



Give Instead Gala

You're Invited! Our Give Instead Gala on October 18, 2018, is an opportunity for you to be charitable instead of spending time and money on an evening out.

Britepaths gave help and hope to more than 5,000 families in the Fairfax County area last year. Because of YOUR support, we are able to stabilize families in crisis, help them build resilience, and provide holiday and back to school supports. With all these great accomplishments, we can't help but celebrate!

We are looking forward to our 35th anniversary next year. Since we will celebrate all year in 2019, we thought we'd give you a chance to relax this year. Next year, we will celebrate all that you have made possible for people in need in our community.

This year, we ask that you choose to **GIVE HOPE** to a mother struggling to put food on her table instead of buying raffle tickets. **GIVE PROMISE** to a family eager to transition to financial independence instead of purchasing a new outfit. **GIVE JOY** to a child starting the school year with tools for success instead of an Uber to and from the gala. Sponsorships also available! Register at britepaths.org.



2017 Annual Report

Britepaths' 2017 Annual Report is now available on the Financials page of our web site, britepaths.org. Request a printed copy at: info@britepaths.org or 703.273.8829.

FEC at South County Grand Opening

Britepaths Partners with United Way, Fairfax County

On June 8, Britepaths staff joined with representatives from the United Way of the National Capital Area, Fairfax County and Citi Community Development to officially launch the Financial Empowerment Center (FEC) at South County.

Among the officials who spoke at the event were United Way NCA's President and CEO Rosie Allen-Herring and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. They are pictured at top with Britepaths Executive Director Lisa Whetzel.

Clients Kevin and Karan also spoke about how the FEC has helped them on their path to self-sufficiency. Karan (bottom right in inset) noted that she once thought homeownership was an impossible dream, but it is now a realistic goal that she is pursuing.

Read about the Grand Opening and view video of Karan's remarks at: bit.ly/FECOpeing.

As the lead non-profit partner, Britepaths staffs the FEC and has provided services to 1,200 clients at the South County Government Center since July 2017.

The FEC offers free Financial Coaching, year-round tax preparation assistance, a pre-apprenticeship training program, and classes and workshops focused on budgeting, household finance, life skills, homeownership and small business development. The FEC partners with banks and other non-profits to expand offerings.

Please share the FEC information with anyone you know who may benefit. More information on offerings and volunteer needs is available at FECSoco.org.



Mission

Britepaths provides our Fairfax County area neighbors in need with short-term safety-net services and empowers them to work toward long-term self-sufficiency.

Services

- Stabilizing Families
- Building Resilience
- Seasonal Supports

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FEC at South County:

Maria Jose Cantoni, FEC Director

Dawn Sykes, FEC Manager

Martha Borowski, Financial Mentoring Manager

Kristie Kleha, Adult Basic Education Instructor

Sally Meyer, FEC Workforce Development Manager

Jennifer Morris, FEC Assistant

Holiday Cheer for Your Neighbors in Need

Sponsor a Family for the Holidays!

What better gift can you give than hope and help to our struggling neighbors? Britepaths' Holiday Program makes it easy for families, individuals, businesses, faith communities and civic organizations to help struggling Fairfax County area residents at this special time of year.

Our goal is to assist 800 families with Thanksgiving meals, December holiday meals and gifts for children.

Can You Help?

Sponsor a Family or

Individual: Provide meals and/or gifts. We'll provide information to shop for a local family in need.

Donate Funds: Donate on-line or send a check to help us provide gift cards to families who are not matched with sponsors.

Ways to Give: Britepaths also welcomes corporate sponsors and volunteers to make this program a success.

Learn More and Register at:

<http://bit.ly/BritepathsHoliday>.

Contact Joanne Walton at: jwalton@britepaths.org or 703.273.8829.



Gratitude Magnifies Blessings:

Watch video of Unity of Fairfax members telling why they enjoy supporting Britepaths' families for the Holidays: bit.ly/UnityHolidays

National Recognition for Britepaths Volunteer



DéShaun and Didi

Please join us in congratulating Dolores "Didi" Dorsett, runner-up for Foundation for Financial Planning and *Financial Planning* magazine's 2018 Pro Bono Award.

Didi has helped 75 clients at Britepaths' free Financial Counseling Clinics get a handle on their finances. She also mentored Project BRIDGE Program graduates DéShaun and Dajuan, who began their journey toward financial self-sufficiency with Didi at a UCM of Alexandria Clinic, and

requested her as their financial mentor.

"After 20 years in the Navy and another seven with a defense contractor, Dorsett says, she was ready for a change. 'I wanted something different and meaningful,' she says, 'a sense of being able to give back.'"

The Foundation for Financial Planning has supported Britepaths' free Financial Counseling Clinics for several years. In 2017, the organization granted us \$30,000 to support our 2018 Counseling program, and we recently received word of a \$30,000 grant for the program in 2019. We are grateful for their continued support of our work in the community.

Read more on our News page at britepaths.org.

We're Moving! Note New Address

Britepaths is moving to a new office space at the end of September. Please note our new address in your records, and stay tuned for information on a future Open House.

3959 Pender Drive, Suite 200
Fairfax, VA 22030

Artful Living: Empowerment

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Artful Living: Empowerment on April 21 at the Sherwood Center in Fairfax City to celebrate art and our community in association with the Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts Festival.

Britepaths raised more than \$40,000 to further our work to assist struggling families in the Fairfax County area. A portion of the proceeds went to the Spotlight on the Arts Scholarship Fund. We are grateful to our artists, judges, sponsors, volunteers and supporters for making this a spectacular evening.

Learn more at: britepaths.org/Art.

Save the Date for Fall Events

There are many fun ways to support our work this Fall. We are grateful to local businesses and organizations that are hosting many of these events on our behalf. See our Events page at britepaths.org for details.

- The Thrillbilly's at JV's Music Room, Oct. 4
- neXco Cheers for Charity, Oct. 11
- Give Instead Gala, Oct. 18 (see p. 1)
- Wine and Wonderment at 2941, Nov. 14
- Fairfax Turkey Trot, Nov. 22
- ALEX AND ANI Mosaic Shopping, Nov. 29

Back to School 2018

Thank you to all who supported our 2018 Collect for Kids Back to School Program! Britepaths assisted more than 2,500 students in need at 16 Fairfax County Public Schools. Many thanks to our sponsors: MAXIMUS Foundation, Rotary Club of Bailey's Crossroads, Bob's Discount Furniture Foundation, Unity of Fairfax, Highlight Technologies and Optimist Club of Greater Vienna.

A special thanks to 24 Hour Fitness Falls Church for hosting a fun Zumba event. And thank you to all our backpack collection partners and everyone who donated to help us assist so many students!

Note Our New Address!
Effective October 1, 2018



UWNCFA: #9661; CFC#82471
Catalogue for Philanthropy

britepaths.org
info@britepaths.com
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