

December 9, 2019

Dear Friends,

We urgently need your help!

For 35 years, Britepaths has been providing help and hope to Virginia residents to help them *Thrive*. With more than 70,000 residents earning \$50,000 or less each year, many desperately need Britepaths' programs for survival.

In 2019, approximately 28% of the student body of Fairfax County Public Schools was eligible for free or reduced-price meals. That staggering statistic means more than 57,000 kids face food insecurities at home... every single day.

Just last year, Britepaths' customized services helped more than 7,000 families survive. Our programs **stabilized 1,401 families** who were experiencing a financial or food crisis. Many of those clients also received support with financial literacy, workforce development and mentoring. These services **helped build resilience for 2,264 people**. Britepaths has a variety of programs that support children: weekend food packs, back-to-school supplies, holiday meals and gifts and financial literacy. An overwhelming **4,942 children were helped by Britepaths' programs** last year.

These kinds of programs are making it possible for families like Eva's (pictured in the photos) to find a way to recover and stabilize when life takes them down a completely unexpected path. Eva, a retired military veteran, was living comfortably as an empty-nester when she learned that her daughter wasn't doing well and would need help raising her infant son. Eva stepped right in to help and eventually found she needed to take custody of her grandson, Alex, so he could have a chance for a productive life.

Starting over again as a full-time parent, Eva needed many resources to adequately provide for Alex. She found Britepaths and received diapers, grocery gift cards, pantry items, household goods and a stellar support system to get her started. **Eva and Alex are now doing very well because our community came together to lift them up.**





We are committed to lifting up our neighbors in need, but we need your help. As we get closer to the end of the year, Britepaths is facing a significant financial gap in being able to assist the countless families who turn to them for help in times of crisis. **This December, we must raise \$100,000** in order to keep serving families like Eva's. The number of families unfortunately grows daily.

Your generous year-end gift means we can continue to provide financial assistance and emergency food support to families in crisis... especially around the holidays. Thousands of families will receive financial literacy resources and workforce support from us. Nearly 5,000 children will get the help they need to thrive academically, physically and emotionally if you help financially.

Please, please, please make your donation by December 31, 2019 to help Britepaths reach our ability to provide the critical programs to struggling children and families. Without us, not only will many families lack the ability to have hope for 2020 during the holidays, but they also may not have enough to eat at their holiday meal. Please do all you can to help us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Whetzel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Whetzel

Executive Director

PS. Giving is easy! Visit britepaths.org, where you can give immediately or mail a check to the address below.

Britepaths

3959 Pender Drive
Ste. 200
Fairfax, VA 22030
703.273.8829
info@britepaths.org

Stabilizing Families

Food Bridge
Financial Assistance

Building Resilience

Financial Literacy
Workforce Development
Naomi Project

Seasonal Supports

School Supplies
Holiday Assistance

britepaths.org

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Catalogue for Philanthropy