

ewsletter spring 2024



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Dear Bread for the City family,

I'm thrilled to be celebrating Bread for the City's 50th anniversary alongside supporters like you. Thank you for the strength in your belief that together we can shape a healthier and more equitable Washington, D.C., for generations to come.

Our journey began with a simple mission: to provide services to our neighbors in need and help empower them to determine the future of their communities. Over the decades, supporters like you have helped Bread evolve from simply providing direct services to thinking critically about ways we can interrupt the systems that perpetuate the existence of poverty in D.C.

More recently, in a time when rising food and utility costs have forced many organizations to cut back, your generosity has enabled us to not only sustain but also expand our wraparound services.

From expanding our health offerings to include acupuncture, to hosting community-building workshops, to improving client-choice opportunities in our pantries, the team at Bread for the City is constantly adapting to meet the changing and growing needs of our community and to seek out ways to create greater social change. And we can do it because of people like you who know D.C. residents living with low incomes should be in charge of the future of their own communities. Their agency is key to building equitable prosperity in the District.

In 2023, donors like you helped Bread for the City end homelessness for 43 clients via collaboration with D.C.'s Coordinated Entry system. Your support provided 12,900 families with a holiday meal through our Holiday Helpings program. You also helped Bread launch our equity-based cash transfer program, CashRx, that aims to improve health outcomes and the overall well-being of a cohort of medical clinic patients.

And there's so much more waiting for us as we commemorate our 50th anniversary this year!

Here's to celebrating our shared achievements—and to the boundless possibilities to come!



With gratitude,

George A. Jones Chief Executive Officer



What makes Bread for the City unique is that our work is largely led and influenced by our clients. An example of this empowerment in practice is our movement lawyering program, which leverages the law to help Black and brown folks who are organizing toward systemic, transformative social change in D.C. bring legal might to their grassroots organizing efforts.

We know the community members on the ground who are closest to the problems are the experts and know the solutions they need. Bread is committed to taking the time to build trust and listen to solutions from the source. Movement lawyering centers and elevates the voices of Black and brown community members. We want to take direction from community leaders while using expertise from our legal clinic to work toward transformative social change that brings us to a more just, more equitable world.

We believe change is transformative when it:

- 1. Improves the material conditions of people's lives,
- 2. Affirms people's sense of their power, and
- 3. Increases community power

Currently, your support is helping Kenilworth Courts residents fight for redevelopment that was promised by the D.C. Housing Authority—all the way back in 2016. Kenilworth Courts was once an ideal example of government-funded housing, but it has since fallen into disrepair. Despite plans for phased redevelopment nearly 10 years ago, the project has since been delayed. Residents are dealing with infestations, fungus, floodwater, and more serious issues that only continue to escalate. Meanwhile, there's no promise current residents will even be able to live in the complex once-if-renovations are ever completed.

As you can see, the problems our litigation team is up against are daunting. But your support can help us find solutions. Your contributions helped us aid community organizing efforts with intentional, strategic advocacy, such as movement lawyering, to break down barriers that will lead to lasting change for disinvested Washington, D.C. residents. And for that, we thank you.

amazon.com[®] Wish List

Add a gift to Bread for the City the next time you shop online!

You can donate food directly from our Amazon Wish List! Just visit https:// bit.ly/BFCWishList2 or https:// shorturl.at/kmzJT the next time you're shopping.

Looking for other ways to help? Visit www.breadforthecity.org/give today!

50TH ANNIVERSARY MERCH

We've released a limited edition of the 50th-anniversary merch collaboration with local artist, Trap Bob!

Represent Bread for the City in style while supporting our cause. These won't be around for long; get your merch today!

https://www.bonfire.com/store/ breadforthecity

VOLUNTEERS



We need you!

Each weekday, we are in need of at least 10 volunteers at our Northwest Center to pack bags for food distribution—and every Tuesday and Thursday, volunteers are needed in the Michelle Obama Southeast Center of Bread for the City for the diaper delivery program.

VISIT: https://breadforthecity. volunteerhub.com/vv2/ to sign up today!

(NOTE: All volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Masks are also required while volunteering to ensure public safety. If you have professional experience [medical/legal], please be sure to view the unique sections for work in your field.)

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE EVENTS

NOURISHING OUR COMMUNITY, A BREAD FOR THE

CITY TOWN HALL: On March 13th, we hosted a virtual town hall focused on our 2022-2027 strategic plan as the latest episode of our signature conversation series, Breaking Bread. We explored the current and future landscapes of Bread for the City's work, unpacked our strategic plan, introduced new staff, and ended with a moderated panel. The town hall series, Breaking Bread, was designed for community members interested in the deeper conversations of our work and local initiatives focused on racial equity and poverty.



FREE COMMUNITY FARMERS

MARKETS: The farmers markets are a symbol of our ongoing commitment to accessible, nutritious food for our community members. In partnership with Capital Area Food Bank and Dreaming Out Loud, we offer free, fresh, local, and seasonal produce at our farmers market, which occurs every second Friday at the

Northwest Center and every fourth Friday at our Southeast Center. All are welcome at our markets!

JUNETEENTH FOR THE CITY 2024 BLOCK PARTY:

The third annual Juneteenth Block Party is on Wednesday, June 19 from 1-6 PM at the Michelle Obama Southeast Center of Bread for the City! Join us for music by local artists, food and drinks from local vendors, shopping from area artists and retailers, and fun activities for the whole family. We hope to see you at this joyous communitycentered celebration! If you are interested in donating your time to help us make this event possible, please contact our Volunteer & Engagement team at volunteer@breadforthecity.org.

NORTHWEST CENTER ROOFTOP GARDEN:

Our Northwest Center's rooftop garden is coming back to life this spring! Follow our garden coordinator on Instagram at @a_ dc rooftopgarden to keep up with garden happenings — we have a few exciting events in store! If you are interested in learning more about the garden or volunteering, email our Garden Coordinator, Alyssa Steele, at asteele@breadforthecity.org.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR

SUPPORT of Bread for the City. Visit www.breadforthecity.org/ Spring-News-24 to make a special tax-deductible gift by filling out the enclosed form.



To help even faster, donate online by scanning the code with your smartphone.

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