



June Update



Members of FBC of Olathe, KS provided lunch and fun activities at our summer program kick off on June 1st.

Dear friends of Bethel Neighborhood Center,

Words fail to express our thankfulness to you for your continued prayer and financial support of our ministry in Kansas City, Kansas.

We are able to meet emergency food needs, provide diapers and baby food to young mothers, and run programs and services to help our neighborhood children/youth, families, and senior citizens in our community. Thank you for enabling us to serve as the hands and feet of Christ in our community for over 108 years. **God has blessed our partnership, and we want you to know that "WE" are in this wonderful ministry together.** If you are able, please come by to see us and the people we serve, and our remodeled building. **Many smiling faces are waiting for you to thank you for your generosity.**



Our Summer Program Kickoff on June 1st was well attended by the Bethel parents and their children. First Baptist Church of Olathe, Kansas provided a delicious lunch and fun-filled activities for our children and youth. We are very grateful to them for sponsoring our summer program kickoff year after year. While I was thanking the parents for sending their children to participate in our summer program, a mother raised her hand and said, **"We are the ones to thank you and Bethel for allowing our kids to come. My son, Sergio, has not had any behavior problems after participating in the Bethel program and I am very happy."** Hearing stories like Sergio's and many others who have benefited from our programs and services encourage us to do more for our community.

As our Summer Youth Enrichment Program has started, our building is filled with laughter and noises from our children/youth who are happy to be here. They are learning about the **FREEDOM** they have **to dream & act, to be creative & serve, and to choose healthy lifestyles.** The **FREEDOM** classes are going well and our students are already learning a lot from our staff and volunteers and from their peers. My staff and I are very happy to welcome eight high school students who are volunteering to help younger students in our summer program. Mr. Cristian, who has been participating in our after school and summer program for over seven years is one of them. He said, **"I am volunteering to help the younger students to learn what is right from wrong and to become better citizens. Bethel has helped my brothers and me all these years, and I want to give back to the community."** We need more young people like Cristian and Sergio.



Thank you once again for your continued prayer and financial support of our ministry. Please pray for us as we still need \$20,000 to meet our financial goal for the summer program.

May God bless you abundantly for your love and care for our community!

Rev. Mang Sonna, Executive Director