



2023

**2023 HARMONY CDC  
ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT**



**TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES  
TO BECOME WHOLE AND  
EMPOWERED**

# DIRECTOR LETTER



As we approach the end of another remarkable year, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of pride and gratitude for the incredible work we have accomplished together. Our commitment to creating positive change in the lives of those we serve has never been more evident, and I am thrilled to share our achievements in the 2023 Impact Report.

This report is a testament to the dedication, passion, and unwavering determination of each and every member of our organization. From our tireless volunteers to our steadfast donors, and from our resilient staff to the communities we support, our impact is a collective effort that knows no bounds.

Through our various programs and initiatives, we have empowered individuals to break the barriers of poverty, provided educational opportunities to those in need, and championed the cause of sustainable development. We have made significant strides in our mission to transform communities to become whole and

empowered, and our impact has extended far beyond what we initially envisioned.

The stories of transformation, resilience, and hope featured in this report exemplify the real change that we are affecting in the world. Each accomplishment, no matter how big or small, represents a step towards a brighter, more equitable future for all. Our successes are a tribute to the unwavering spirit of our organization and the unwavering support of our community.

As we reflect on our past achievements, let us also look ahead with renewed determination and optimism. Our work is far from over, and there are countless more lives waiting to be touched by our compassion and commitment.

I encourage each and every one of you to take pride in the impact we have made and to carry this momentum forward as we continue our journey towards creating a more just and compassionate world.

Thank you for your unwavering support, dedication, and belief in our mission. Together, we have proven that positive change is not only possible but achievable through our collective efforts.

With deep appreciation and anticipation for the future,

**MARK PORTER**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



# OUR HISTORY

Harmony Community Development Corporation was established as a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization in 2001 by Concord Church under the leadership of Dr. E.K. Bailey. We were organized to stimulate the development of affordable housing, create business ownership, and increase social services. Dr. Bryan Carter re-established Harmony in 2007 in order to make strides towards impacting the community through resources, social services, and programs. Harmony targets residents of the South Oak Cliff area of Dallas, with additional concentration throughout the southern sector of Dallas, including Best Southwest cities of Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, and Lancaster. It be a catalyst for transforming communities to become whole and empowered.



# OUR MISSION

| **Our Harmony CDC Mission** is to advance God's presence by strengthening families and revitalizing neighborhoods through community-driven and solution-oriented approaches.

# OUR VISION

| **Our Harmony CDC Vision** will be a catalyst for transforming communities to become whole and empowered.

# OUR CORE VALUES

- | **Christ-like** – We serve our community with humility, compassion, and kindness.
- | **Collaboration** – We partner with others to address the needs within our community.
- | **Excellence** – We offer a level of service that is first-rate in every way.
- | **Results-Oriented** – We provide pathways that lead to measurable change in the lives of people.
- | **Accountability** – We are good stewards of the time, talents, and resources to which we have been entrusted.





**| We remain steadfast  
in our resolve.**

Despite the ongoing hurdles posed by the global pandemic, southern Dallas remained steadfast in overcoming obstacles, demonstrating remarkable resilience within our community throughout 2023. Our Impact Report for this year demonstrates the concerted efforts to support families in their daily lives while further fortifying neighborhoods in southern Dallas. Although the journey towards recovery continues, we remain steadfast in our resolve. Despite encountering obstacles, the unwavering spirit within us assures that we can overcome any adversity, dedicated to our commitment of offering people robust pathways towards holistic well-being!





Chick-fil-A, Inc.  
5200 Buffington Road  
Atlanta, GA 30349

01946  
Date 10/12/2023

\$ 25,000

Pay  
To The Order Of Harmony CDC  
Twenty five thousand dollars & 00/00 Dollars



For: Caring for our Communities



# OUR MODEL



**HELP** Addressing Basics Needs (Food Pantry, Legal Services & Referrals)



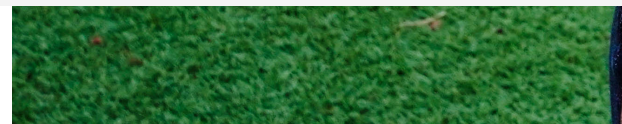
**HOUSING** Enhancing Housing Options (Rent, Mortgage & Utility Assistance, Housing Stability Program, Homeownership Education)



**HEALTH** Providing Access to Health & Wellness Resources (Counseling, Support Groups, and Healthy Families)



**HOPE** Supporting Educational & Economic Mobility (Career Pathway, Financial Pathway, Health & Wellness Pathway, International Outreach, Criminal Justice Outreach, Youth Empowerment Services)









**FOOD PANTRY**



**392,040** Pounds of Food



**16,447** Individuals Served



**5,804** Families Served





# HOUSING



**286** People Served



**\$782,154.75** Total Raised

\*Includes: Rent, Mortgage, Utilities, Temp Housing, and Bus Passes

It is with great appreciation that I extend my heartfelt thanks to Harmony CDC for their outstanding support during a critical period in my life. Their generosity in covering my rent for three months was a lifeline during challenging times. This support not only relieved my financial burden but also enabled me to secure essential groceries and manage other bills, contributing significantly to my household's well-being.

I am immensely grateful for the guidance and patience shown throughout this process, including the efficient handling of interactions with my landlord. The insightful advice offered by Harmony CDC opened new avenues in my job search, offering fresh perspectives on potential employment opportunities.

The willingness to connect me with valuable contacts within their network is particularly noteworthy. I am actively pursuing these leads and utilizing the recommended online resources to enhance my employment prospects.

Once again, my deepest thanks for the vital assistance provided, which has had a substantial positive impact on my life.

**K. LEMONS**



# COUNSELING



**136** Men's Sessions

**882** Women's Sessions

**111** Youth Boy's Sessions

**63** Youth Girl's Sessions



# YOU GOOD?



It's OK to not be OK.  
Healing is a process.  
**Work with a counselor  
that *GETS YOU!***

# 15

# BRANDON TAVON SMITH

## SONNY BOY

Brandon Tavon Smith, affectionally known as “Sonny Boy,” was born on May 18, 1995, and he passed away on January 19, 2023. Brandon is survived by his parents, two older sisters and a host of other relatives.

Brandon was born in Baltimore, Maryland but spent his formative, adolescent and adult years in Keller, Texas where he relocated with his family in August 2005.

Growing up, Brandon was an avid gamer and developed a huge love of sports and vintage cars, football, basketball and baseball. He was a loyal fan of the Baltimore Ravens, Baltimore Orioles and loved the collegiate team, Alabama Crimson Tide. Brandon graduated from high school in May 2014 and decided to be more weight and health conscious and became a Vegan in 2016.

As Brandon settled into adulthood, he became extremely passionate about his quest for success. He was hugely ambitious, with an exceptional work ethic. Brandon was compassionate, empathetic and intentional about helping people and meeting the needs of others. He was widely known as a selfless, proud, honorable man of extraordinary character and integrity. The common theme from those that knew and loved him well is that Brandon was humble, he loved unconditionally, and was an inspiration to many. Brandon was a loyal, faithful friend.



As his mother, the bond we shared was unique. We texted and talked regularly by phone every week and he visited my husband and I a few times every month. The topics of my conversations with him personally would vary from the culture in his workplace, our family or his random thoughts and feelings about life in general. There was never any indication that Brandon was depressed or had any abnormal fears or struggles that overly concerned me. During every interaction that his father and I had with him, we never missed an opportunity to tell Brandon we loved him and were proud of him. He knew we'd always be there for him. Whether he needed financial support, encouragement or advice, our commitment to him never wavered. Every time we saw Brandon, he wore a broad smile, exuded confidence and had an upbeat attitude. Brandon was very independent and was incredibly proud of the things he successfully accomplished in his early 20's: excellent credit, maintaining a savings account and buying his first, second and third car on his own, just to name a few. His suicidal death was devastating and traumatic primarily because there were no apparent signs. We still wrestle with how someone so optimistic and ambitious fell prey to suicide.

We prayed for guidance on how we could glorify God and Brandon's legacy of love and light and God laid it on our hearts to make a donation, in memory of our son, Brandon Tavon Smith, to Harmony CDC in Dallas. We're committed to partnering with them and supporting their mental health awareness initiative and programs.



**BRANDON  
TAVON SMITH**



## HEALTH & WELLNESS



# CAREER PATHWAY





**18** Programs Completed

**8** Apprenticeships Earned

**5** Enrolled in a Certification Program

**33** Resume Classes Completed

**26** Interview Prep Classes Completed

**2** Entrepreneurships Pursued

**13** Obtained Full-Time Employment

We are thrilled to announce that our first career fair was a tremendous success, with over 100 candidates in attendance and 7 on-the-spot hires. The interactions and connections made at the fair were invaluable, leading to numerous interview opportunities and job offers. Additionally, our exclusive pre-hire event with Methodist Hospitals tailored for top candidates, resulted in multiple successful placements and promising career trajectories. We are delighted to see the positive impact that these events have had on both our candidates and participating companies, and we look forward to continuing to facilitate such impactful opportunities in the future.”

**CHAMPELLA HATCHER | Harmony CDC  
Educational Pathway Director**



## FINANCIAL PATHWAY

**30** Programs Completed

**\$18,142** In Debt Eliminated

**21 PTS** Average FICO Score Increase (at 6months)

**\$8,226** Increased Savings





**YES! PROGRAM**

**24**





## 87 Programs Completed

### | YES TESTIMONIAL

As a YES Program ambassador, I played a key role in Harmony's prelaunch phase before its public launch. One of my **most rewarding experiences was being part of a community service project** that my group initiated and led. Seeing our ideas transition from concept to impact in the community was fulfilling. Knowing that **my contributions have the potential to positively influence a child's life** adds a great sense of purpose and meaning to my role in the program. I choose to say YES to empowering my community!

KAMRYN CHILDS



| To learn more about the YES! Program, scan the QR code.



# VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



**12,092** Hours Served



**\$384,526** Donated in Time

\*According to The Do Good Institute \$31.80 per hour



**2,170** Program Volunteers





“

I am passionate about volunteering with Harmony CDC because it offers me the opportunity to be directly involved in creating positive change and fostering empowerment within my community. Working alongside a dedicated team that's committed to transforming lives fuels my desire to contribute, learn, and grow in ways that align with my values of service and community betterment.

**LATARIA HIDER**

# WHY I SERVE


## A JOURNEY OF EMPOWERMENT AND GIVING BACK

As a Dallas native and a devoted mother of three, my journey with Harmony CDC began in a time of personal need. For over two decades, I have been an active member of Concord Church, where I first learned about Harmony CDC's incredible work.

I vividly remember the day Harmony, through Pastor Rick Jordan, extended a financial lifeline to me. This act of kindness was a turning point, inspiring me to give back to the community that had supported me. I eagerly joined Harmony's volunteer team, initially contributing to the food pantry and eventually participating in food distribution with the special events team.

My involvement deepened when I joined the Harmony outreach program. We engaged with local apartment complexes and businesses, distributing pamphlets and sharing information about Harmony's transformative programs and services.





A pivotal moment in my journey was enrolling in the Financial Pathway Program, expertly guided by Mrs. Champella Hatcher. This program was a beacon of hope, enlightening me on essential financial skills like budget management, savings, and credit building. It even enabled me to open a savings account with Frost Bank, marking a significant milestone in my financial literacy journey.

Today, I am honored to volunteer weekly under Mrs. Champella in the Education department and assist in the resources section. This role allows me to contribute meaningfully to an organization that was a crucial support in my time of need.

Harmony CDC is more than an organization to me; it's a testament to the power of community support and personal growth. They truly live up to their commitment to caring for and nurturing the community. Harmony CDC was a blessing in my life, and it is my heartfelt desire to extend that blessing to others.

**ANGELIQUE SHAMLIN**

# INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

## | NURTURING DREAMS IN MONTEGO BAY

In the summer of 2023, the Harmony International Outreach team traveled to Montego Bay, Jamaica. This endeavor was a profound demonstration of our commitment to extend our hands and hearts beyond borders, touching lives and fostering change.

Our team of 18 dedicated participants, which included 3 Youth Empowerment Services interns, embarked on a mission filled with compassion and purpose. Our efforts were multifaceted, aimed at addressing the immediate needs of the community while laying down the foundations for sustained empowerment and wellness.

In a significant step towards providing stability and security, we built a home for a single mother and her three children. This endeavor was not just about constructing walls and a roof; it was about creating a safe haven, a place where dreams and aspirations can be nurtured.

Understanding the critical importance of health, we hosted a medical clinic that served 50 families. This clinic was instrumental in providing much-needed medical attention and health education, ensuring that families have access to care and information to lead healthier lives.

Moreover, in partnership with Salt Spring Church and Concord Church Youth Ministry, we conducted a Vacation Bible School, reaching out to 75 children and youth. This program offered spiritual nourishment, educational activities, and the joy of community to the younger generation.

The Harmony International Outreach's 2023 mission trip to Jamaica was a testament to what we can achieve together. Each volunteer, donor, and sponsor has played a





crucial role in making this mission a success. Your continued support and generosity are the backbone of our outreach efforts, allowing us to make a significant difference in the lives of those we serve.

As we reflect on the impact of this mission, we are filled with gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose. We look forward to continuing to continue our partnerships with Jamaica, Haiti, and South Africa as we strive to empower families across the globe.

**HEATHER WHITE | Harmony CDC**





# WE BE A PART OF SOMEONE'S EMPOWERMENT JOURNEY

We aim to raise awareness and support for the organization's mission to empower individuals and families in underserved communities, and to provide them with access to resources and opportunities that promote holistic well-being.

**The Initiative** will focus on highlighting the various programs and services offered by Harmony CDC, and the impact they have on the lives of those they serve, with a specific emphasis on the emotional and spiritual component of holistic well-being.

## **Empowering Communities. Transforming Lives.**

Help us to strengthen families and revitalize neighborhoods. By donating, you could help individuals and families to become Whole and Empowered!

**Why Give?** We believe that collective giving can make a significant difference in the lives of the communities we serve.

**Our ultimate goal** is to move 10,000 individuals to wholeness by 2032, by identifying critical areas for growth and providing the necessary resources and support to foster a full transformation.



| Making an impact in our community



## HOUSING FORWARD

Housing Forward leads the All Neighbors Coalition, a collaborative comprised of over 140 organizations with a united goal of solving homelessness in Dallas and Collin Counties. Harmony CDC is a valuable member of the All Neighbors Coalition and a key partner in the REAL Time Rehousing Initiative where they played a role in housing over 2,800 neighbors. Now, the REAL Time Rehousing Expansion aims to house 6,000 individuals and families by the end of 2025 and continues to move the needle on homelessness in our community. Everybody deserves a safe, stable place to call home and Harmony CDC is helping to make that possible.



**SARAH KAHN,**  
President and CEO



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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of Texas

AT&T Foundation

Atmos Energy Corporation

Bank of America

Capital One

Center for Nonprofit  
Management (CNM)

Charles Schwab

City of Dallas

Commerce Bank

Community Council of  
Greater Dallas

Communities Foundation  
of Texas

Concord Church

D H Pace Company, Inc.

Dallas Morning News

Frost Bank

Givers of the Community

Hillcrest Foundation

Hoblitzelle Foundation

Hogg Foundation

Housing Forward (formerly  
Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance  
{MDHA})

J P Morgan Chase

Los Barrios Unidos  
Community Clinic

National Christian Foundation

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Trust Foundation

Raymond James Charitable

Rees Jones

Rodney & Antoinette  
(Toni) Nalle

Siemer Institute

Simmons Bank

Texas Methodist Foundation

Texas Women's Foundation

United Texas Bank

United Way

USAA

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**HARMONY**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
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Stay  
**connected**



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