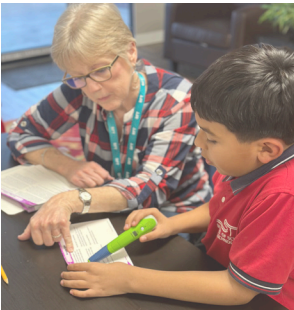
“There is nothing like seeing the face of a child after he reads a page in a book all by himself and understands the story!”

-Diana Denton, Volunteer



We had 294 people invest their time volunteering in 2022!

75 of these volunteers show up on a weekly basis to help serve the community!



Juanita's Journey to a Brighter Future

Juanita's journey began with Bridging For Tomorrow about three years ago when a friend invited her to attend ESL class. Soon, Juanita got involved in nutrition classes, parenting classes, support groups, individual counseling, and even got her children involved in the youth programs.

Her relationships and general well-being flourished when she stayed involved in the community center. Juanita began to feel part of the BFT family.

Juanita began opening up about her concerns and aspirations for a future during counseling. She shared that before moving to the United States, she had always dreamed of learning about cosmetology, but cultural norms were getting in the way. She felt stuck.

From the time Juanita was a little girl and throughout her life, she had always been told "the woman's job is to get married, take care of her husband and children, and build a life around that." She desired more.

When she and her family relocated from Mexico to Northwest Houston, she had hope for a new future. However, when she began pursuing opportunities, her options were limited due to lack of resources. Discouragement set her back.

Luckily, with continued counseling, Bridging For Tomorrow gave Juanita the extra push to keep her dream in the forefront and to not be discouraged.

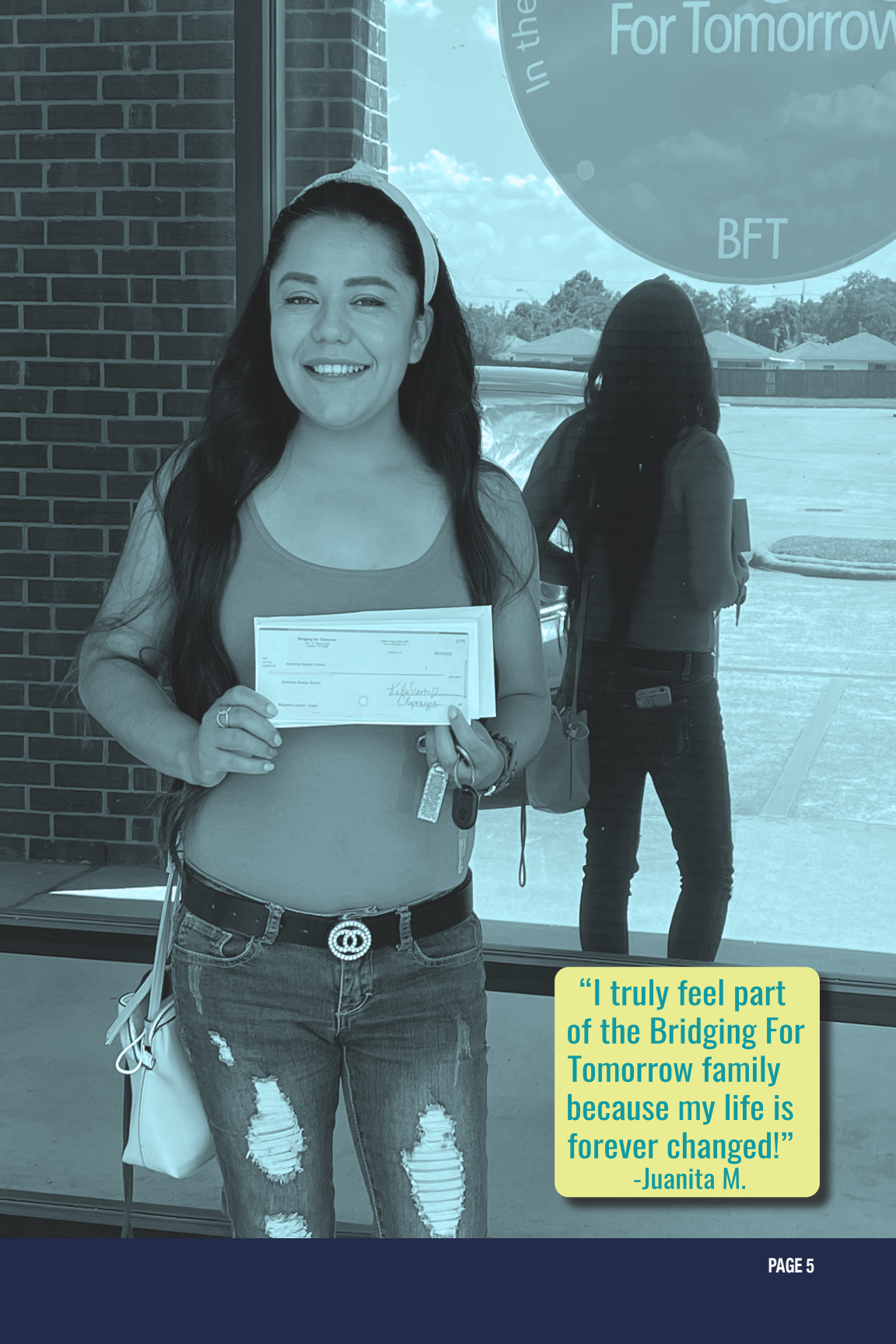
On June 23, 2022, Bridging For Tomorrow presented her with a scholarship to attend cosmetology school. This was the "bridge" to a new future for Juanita.

Update on Juanita's Progress:

Juanita has completed more than half of the schooling necessary to obtain her cosmetology license and is doing great! She feels that her "hunger for learning has been awakened and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn everyday."

Although school has been a lot of hard work and there are moments of mom-guilt, she knows this will pay off in the end. "My free-time for family is less, but my kids have been able to see an example of their mother working hard and studying. My husband and my kids are sure to tell me and everyone else how proud of me they are."

Juanita shared that she is also very proud of her accomplishments and that "the pride comes from actually knowing and understanding how to do it, doing it well, and being able to build confidence in others."



In the For Tomorrow
BFT

Bridging For Tomorrow
2019
Amount: \$1,000.00
Pay to the order of: Juanita M.
Signature: Juanita M.

“I truly feel part of the Bridging For Tomorrow family because my life is forever changed!”
-Juanita M.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Our programs are intentionally planned to provide opportunities and experiences that meet the social, emotional, and educational needs of everyone in the family.

By providing a variety of classes, enrichment activities, summer programs, and mental health support, we give our families the necessary resources they need to flourish and thrive.



49 students received mentoring through our in-school mentoring program and peer support groups.



69 family members showed up everyday for our two-week Family Summer Camp.



337 hours of educational support were provided to our students through after-school programs.



30 adults participated in various educational classes that helped them learn and grow.



Our community received 726 hours of mental health support.

“My kids had barely started coming to BFT and my husband and I saw them change fast! The best was when my youngest daughter came out of reading club after her first time and she had the biggest smile. She said ‘Okay, I love it here!’ All four of my kids are involved now.”

-Maribel, Community Member

In 2022, Bridging For Tomorrow continued to adjust pantry procedures to best meet the needs of our families. Similar to local grocery stores, we began offering curbside pickup!

59 Mobile Pantries

80,882 People Served

1,635 Families Served Monthly



Fighting Food Insecurity

We provided **OVER 1 MILLION LBS.** of healthy food to local families in Northwest Houston.



2022 BFT EVENTS

Spring is always a busy time at BFT



Our women's support group was pampered by Klein Forest Cosmetology



To celebrate Read Across America, we shared the love of reading



The End of Year celebration was a blast

Summer is a time for fun



Youth groups from our church partners came to learn about hunger



21 families attended Family Summer Camp



Our families enjoyed a variety of fun activities

AND HIGHLIGHTS

Fall means back to school and our annual Plant A Seed Gala



Our 2022 Gala was a huge success



Aidan collected 600 boxes of cereal for kids in our community



672 pairs of shoes were gifted to students

Our families were blessed in many ways during the busy holidays



We provided 120 turkeys to families for Thanksgiving



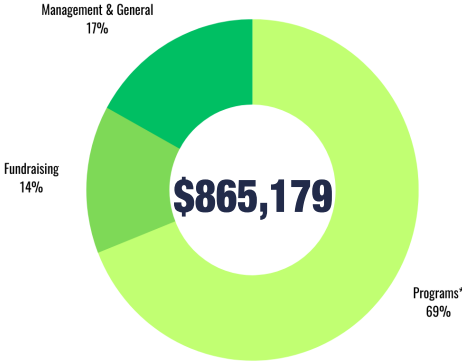
Faithbridge helped send 200+ people to a Night at the Movies



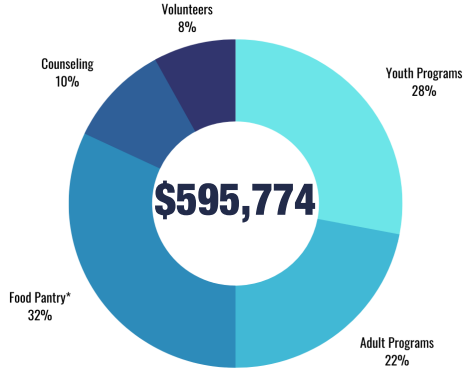
Santa Shop provided 405 Christmas gifts

Financials

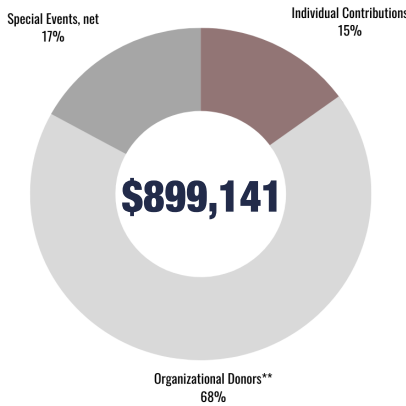
Total Expenses



Program Spending



Total Revenue



*We received and distributed 936,804 lbs. of in kind food donations from the Houston Food Bank in 2022.

*The value of this food is \$1,798,663 and has been excluded for presentation purposes.

**\$535,000 is an in kind donation from Faithbridge for salaries, wages, benefits and payroll taxes.

+Access our 990s and independently audited financial statements at <https://www.bridgingfortomorrow.org/give>



Thank You For Partnering With Us In 2022!

AAUW - North Harris County Branch

Aldine ISD

Amazon Smile Foundation

ARC Document Solutions

Athlete Health

Axis Builders

Bella Rinova

Camp Gary Fund

Chick-Fil-A

C. H. Robinson

D. Bradley Williams YMCA

Delta T Equipment

Deuteronomy 15:11

Dunkin' Joy Foundation

Enbridge Energy

Faithbridge Church

Fifth Generation, Inc

First New Hope Bible Church

Girl Scouts of America Troop #114168

Harrigan Development Partners

Harris County Public Health

Highland Preschool

Houston Food Bank

Houston NW Church

John Wesley Christian School

John Wesley UMC

Journey Home Houston

Kinsmen Lutheran Church

Klein ISD

Kroger

Lenny's Subs

MetricsMule

MyEyeDr - Spring Klein

NCL - Cypress Creek

NCL - Wildflowers

NCS Multistage

New Destiny Praise and Worship Center

Pink Roofing & Restoration

Providence Classical School

RCI Management

Rock Sports & Spine Therapy

SHSU School of Nursing

Starbucks

Staybridge Suites

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

Texas Health & Human Services

Texas Legacy Volleyball

Texas Premier Mortgage

The Lokey Group

The PAC

Twin Eagle Resource Management

Walmart/Sam's Club

Wayne Enterprises, Inc

Wunderlich Farms





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LEARN MORE!

