

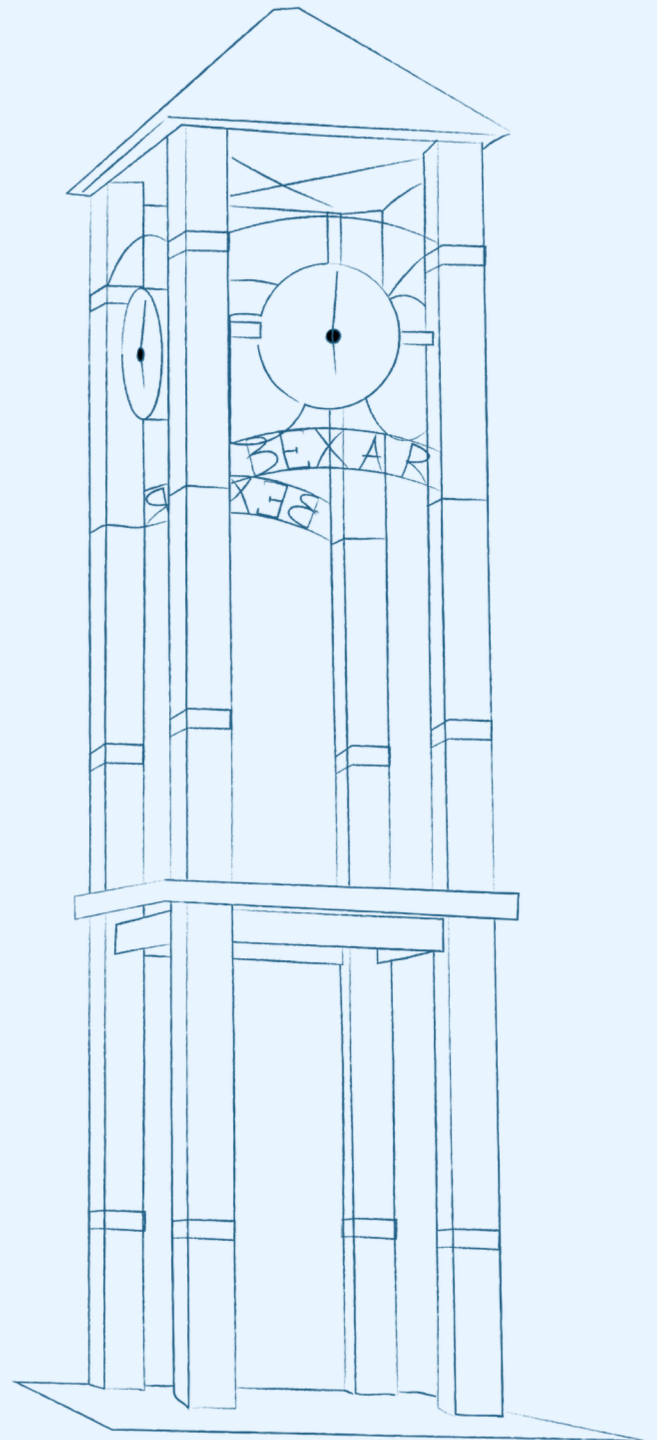
# Annual Report

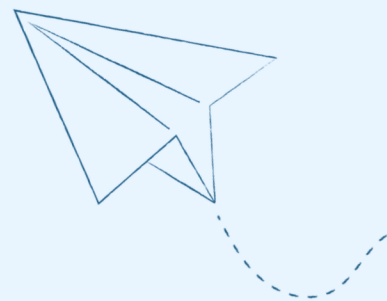
2023



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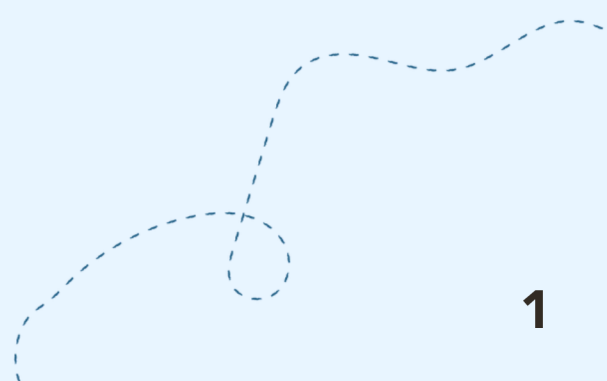
## Letter from the Executive Director

As we step into our 28th year at BridgeBuilders, I am profoundly grateful and awed at the incredible journey we have shared. This past year, we witnessed the unfolding of dreams into reality— a testament to the faithfulness of God and the steadfast support of community.

Through our collective efforts, BridgeBuilders has transformed into a vibrant hub of collaboration and growth. Our partners, volunteers, and neighbors have created a living mosaic of unity, embracing our different gifts and forging bonds that transcend barriers. Through our expanded partnerships, we've initiated transformative programs that cater to the diverse needs of our community. The South Dallas Community Market, brought to life with Brother Bill's Helping Hand, offers a free space for local exchange and support. The Center for Integrative Counseling, now a feature of our community campus, provides free, licensed counseling services several days a week. Hope Cottage enhances our neighborhood with vital, free bilingual parental support and education each week, empowering families. Mercy Street's athletic programming and mentoring are helping shape futures for our students, while numerous other partners contribute significantly to our mission of hope.

As we celebrate these milestones, we also set our sights on the horizon, knowing our work is far from over. Dreams of yesterday have become the steppingstones for tomorrow's ambitions. Our focus remains on expanding partnerships, deepening impact, and continuing to catalyze hope and transformation. The road ahead is filled with promise, and requires commitment, passion, and faith. I invite you to join us in our next chapter, inspired by the belief that together we build bridges that span generations and create a legacy that echoes for years to come.

For His Kingdom and our neighbors,  
Joey Darwin





# Mission & Vision

BridgeBuilders restores relationships under the banner of Christ by **engaging, equipping, and empowering** individuals, families, and communities in South Dallas.

## Engage

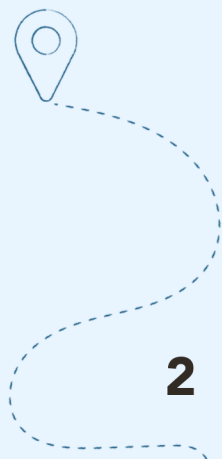
We engage families through Adopt-A-Block and 100 Homes outreach programs.

## Equip

We equip families through employment staffing, financial coaching, life skills training, athletics, afterschool programming, transportation services, and our newly-launched grocery store.

## Empower

We empower families through faith-based programming, bible studies, and youth mentoring.





# Staff

**Chanelle Cook**  
Community Receptionist

**Joey Darwin**  
Executive Director

**Porcha Ensley**  
Director of Student Services

**Vonda Harris**  
Social Services Coordinator

**Brandon Rowe**  
Community Services Associate

**Cynthia Wallace**  
Administrative Manager

**Rick Wyman**  
Vice President of Administration

**Sais Daniel**  
Director of Community Services

**Tyran Eddington**  
Community Services Associate

**Jonathan Fechner**  
President

**Karina Ibarra**  
Student Services Coordinator

**Maya Sapp**  
Teen Services Coordinator

**Nelson Ward**  
Communications Manager

## Board of Directors

**Rev. Todd Atkins**

**Jonathan Fechner**

**Gary Jackson**

**Clay Olsen**

**Dr. Adam Wright**

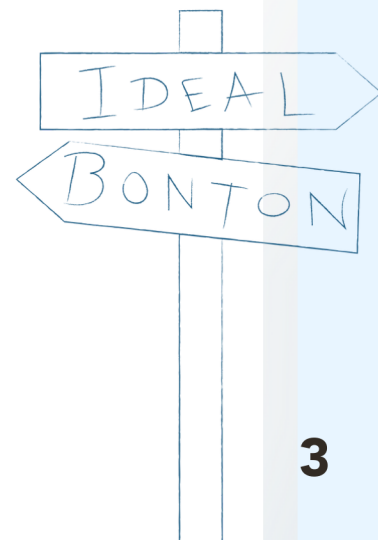
**Lisa Clark**

**Daniel Edwards, Ph.D.**

**Michael Fechner, Jr.**

**Velma Mitchell**

**Dr. Jarrett Stephens**



# Partners



**Bonton Farms**

**Brother Bill's Helping Hand**

**The Center for Integrative Counseling and Psychology**

**CitySquare**

**Community Engagement & Opportunity Council**

**Dallas Afterschool**

**Dallas Code Compliance Department**

**Dallas Housing Authority**

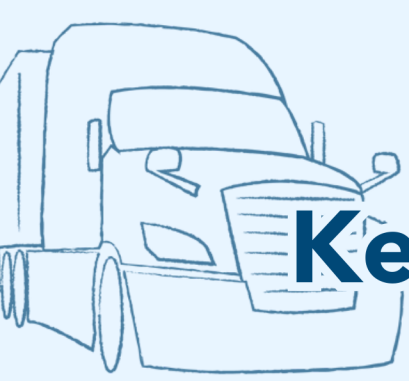
**Girl Scouts**

**Hope Cottage**

**Mercy Street**

**South Dallas Driving Academy**





# Key Accomplishments

**Partnered to launch the  
South Dallas Community Market**



**SOUTH DALLAS**  
COMMUNITY MARKET

**6,200 households served since opening in partnership with  
Brother Bill's Helping Hand**

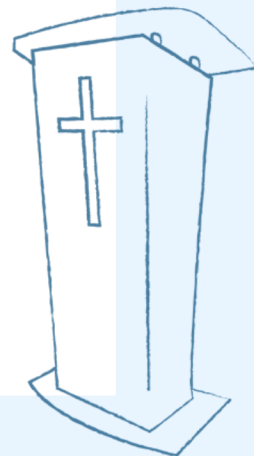
**Assisted the launch of two new nonprofits**



**South Dallas Driving Academy**



**Bonton Bible Church**





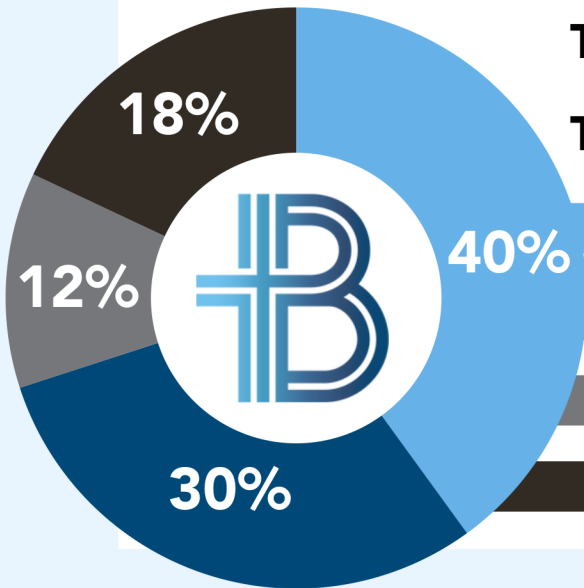
# Financials

**195%** increase in grant funding in 2023

**FYE June 30, 2023**

**Total Income = \$1,219,685**

**Total Expenses = \$1,453,754**



**Student Services Programs = \$586,582**

**Community Services Programs = \$443,193**

**Fundraising = \$170,782**

**General & Administrative = \$253,197**

**600** Homes Reached

Out of 1,800 estimated homes, 600 received direct services in 2023; about 33% of the Bonton+Ideal neighborhoods.







# Student Services

**160** South Dallas students impacted by our programming

**84** youth attending BridgeBuilders Out-of-School Program

**46%** are committed to building relationship with BridgeBuilders

**76** teens attending BridgeBuilders Out-of-School Program

**54%** are committed to building relationship with BridgeBuilders



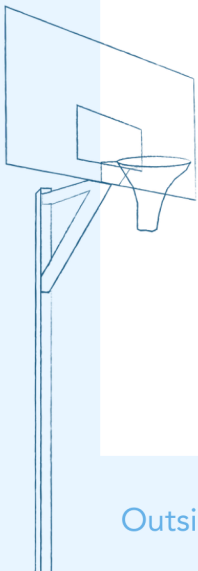
We estimate that 2023 provided 24,000 touchpoints with students that are building relationships with BridgeBuilders through their visits and time in the program.

**66** South Dallas athletes involved in our sports programs

**25** athletes involved our partner basketball program

**24** athletes involved in our Bonton Girls Run program

**17** athletes involved in our partner volleyball program



Outside of our student programs, there are 55 unique relationships we are building with other youth and teens in Bonton+Ideal.



# Community Services

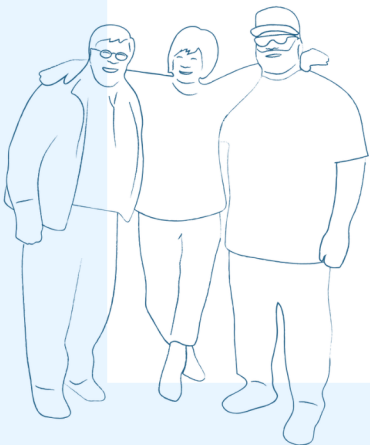
## South Dallas Community Market

- 4,932** total households served
- 7,180** unduplicated individual shoppers
- 547,390 lbs** food distributed
- \$985,302** in-kind of food distributed
- 490** volunteers
- 1,189** volunteer hours



## Community Event Highlights

- 2,287** event attendees
- 400** students provided school supplies
- 75** neighbors given eyeglasses
- 610** Thanksgiving family meal kits distributed
- 256** children received Christmas gifts



## A Place-Based Partnership

BridgeBuilders is a place-based organization. Our guiding focus is our Bonton+Ideal neighbors that have been here for years, creating a vibrant community together. When we asked them how we could play a specific part in the growth of the neighborhood, the top suggestion was a grocery store— a market with access to free and nutritious food in the middle of Dallas’s food desert. Responding to their ask resulted in a partnership with Brother Bill’s Helping Hand to make the South Dallas Community Market come to fruition, but it also cemented our commitment to partnership with our neighbors.

South Dallas has less access to food than it deserves, and the food available is often less nutritional than they deserve. These neighbors have proven their grit and determination to thrive in this place, and this Market stands as a testament to their self-built culture amid adversity— a culture of welcoming. Some folks come to the Market simply to grab a cup of coffee and say hello, because they are actively seeking neighbors to take part in hope-filled and fun activities.

To put it another way, this place has become a home to hope. We get to be a part of that because our neighbors welcome us! When we spend our time learning about the people who built the place we love, we deepen our love for the place itself. The South Dallas Community Market builds up its hometown, and its neighbors, because it has been built by their influence. Visit the Market and witness the joy of South Dallas for yourself, you won’t regret it.



Volunteer with the Market at [bridgebuilders.org/sdcm](https://bridgebuilders.org/sdcm)

**To our donors,  
our volunteers,  
our Buddies,  
our prayer warriors,  
our partners,  
our friends,  
our family,  
our fellow bridge builders,**

**THANK YOU**



# How to Be a Bridge Builder

**Donate**

**[bridgebuilders.org/donate](https://bridgebuilders.org/donate)**

**Volunteer**

**[bridgebuilders.org/volunteer](https://bridgebuilders.org/volunteer)**

**Provide for Students Monthly**

**[bridgebuilders.org/bridgebuddies](https://bridgebuilders.org/bridgebuddies)**



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