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## BHITC STAFF

<b>Nadia Abuamsha</b>	Arabic Community Worker
<b>Francois Banyeretse</b>	African Community Worker
<b>Kamila Burgess</b>	Refugee Program Assistant
<b>Dana Carlisle</b>	Manager, Communications
<b>Joshua Gailer</b>	AmeriCorps Member
<b>Lesia Hess</b>	Executive and Administrative Assistant
<b>Bryan Karas</b>	Director, Open Table and Mission Impact
<b>Laurie Kubiak</b>	Director, Urban Family Learning Centers
<b>Clara Legeay</b>	Business Manager
<b>Joyce Ng</b>	Manager, Development
<b>Sharon Schuldt</b>	Director, Ministry Engagement
<b>Jeff Stredney</b>	Director, Social Enterprise (HopeWorks LLC)
<b>Eileen Wilson</b>	Director, Refugee and Immigrant Ministry
<b>Brian Upton</b>	Executive Director



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# SENT... TO WILDLY LOVE OUR CITY

SUMMARY REPORT FOR 2016

**OUR MISSION:**  
RESTORING THE CITY TO GOD BY  
DEVELOPING AND LINKING PEOPLE,  
COMMUNITIES AND CHURCHES.

# Building Hope: **BY THE NUMBERS**

*"Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" - John 20*



The Lord continues to bless and deploy BHITC, giving it much in terms of resources and opportunities for mission. It's our joy to be sent by Him to love our city back to God. The following provides a snapshot of the impact we achieved in 2016.

Our full Annual Report for 2016, including financial statements, is available online at our website, [www.buildinghopeinthecity.org](http://www.buildinghopeinthecity.org).



## CHURCH PLANTING AND LEADER DEVELOPMENT

BHITC cultivates new and expanded approaches to urban ministry by developing emerging and indigenous faith leaders. 2016 accomplishments included:

- **Transform216** – Five emerging pastors and ministry leaders enrolled in Transform216 for urban leadership mentoring and coaching. As a result 500+ community contacts were made through their efforts, as were 15 baptisms!
- **MissionSmith** – 250+ people attended one or more of nine sessions focused on equipping church and nonprofit leaders.



## REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT MINISTRY

BHITC leads the Church's welcome of refugees and immigrants, including a variety of efforts that share the love of God with them. Programs address early resettlement needs, helping these future Americans adjust to their new lives in Northeast Ohio and learn to thrive. 2016 accomplishments included:

- **The Hope Center** – Daily visits to the Hope Center grew by 650% over the prior year, demonstrating a tremendous need and God's favor on these efforts.
- **Mentoring Refugees** – 89 new refugees paired with BHITC volunteers in mentor relationships.
- **English Instruction** – 240 immigrants were reached through the Hope Center ESL classes, representing a 320% increase in 12 months.
- **Employment assistance and placement** – BHITC staff assisted hundreds of refugees with job searching, interview techniques and job applications. Moreover, 57 refugees found employment thanks to BHITC working directly with employers.
- **Immigration Assistance and Citizenship** – 172 adults received affordable assistance, leading them on a path to citizenship or reunification with family members; 51 refugees in our ministries applied and/or became U.S. Citizens!



## URBAN MINISTRY TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENT

BHITC serves as a training and deployment hub for local citizens, Christians and congregations seeking to engage meaningfully in urban ministry, assisting them in developing their God-given gifts and abilities. Through these efforts, BHITC witnesses to the value God's people bring to the table in solving our city's challenges. 2016 accomplishments include:

- **176** new volunteers incorporated into city ministries.
- **\$636,120** in labor value invested by BHITC's volunteers.
- **Open Table expands.** Nine Tables launched in three years. First refugee Table launched in 2016.
- **544** local citizens received training in urban and cross-cultural ministry.
- **369** volunteers participated in CityServe 2016, enhancing the efforts of **25** city ministries, congregations and agencies.



## URBAN FAMILY LEARNING CENTERS

In partnership with select urban congregations, BHITC strives to effectively address "urban life" issues at the neighborhood level with ministries that bring people into deeper relationship with God and one another.

- **150+** school-aged students reached through after-school and evening tutoring programs at five area churches.
- BHITC welcomed new church partner **Lakewood Baptist Church** as one of its tutoring sites, reaching primarily Burmese school children.
- **Christmas Dreams Made True for Moms and Dads!** BHITC provided the *Christmas Store of Hope* for **90+** urban families, providing low-cost, new gift items.



## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

BHITC's social enterprises are for-profit business ventures whose primary purpose is the common good of the city and the advancement of God's Kingdom. In 2016, **Common Threads Thrift** was launched as BHITC's first enterprise. Metrics for the store's first six months (July-December) included:

- **Employment** – 18 people hired, all of whom were directly connected to a BHITC ministry or ministry partner.
- **Customers** – 14,000! The average customer spent \$12.55 (\$2.55 more than the industry average for thrift stores).
- **Merchandise** – 28,000+ donated items on the store floor at any time.
- **Recycling** – 20,000 pounds recycled from October-December 2016; 200,000 pounds of clothes to be recycled in 2017; 500,000 pounds of goods annually kept out of landfills through store sales.



*thrift, décor, and more*

