

H3 QTR 3 UPDATE



ocdda.com

overflow christian community development association



STRATEGIC
FOCUS

Every Benton Harbor resident is prepared for further education, life and work, while experiencing Christ's love.

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rev. Brian Bennett

Friends and supporters of the OCCDA,

As we enter into the summer months this year I am standing in awe of all God has done in the first few years of the OCCDA. We have been blessed to see God's hand on this ministry and our work in unique ways, while also experiencing the normal struggles of any start-up work. Entering into the summer we are continuing to transition staffing as Emily Onken (and her husband Tim) who founded Café Mosaic are moving to Houston, Texas. We are grateful for their love and hard work that has started such a beautiful ministry. As we look to the future I hope this newsletter encourages you with where we are headed, the new staff we are adding, how you can get involved, and the bright future our community has as we all work together "that every Benton Harbor resident is prepared for further education, life, and work while experiencing Christ's love".

I am celebrating the fact that we are growing and able to open our arms to new church partners, new employees (more than 60% of our employees in our social enterprises are from our BH community), and new ministry opportunities in the community. One new initiative is the "I♥BH" campaign. We have partnered with the city of BH to help grow this sentiment and we are proud to now offer "I♥BH" products in Café Mosaic and Mosaic Resale. The proceeds will benefit the BH city parks conservancy and literacy work in BH through the OCCDA. Get your "I♥BH" shirts and products today!

I am also excited to introduce two new staff members of the OCCDA as well and invite you to stop in and welcome them formally in Café Mosaic and Mosaic Resale. Please enjoy this newsletter, stay involved, and keep us in your prayers!

In Pursuit,

Brian Bennett | OCCDA, President and Executive Director

In This Issue

I♥BH

Learn about our new campaign to help spread our love for this community.

Program/Business Snapshots

Get ready for H3 Hoops, Hip-Hop, and Hot Dogs! July 20th from 12-4 at the Broadway Park in Benton Harbor.

Social Enterprise Updates

An overview of the happenings of the Mosaic Cafe, Mosaic Resale Store, and Harbor Shine.

Prayer Points

People and events in our community that we are blessed to be involved with and to keep in our prayers.

Save the Dates

Get involved!
Upcoming events for summer 2013!





Meet Beth Jerdon

OCCDA Community Development Director

Hello! I'm Beth Jerdon, the new Community Development Director with the OCCDA. I am very excited to dig into what God is doing within and through the OCCDA in the Benton Harbor community. For the last few

months, I had worked as a Spanish/English Interpreter for an area non-for-profit. Prior to that, I was the Connecting Peoples Coordinator for an NGO in Nicaragua, Central America, called Acción Médica Cristiana (Christian Medical Action) for 3 years where I coordinated logistics for volunteer individuals and teams to provide much needed services in rural communities. While there I studied a Master's in Organizational Leadership with a focus in International Development. My undergraduate degree is in Management of Health and Fitness, which I put into practice for about 9 years while working for a few different YMCA's in Michigan as Health & Wellness Director.

I am eager to get involved with what God is actively doing with the OCCDA. Feel free to connect with me if you want to know more or have additional questions for me. I'm looking forward to meeting more of our Overflow and Benton Harbor community!

What makes you most excited about what God is doing at the OCCDA? What is your biggest prayer?

God has begun a good work in the OCCDA and he completes that which he begins. I am most excited about working in solidarity with our community to make a sustainable positive

impact in the lives of every Benton Harbor resident. Centered on Christ and His will, we can do this together!

My biggest prayer request would be that we would continually seek God's will in and through all that we do. We can do our best to plan, but the Lord determines our steps.

What are you most passionate about?

I am passionate about self-empowerment for the unjustly marginalized people in our community, nation and world as a whole. When individuals understand the great abilities they have, the potential within themselves and then take action to move forward in education, work and life; that is God's glory and kingdom present.

When you're not at the OCCDA what are you up to?

When I'm not at the OCCDA, you can normally find me running along the Lakeshore or taking a walk on the pier while singing to whatever is on my iPod. I love being active! Whenever I'm near the water I can feel God's strength and presence. It is good!

What is the one thing we should know about you?

I am eclectic adventurer and am normally up for anything that God places in front of me.

Name one of your favorite things.

Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens... ☺
Although I do like those things, I already listed my favorite thing, which is running along the lake. Nothing like it!
It's a little bit of heaven!



Meet Lawson Bunch

Café Mosaic's New Manager

Lawson graduated from Taylor University with a degree in Business Marketing. He is currently engaged to be married to the beautiful Hannah Towler on October 19.

What makes you most excited about what God is doing at the OCCDA/ What is your biggest prayer?

Someone has written that as Christians we should love beauty. Where beauty is apparent we should enjoy it. Where beauty is hidden we should unveil it. When beauty becomes defaced, we should restore it. Where there is no beauty at all we should create it.

2. What are you most passionate about?

Learning.

3. When you're not at Cafe Mosaic what are you up to?

I am either roasting coffee with Infusco or am spending time with my fiancé.

4. What is one thing we should know about you?

I am a ginger.

5. Name one of your favorite things.

I really enjoy being around a fireplace or a campfire.

STREET MISCHIEF TO STREET MINISTRY

JAMAL MCGEE

by Kallay Carr

If a person's life could ever embody a verse, Jamal McGee's could. Matthew 6:33 says we are to seek first His kingdom and righteousness, and then all blessings will be added unto us. Ten years ago, Jamal was recently out of prison and out of work. Without employment options available, he felt hopeless and without direction, but through a series of God driven events, he found a passion for Christ and a new way to live.



SUMMER EVENTS

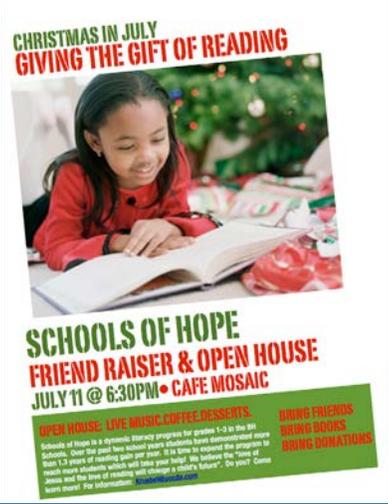


AUGUST 3 @ 8:30AM
BERRIEN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

TAKING A SWING TO HELP FURTHER STUDENTS' EDUCATION

4 PERSON SCRAMBLE
COST: \$90/Golfer

For more information call Mark Thomas, **574.532.3187**. To sign up, visit www.occda.com/golf-benefit



JULY 11 @ 6:30PM
CAFE MOSAIC

SCHOOLS OF HOPE FRIEND-RAISER AND OPEN HOUSE

Live music. Coffee. Desserts. Bring friends, bring books, and bring donations for the Schools of Hope reading program!

For more information, email: Kruebel@occda.com



Last year, Jamal attended H3: Hoops, Hip-hop, and Hot Dogs, and was connected through his church, Bethel Christian Restoration Center and his pastor, Pastor Antoine Headspeth, to Pastor Brian Bennett of Overflow Church. *"It's funny,"* Jamal said, *"as soon as I began to talk about Christ, doors opened. The more I talk about Him, the more doors open for me."* And have they ever. Jamal began working at Café Mosaic in September 2012 with Manager Emily Onken, and has felt God working in and through him in ways he never imagined. *"Emily taught me to not be ashamed of who I was, to look people in the eye, and to be a part of the community. To be a blessing in someone's life. I was never a people person,"* he says, *"but now I love to smile and make someone's day better. 'Keep your smile!' Emily always tells me."* Jamal is, in a word, jovial. Christ's light shines out of him in such a way that you would never know he used to be shy and withdrawn.

He attributes this newfound joy to the many opportunities the OCCDA has allowed him to take part in. Working at Café Mosaic has allowed him to make new connections, particularly with other men who have been through similar

experiences. *"People don't have to trust you, they have to trust His spirit in you. They trusted His spirit in me, because they saw that, and it really means so much."* Jamal said. *"I know I'm going to go through things, but it will be worth it, because Jesus went to the cross. Joy will be there in the morning and to GOD BE THE GLORY!"* he explained.

The future is bright for Jamal, as he recently accepted another position at Charlie's Pigin' and Grinnin' as a prep cook. *"It's amazing to me that I was out of work for ten years, and as soon as I began to accept and talk about Christ, I was offered three jobs in a matter of months!"* he said. His passion for cooking is what is driving his next incredible mission to help get kids off of the streets in Benton Harbor. Jamal is working to start an organization that will help high school and college students learn a new skill that will propel them into a career in the culinary arts. *"I just want to help. It can't be somebody else; it has to be me. They don't know any other options but selling drugs, and all that leads to is jail or six feet under. I have to intercede before it's too late."* The organization will be a Christian based organization with prayer and scripture as the foundation. He wants to provide a place for the students to work and hang out that is off the streets and in the Word. Jamal's is an amazing testimony full of passion and a love for Christ that will surely have an affect on the youth he wishes to inspire.

“
It's funny, as soon as
I began to **TALK** about
CHRIST, doors opened.
The more I talk about
Him, the more **DOORS**
OPEN for me.”

PROGRAM/BUSINESS SNAPSHOTS



HOOPS, HIP HOP & HOT DOGS
JULY 20, NOON-4 PM, BROADWAY PARK, BENTON HARBOR

H3 "Hoops, Hip-Hop, & Hot Dogs" 2013 is here! The 4th annual H3 event is July 20th from 12-4pm. This event touches more than 1,000 people annually in Broadway Park, Benton Harbor and includes more than 100 volunteers from many area churches and organizations. Please see the video for 2013 here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxdY5hh5evA&feature=youtube>

H3 Volunteers needed! Please contact admin@ocdda.com to get plugged in this year.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE UPDATES

We are able to provide jobs, on-the-job-training, and ministry space through our businesses & every dollar spent or donated stays local. Here is the latest from our social enterprises:

MOSAIC

MOSAIC RESALE

Mosaic Resale is thriving as a business and a ministry and we are excited about what is ahead. We will be hiring 4-6 more people from our community this summer and look forward to also hosting the "Harbor Market" in our parking lot on Friday's throughout the summer.



HARBOR SHINE

SCOTT SUTTON, Harbor Shine Operations Director, and his crews are doing an excellent and enjoying a great start to the 2013 lawn care season. We have just hired 3 new employees from our community and hope to add 1-2 more youth this summer as well. Please consider Harbor Shine this summer for all your lawn care needs: ssutton@ocdda.com



CAFÉ MOSAIC

Café Mosaic and the bookstore are growing rapidly in influence and business! We would love to have you come in and check out the changes to the menu and atmosphere, use the café for your next catering need, and consider our book store for all your next summer beach reading.

PRAYER POINTS

PRAISE GOD for Emily Onken (and her husband Tim) in founding Café Mosaic. Please pray for them this summer as they transition to the Houston, Texas area.

PLEASE PRAY for our new manager Lawson Bunch, our cafe staff, and our great customers.

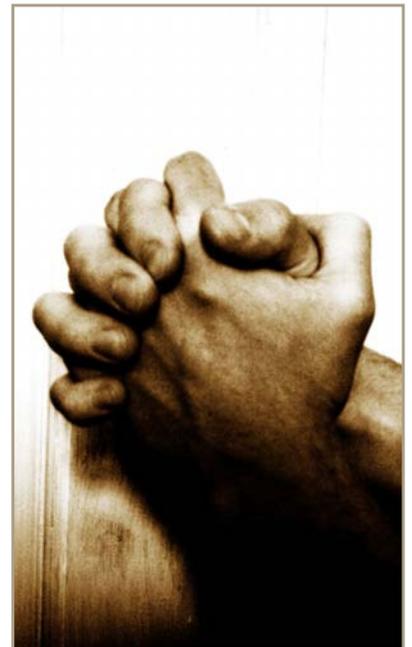
PLEASE PRAY for the three primary focuses in our internal strategy to help people "find further education, life, and work while experiencing Christ's love" for the OCCDA are:

- Discipleship
- Leadership Development
- Next Steps (helping people find theirs)

PRAY FOR UNITY in our community...with the churches and partners of the OCCDA in our region.

PRAY THAT GOD'S HAND OF BLESSING would rest on the OCCDA to touch even more lives with Christ's love in 2013

PRAY FOR FUNDING to increase for the OCCDA in 2013 that would allow us to expand our capacity and ministry to the residents of Benton Harbor.



SAVE THE DATE

FRIEND AND FUND DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

JULY 11 @ 8:30AM

CHRISTMAS IN JULY FOR SCHOOLS OF HOPE
Cafe Mosaic, 510 W. Main St., BH

AUGUST 3 @ 6:30PM

HOPE FORE THE FUTURE GOLF EVENT
Berrien Hills Country Club, 690 West Napier, BH
COST: \$90 per golfer
SIGN-UP: www.ocdda.com/golf-benefit
CALL Mark Thomas: 574.532.3187

PARTNERSHIP GATHERINGS

AUGUST 1

THE POWER OF THE LOCAL CHURCH, PART 2
Cafe Mosaic, 510 W. Main St., BH



SUMMER OUTREACH

BH ALLIANCE "CHILDREN TO CAMP"
INITIATIVES TO SEND BENTON HARBOR
CHILDREN TO SUMMER CAMP

JULY 20 @ 12-4PM

H3 Big Event

JULY 22-26

Circle Y Ranch

AUGUST 5-9

Spring Hill Day Camp (at The Chapel)



Please remember to share the OCDDA with your friends: www.ocdda.com and to like us on Facebook.



We also appreciate your prayers and financial support. For online donations and information on donating via check/mail please visit our site: <http://www.ocdda.com/donate/>

YOUR HELP MAKES A DIFFERENCE

GETTING INVOLVED...