A Note from George

Dear Bread for the City Family,

It was a busy summer here at Bread for the City.

We kicked off the 2019 season of Farmers Markets, one of the City’s only free markets, in March and it’s been amazing to see men, women, and children from all walks of life joining together to enjoy the literal fruits of our community, without the concern of where their next meal is coming from.

Each growing season, we offer free produce to anyone who needs it, on a monthly basis at our Northwest and Southeast centers. Hundreds of DC residents get to take home fresh vegetables and other supplies, and Bread for the City helps fulfill our mission of ensuring that none of our neighbors go without.

And for those looking for affordable housing, Bread for the City regularly offers our #Right2DC Housing Clinic at both of our locations. Not only have our neighbors learned more about the housing programs available to them, but some have been inspired to join our fight to preserve and increase the number of truly affordable housing units in DC.

We’re moving into fall having helped hundreds more people in our community. But with each new season comes new needs, and until we break the cycle of poverty in this region, we must continue all of our work with the same vigor and commitment.

Thank you for making it possible.

Sincerely,

George A. Jones
Chief Executive Officer

YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS ACCESS HEALTH CARE!

_Bread for the City is bringing its primary care services to Southeast DC for the first time._

No one should have to worry about not being able to go to the doctor if they get sick. However, many of our neighbors live without insurance or are enrolled in programs that limit access to quality care. And when someone is struggling with health concerns, it is hard to fight for improvements in any other area of their life.

That is why, for 45 years, Bread for the City’s medical clinic has provided quality healthcare for uninsured and under-insured men, women, and children in our community. In fact, last year our clinic cared for more than 3,000 individual patients.

But our Northwest Center clinic is no longer enough. There is still a critical provider shortage in Washington, DC, especially in Southeast DC. People in this area have limited access to public transportation, childcare services, and paid time off work, making it even more imperative to have a medical provider they trust in their own neighborhood.

That’s why we’re building. When our new Building on Good Hope opens in the coming months, it will include a medical clinic that will allow Bread for the City to provide primary care services to Southeast DC for the first time ever.

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AN EVENING OF GOOD FRIENDS, GOOD FOOD, AND GOOD HOPE
Good Hope Gala a shining success!

On May 11, more than 450 members of our Bread for the City family joined together for an evening of dinner, dancing, and celebration of the many ways we are serving our neighbors in need. It was a night to remember! We danced, we ate, and attendees outbid each other on spectacular auction items, ranging from hitting the beach in the Outer Banks to hitting the slopes in Lake Tahoe. There truly was something for everyone, and we raised $1,143,101 to support our programs! Thank you to all of our Gala attendees and sponsors. We are already looking forward to next year’s event!

Save the Date
May 9, 2020
Marriott Wardman Park
Bread for the City’s 2020 Good Hope Gala Dinner and Live Auction

“WE COULDN’T GET INTO A SHELTER.”

Bread for the City’s New Southeast Center Is Under Construction and Will Help More Community Members

Ms. Weathers knows what it is like to struggle. She has counted on Bread for the City for resources and support on and off for many years. At one point, she was on the street for eight months with her kids. “We couldn’t get into the shelter,” she recalls. At night, her family didn’t know where they would sleep. They persevered, moving to place to place, but despite her best efforts. Ms. Weathers couldn’t secure stable housing until she was able to access legal support from Bread for the City. Now, Ms. Weathers is the president of our Client Advisory Council and a community leader at Bread for the City.

With construction underway on our new Southeast Center on Good Hope Road, Bread for the City will soon be able to help more people like Ms. Weathers achieve stability amidst the stress of low-income living.

AN URGENT NEED
Due to significant space constraints, Bread for the City is unable to provide the full array of programs and services needed to achieve our vision of ending poverty in DC. We are able to operate our clothing program only three days per week and our diaper program twice weekly, even though the community would benefit greatly from having more frequent access. Our food and social services programs also operate 2.5 hours less per week than at our Northwest Center, again due to space constraints.

But most importantly, Bread for the City is unable to provide our comprehensive health care services at our Southeast Center, where there is a critical provider shortage.

HOPE IS ON THE WAY
With our new Southeast Center on Good Hope Road being constructed right before our eyes, hope is on the way! Construction began in May, and you can already see the 27,000-square-foot steel structure standing strong. We are well on our way to opening on schedule in early 2020.

That’s good news for people like Ms. Weathers. “Thank God for Bread. Things are still hard for me, but every time I come to Bread, it’s a blessing. There’s so much love,” she says.

Get Your Purple Ready!
Purple Thursday is October 24
Since 2010, on the third Thursday of October, people from all walks of life and from all over the country have worn purple to raise awareness of, and show support for, those affected by domestic violence. Bread for the City is not only proud to participate in this nationwide event, we believe we must participate.

In D.C. alone, 39 percent of women have experienced sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner. Unfortunately, racism, sexism, and unchecked, unconscious biases get in the way of believing survivors. Many of the women and families we serve are domestic violence survivors who are facing threatening situations in the home. They need our full support.

Bread for the City’s Domestic Violence Legal Services Project helps women and men receive the help they need to flee domestic violence, find safety, and support themselves and their families. On October 24 we will draw attention to this work and the people it helps. We hope you’ll join in by wearing your purple!

Put #GivingTuesday on Your Calendar
On Thanksgiving, we eat. On Black Friday, we shop. On Cyber Monday, we search for deals online. When all that is over, it’s #GivingTuesday, the one day each year when we’re asked to show the collective strength of our generosity.

This year, #GivingTuesday is on Tuesday, December 3, and Bread for the City hopes that you will remember your neighbors in need. Whether you are able to give $10 or $10,000, your generosity is important to us—and your gifts make a life-changing difference to people right here in our community.

Thank you for your charitable support on #GivingTuesday and all year long. Go to breadforthecity.org/givingtuesday on December 3 to make a gift online!
MORE THAN BREAD!

How You’re Helping Survivors of Domestic Violence

Every year, Bread for the City’s attorneys help hundreds of DC residents who are seeking safety from abuse.

In these crisis situations, our Legal Clinic’s Domestic Violence Community Legal Services Project gets right to work. Although each situation is complicated, our attorneys start with the shortest and clearest goal: ensuring the immediate safety of the individual and any family members.

“Their resilience and courage are truly remarkable.”

If a Civil Protection Order is needed, we help get it filed. If a safe place to stay is necessary, we help find a friend or a relative who will open their doors, or we talk with one of our nonprofit partners that specialize in shelter for domestic violence survivors.

Our attorneys help them during these urgent times.

Our specialized legal team of in-house attorneys and pro-bono lawyers represent domestic violence survivors throughout their entire journey. It is a difficult time for our clients, but we are there to help—and we are continually impressed with the strength they show under tremendous stress.

According to Tracey Davis, Bread for the City’s Managing Attorney, “I know the strength my clients muster when they come to court to face their abusers. Their resilience and courage are truly remarkable. I’m inspired by them and their willingness to keep fighting. And I’m inspired by the goodness of my coworkers.”

Bread for the City’s Domestic Violence Community Legal Services Project is supported by the DC Bar Foundation and the Women’s Bar Association Foundation. Our team takes on more than 200 domestic violence cases each year—and helps survivors realize the safe future they deserve.