



2022 Impact Report

Britepaths' mission is to provide our neighbors in need with short-term safety-net services and empower them to work toward long-term self-sufficiency.

FY22 Highlights

Launched Workforce IT Training

In 2021, Britepaths and the Financial Empowerment Center at South County expanded our Workforce Development offerings with two free Information Technology certification training courses to give Northern Virginia residents experiencing barriers to employment the skills and resources they need to obtain better-paying jobs in a field where employees are in high demand. Through a collaboration with AWS re/Start, we began offering AWS Cloud Computing and IT Fundamentals training, and also launched a Google-IT Comp TIA A+ training program. Thirty clients graduated from the training programs in FY22. We began building relationships with local technology companies to foster employment opportunities for our graduates, and continue to welcome these partnerships. Grants from Truist Foundation and the Weller Family Foundation helped us launch our IT offerings.

Administered Substantial Pandemic Relief Funding

Britepaths is honored to have earned a reputation in Fairfax County and Virginia for efficiently and effectively disbursing food and financial assistance to families and has been entrusted with the distribution of millions of dollars of relief funds since the start of the pandemic. In FY22, we distributed \$5,183,432 granted through Fairfax County to provide rent and/or utility assistance to help 592 families stay in their homes. The County has additionally granted us \$540,076 to

continue emergency assistance for rent, utilities and food for FY23 and FY24.

Through a special Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant of nearly \$200,000 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, we received support for our Food Support and Food Bridge programs, assisting 259 families, and for several different Workforce Development programs, helping 394 families to stabilize and improve their employment prospects. The Junior League of Washington helped with emergency food; car repair and other needs were served with the help of Cloudbreak Foundation, St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church in Fairfax, the Community Foundation of Northern Virginia, and Transurban Foundation.

Expanded Financial Empowerment Partnerships

Britepaths and the Financial Empowerment Center at South County continued to primarily offer our programming virtually in FY22, which provided opportunities to expand ongoing partnerships, engage with new partners and reach out to new communities. We're now offering services in Arlington and the City of Alexandria, providing food entrepreneur consulting and helping new immigrants understand U.S. financial and workforce customs. Enhanced partnerships with Northern Virginia Family Service and Legal Services of Northern Virginia, and new partnerships with AHC, Inc., Al-Hijrah Islamic Center, the Washington Forrest Foundation and the City of Alexandria have helped make this expanded reach possible.



Who We Are

Britepaths is in our 38th year of providing help and hope to Northern Virginia residents in crisis. We are a dedicated leader in developing sustainable solutions that meet the needs of low-income working families through emergency assistance, financial empowerment, workforce development and one-on-one mentoring.

In FY22, we continued to assist community members thrown into crisis by the pandemic and rising prices by providing food and financial assistance to help them stay in their homes. Through our virtual Financial Empowerment and Workforce Development offerings—including new IT job training programs—we helped them assess their situations and plan for brighter futures. Additionally, our Board and staff

further developed and refined our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion goals and initiatives to ensure our help is best situated to meet all our clients' needs.

We rely on the financial support and volunteer power of civic organizations, businesses, faith communities, local governments and thousands of community members to deliver these vital services to our neighbors.

Visit britepaths.org to learn more and get involved.



Expanded Farmers Market Initiatives: Britepaths has provided Our Daily Veggies farmers market vouchers since 2010 to give our clients access to more fresh foods and to support local vendors. In FY22 we began partnering with Fairfax County, FRESHFARM and LEAP to help recipients of SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) double their benefits when purchasing fruits and vegetables at the Annandale Farmers Market. *In the Photo:* Britepaths volunteers assist a shopper at the Annandale Market in June 2022.



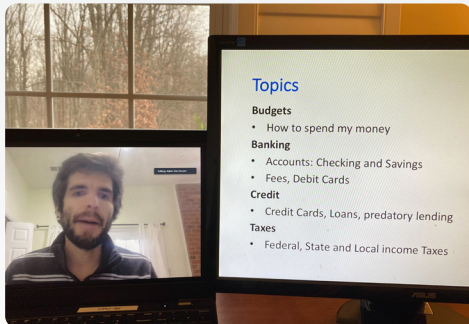
Gathering In Person Again: After canceling our annual Artful Living event twice and going 18 months without gathering in person with our volunteers and supporters, we were excited to reunite again in FY22. We gathered outdoors at Wolf Trap for our Grateful event in October 2021, and we were finally back together at the Country Club of Fairfax for Artful Living in May 2022. *In the Photo:* Artist Sharon Corish with one of her works. Photo by Hernan Vargas.



Center for Nonprofit Advancement EXCEL Award: On November 16, 2021, the Center for Nonprofit Advancement recognized Britepaths Executive Director Lisa Whetzel with an Honorable Mention for its 2021 Excellence in Chief Executive Leadership (EXCEL) Award at their virtual ceremony. As part of the award, Britepaths received a \$3,000 grant to support professional development programs for staff, and Lisa participated in a three-part Best Practices Learning video series. Watch the videos at: britepaths.org/whetzel-excel. *In the Photo:* Lisa is bottom right during the award ceremony.

FY22 Impact

Although the nation got a powerful dose of hope when the COVID-19 vaccines were released, the stresses of the pandemic, combined with widespread job losses and economic disruption, continued to weigh down the recovery for thousands of Northern Virginia residents. Hard-won household reserves were depleted, struggling businesses folded, and people who had always managed to make ends meet were compelled to look for help. In FY22 Britepaths rallied its resources and volunteers to serve **8,993 area households**, boosting the wellbeing of **12,425 residents**. Our Stability programs helped people stay fed and housed through a crisis; our Resilience programs gave them ways to improve their financial and professional position moving forward; and our Supports for Children helped lighten the burden of worry and need borne by some of the most vulnerable members of our community.



Building Resilience

2,113

People received Financial Empowerment and Workforce Development coaching, mentoring and classes



Stabilizing Families

1,337

Families received emergency or short-term Food Assistance



Supports for Children

6,730

Children and youth received Food4Thought, Back to School, Holiday or Financial Literacy

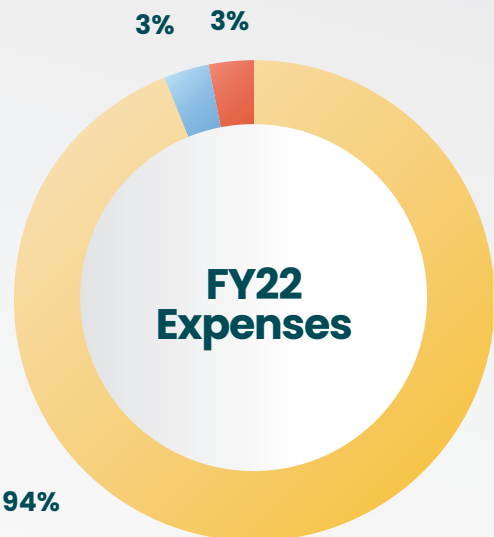


Volunteer Power

443

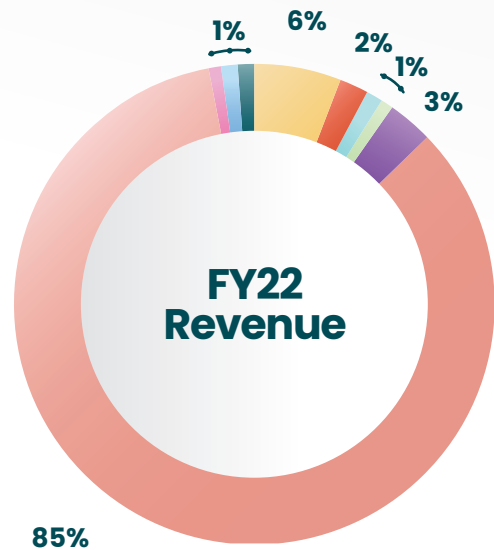
Volunteers devoted 5,192 hours, valued at \$238,615

An Unprecedented Year



FY22 Expenses:

- Program
- Administrative
- Fundraising



FY22 Revenue:

Contributions.....	6%
Corporations.....	2%
Denominational.....	1%
Foundations.....	1%
United Way.....	3%
Govt. Grants.....	85%
Non Govt. Grants.....	1%
In-kind.....	1%
Special Events.....	1%
Total.....	\$1,444,990

A Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Britepaths' Board of Directors and staff worked in FY22 to further our diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) goals by engaging a consultant to assess the organizations' assets and needs, and provide guidance and recommendations for improvements. As part of our journey, we established a Board-Staff DEI committee, held trainings and discussions, adopted a DEI vision statement, and established and held facilitated meetings of a Client Advisory Board. Work continues with our consultant and on implementing client recommendations.

As part of our commitment to fostering change in support of diversity, equity and inclusion, in 2021 all staff attended training delivered by Dr. Stacey Hardy-Chandler, LCSW, then the director of the Center for Children and Families for the City of Alexandria.

Britepaths' DEI Vision

Britepaths endeavors to provide programs and support that are free of barriers and discrimination. We value and celebrate the range of diversity, culture and unique differences of all of our clients and team members.

Our workplace aspires to reflect the communities we serve and to be an environment where employees and volunteers feel empowered to be their full, authentic selves.

We are committed to taking meaningful action to assure equitable representation, participation, and decision-making.



ACT-IT: A Path to Brighter Futures

Britepaths' Avenues to Career Training (ACT) IT program offers critical information and foundational skills for Northern Virginia residents to pursue better-paying jobs and build careers in IT and Cloud Computing specialties. Hear from some of our learners who have received AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner or Google IT Professional and CompTIA A+ certifications.

Watch Video at: britepaths.org/story/act-it-video.



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