



## December Update



Dear friends of Bethel Neighborhood Center,

As I write my 2019 final monthly update, my heart is filled with joy and thanksgiving knowing the lives that are impacted by the Bethel ministry all these years! I am very grateful to all of you for your continued prayer, financial support, and volunteerism as they are all vital for the success of our programs and services to our neighbors here in Kansas City. Without you and your help, we will not be able to offer **HOPE** to our community, and we want to say a very big **THANK YOU** to you from the bottom of our hearts for your partnership in this wonderful work at Bethel Neighborhood Center. We will need your continued prayer and financial support in 2020 as we continue to grow and add new programs.



Reflecting on what you have enabled us to achieve this year, I feel blessed touching the lives of so many people in our community. We moved into a renovated and expanded building in April, and the number of students, senior adults, and families participating in our programs increased as we have more and better space. While our after school and summer program was benefited by 137 students, the lives of 37 senior adults were enriched by our programs and services. Through our emergency food assistance program, we gave out more than 105,000 lbs of food by the end of November. More than 25 adults enrolled and participated in our English Language Learner and Citizenship class, and their self-report varies from **"I now know ABC"** to **"I can communicate better at work with my supervisor."** We celebrate every achievements of our program participants whether they are **small or big** as something small could be a big achievement for someone else. Our staff members are great in giving encouragement to our program participants saying, **"We believe in you. You can do it!"** even when our program participants do not believe in themselves and their abilities.

Last week, we provided Christmas presents to 79 families, 37 senior adults, and more than 100 children and youth. We cannot thank enough all the individuals, churches, businesses, and companies who adopted our Bethel families. We want to give a shout out to KU Health Systems for adopting 40 families, 2 senior adults, and 4 teenagers! May God bless each one of the donors for their generosity!

We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Rev. Mang Sanna, Executive Director