



A Ministry of Aldersgate United Methodist Church
10000 Beech Daly Road, Redford, MI 48239

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Mark your calendars for these upcoming fundraisers!

April 22—Funny for a Change Comedy Night

July 28—Garden Party and Picnic at Brightmoor

September 30—Brunch at the Heathers Club

Get involved at RBI by:

GIVING

Donate personal care items, gently used clothes, or small appliances for the Free Store, or make a financial donation to support the work of RBI.

VOLUNTEERING

Make and serve Saturday lunch for the Free Store, work in our community garden or orchard, clean up the neighborhood, assist in our computer lab, or help rehabilitate homes.

SHARING

www.RedfordBrightmoorInitiative.org
Facebook: Redford Brightmoor Initiative
Director@RedfordBrightmoorInitiative.org



The Redford Brightmoor Initiative 2017 Annual Report

www.RedfordBrightmoorInitiative.org

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Dear Friends,

Saturdays can be a bit chaotic in a 20 foot by 20 foot Free Store with 100 plus shoppers cycling through, food being brought in, food being prepared, and work groups coming in and out. One Saturday, a young family walked through the front door: a mom, a dad, a toddler, and an infant. It was their

In 2017, the Brightmoor Free Store greeted more than 6,300 people.

first time in the store and they looked a little lost. They wandered around for just a moment before a man who had only been to the store twice before came up to them and said, "Welcome to the

Free Store. Before you can shop today, they'll need to get your name so they can call you up when it's your turn to shop." He then led them to the registration desk before heading out.



This past year, we focused on revamping our volunteer training to include how to be hospitable and how to recognize when people seem lost, and our community responded with incredible care. Even those who are not formal volunteers know how important it is to find a friendly face in a new place. This has been vital as we greeted the more than 6,300 people who walked through our doors in 2017. Not only was that young family greeted and guided into the store, but they were able to find exactly what they needed. They were looking to make their paycheck stretch and we were able to help them with diapers and clothing, the things they couldn't buy with their Bridge Card. In the chaos of life these little moments matter as we help people find support,

connection, and community.

In Peace,

Rev. Benjamin Bower, President

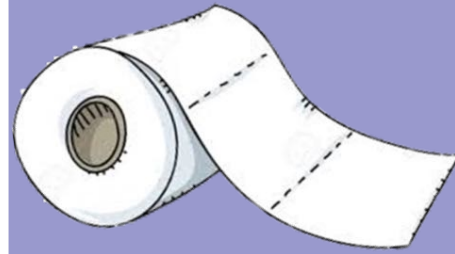


Mission Statement:

Redford Brightmoor Initiative builds community and supports youth and adults to prepare for meaningful employment and service.

2017 Numbers That Tell Our Story

2,190 Sandwiches served
2,475 Hot Lunches Served



In 2017 we gave away more than **444 Miles of Toilet Paper.** That's enough paper to mark the yard lines on 698 football fields

6,175
Volunteer Hours
Worked



830

People impacted by
Holiday One Stop
Shop

125

Complete Turkey
Dinners given to
Families for
Thanksgiving



78

Students received back to
school supplies in August.



21
Mission
Teams
made 28 visits



Focusing Our Mission and Vision

As RBI neared the end of its fifth year of working side by side with the neighbors of Brightmoor and Redford, we began to develop a strategic plan that would support our next five years. With help from a Skillman Foundation grant, the Board of Directors and staff of RBI refined our mission and vision and developed a plan that will drive our focus. Part of our Strategic plan directs RBI to:



Youth from Chelsea helping serve lunch at Brightmoor in July

- ◆ Train 15-30 people for meaningful employment and service by providing paid training and work experience in a trade;
- ◆ Stabilize one block of Darcy Street, which is located behind our Brightmoor Campus orchard and garden, by rehabilitating four vacant properties on the street; and
- ◆ Connect 150 households to supportive services by offering a social worker at each of our free stores and expand on the services that are available to our neighbors.

As we enter 2018, we are excited about the possibilities this refined vision will give us. Of course we cannot continue our work without

the help of supporters like you. If you are interested in helping with any of the strategic plans highlighted above, or you just want to hear more about what our plans for the future are, please contact us.

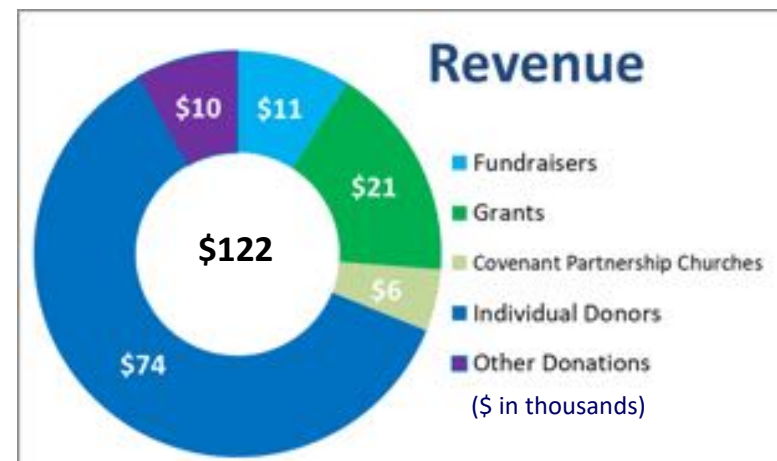


Volunteers from YNIA helping with the Darcy House in June



Volunteers from Berkley UMC working in the garden

The majority of our revenue comes from the generosity of our individual donors, including our "Brick Builders," who commit to make gifts of at least \$1,000 annually for three years. We appreciate all of the support that our donors and Covenant Partnership Churches have provided.



The majority of RBI's budget supports the various community programs. However RBI could not provide this level of service without the thousands of dollars' worth of food, clothing, small appliances, and