

The Pathfinder

Mo Got the Job!

We are excited for Mo, who started his new job as Cloud Analyst with CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield in early 2023. Mo received his AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner certification after completing our [Avenues to Career Training](#) AWS re/Start training program in the spring of 2022.

Our Workforce Development Director Sally Meyer and her team were able to help connect Mo with the company thanks to an introduction made through a volunteer. Two of our volunteers also worked with Mo in November as he prepared for his interview.

Mo wrote on LinkedIn, *"Many thanks to the Britepaths team and their AWS re/Start program. Especially Sally, Glenn and my fellow cohorts. They are all AMAZING people and have had a big impact on my life....I finally get to focus on work that I love and am passionate about...Looking forward to contributing to an exciting project and absorbing knowledge from a lot of smart people!"*

Britepaths is seeking partners in the Northern Virginia business community to hire our Workforce Development clients. Contact Sally at smeyer@britepaths.org or 703.273.8829 to learn more.



Mission

Britepaths provides our neighbors in need with short-term safety-net services and empowers them to work toward long-term self-sufficiency. We deliver our services with respect, compassion, and equity, always preserving the dignity and self-esteem of our clients.

Services

Stabilizing Families
Building Resilience
Supports for Children

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FY 2022 Impact

In Fiscal Year 2022, Britepaths and the Financial Empowerment Center at South County served 8,993 families, impacting the lives of 12,425 people. Your generous donations, and the support of 443 volunteers serving 5,192 hours, made this possible.

Building Resilience: 2,113 People received Financial Empowerment and Workforce Development services, impacting 3,371 family members.

Stabilizing Families: 1,337 Households received Food and/or Financial Assistance, assisting 3,747 people.

Supports for Children: 6,730 Children received Food4Thought, Back to School, Holiday or Youth Financial Literacy services.

Learn more and read our FY22 Impact Report at: britepaths.org/about-us/our-impact.



Stuff the Bus 2023



Britepaths raised 1,154 lbs. of food and supplies and more than \$1,000 in cash and gift cards at our Stuff the Bus Food Drive in February, sponsored by Fairfax County. [Click Here](#) to read more and view photos. *Photo by Bonnie Hobbs, Connection Newspapers*

Join Us at Artful Living: Forward, April 27



Artful Living: Forward

Thursday, April 27
7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Country Club of Fairfax
5110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA

Tickets and Information at:
britepaths.org/event/artful23

Contact: events@britepaths.org
or 703.273.8829

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

HumanTouch, LLC
The Starfish Foundation of Fairfax
Anthem HealthKeepers Plus
Northwest Federal Credit Union
SAIC
Apple Federal Credit Union
The Warshavsky Family
Nothing Bundt Cakes



Artist Robabeh Riasati with her works at last year's event. Photo by Hernan Vargas.

We hope you'll join us for a joyful evening of art, wine and community at Artful Living: Forward!

Britepaths' ninth annual Artful Living celebration and fundraiser promises to be a memorable evening with a juried art show and sale, live music from World's End Jazz, exquisite food and beverages, delicious desserts from Nothing Bundt Cakes and My Alfajor, festive games, silent and live auctions and a special guest speaker.

This year's theme is Forward, reflecting our work to help clients keep moving ahead and make ongoing progress on their journey to self-sufficiency and success. Your support will make a difference for those in immediate need while investing in the long-term wellbeing of our neighbors.

Congratulations, Beacon & Brite Star Awardees!



Please join us in congratulating some distinguished supporters who we honored at our Wine & Wonderment event on November 9, 2022.

Kim and Pete Scudera (above, right, with Executive Director Lisa Whetzel) received the Beacon Award for their long and dedicated financial support, which was especially significant for our families during the pandemic. Kim is the lead singer for World’s End Jazz, which will perform at Artful Living: Forward, and Batida

Diferente, which has performed at many of our events.

Financial Empowerment volunteer Robbie Mosley (below, left, with Britepaths’ Sandra Roldan and Iris Woodard) was presented with the Brite Star Award. He has volunteered more than 300 hours since 2019, serving as a financial mentor, coach and instructor. Robbie spoke about his experience volunteering and why he thinks it is important to support Britepaths’ work. Watch the video at: britepaths.org/story/robbie.



“You’ve Changed My Life”

“The food assistance and mentoring program have changed my life, and my family’s life, in ways I cannot fully explain. I am grateful for Britepaths.”

— Ms. C, Financial Mentoring and Food Bridge client

Ms. C and her family are receiving support through our Food Bridge program while she works with a volunteer mentor in our Financial Mentoring program to improve their financial outlook. She wrote this note to thank the Democratic Women of Clifton and Northern Virginia (DWCNVA) for the grocery store gift cards her family received in January 2023.

We are thankful to DWCNVA members for once again helping feed our families! On January 6, 2023, they delivered checks and grocery store gift cards they collected during their holiday drive in November and December. Combined with donations we received directly from DWCNVA

members, they raised \$3,731.47.

DWCNVA has made assisting our families part of their holiday giving tradition since 2008, raising a total of \$48,469 over the years! We are so grateful for their ongoing support.

Learn how you or your organization can help feed our families at: britepaths.org/our-services/food-bridge/food-donations.



Britepaths Executive Director Lisa Whetzel is at center with DWCNVA’s Jane Barker (left) and Barbara Levine with the donations they delivered on January 6.



Fairfax Turkey Trot organizers (on right) Hank Levi, Jill Levi and Marcia Nystrom present Britepaths staff with a donation check on February 3.

Fairfax Turkey Trot Donates \$27,600

Britepaths is grateful to the organizers, sponsors and runners of the Fairfax Turkey Trot’s four-miler on Thanksgiving Day 2022, who donated \$27,600 to help our families. They have chosen to support our organization since 2016, and have donated \$113,000 in the past seven years! The 2023 Turkey Trot is on November 23 in the Mantua neighborhood of Fairfax. Read more at: britepaths.org/fairfaxturkeytrot2022.



Fairfax Ace Hardware staff present a donation check to Britepaths from their July round-up at the register campaign to support our 2022 Back to School Program.

Help Our Kids Go Back to School

Britepaths will once again partner with Fairfax County’s Collect for Kids initiative to ensure that 2,500 students at our partner schools are able to start the 2023-24 school year with everything they need to succeed.

We hope you will plan to support our effort this summer by donating funds for supply kits and/or backpacks. Program sponsorships are also a great way to assist local students.

Details coming in June on our [Back to School](#) page.