

2016 Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today Annual Report



Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today
January 1, 2017
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Executive Summary

2016 was a year of building and focusing on the Client and living up to expectations. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today continued to provide educational assistance in the form of helping students figure out how to obtain their educational goals. This year saw several Clients who requested assistance starting some type of business or organization. More and more our Contacts met with Clients face-to-face and provided concrete assistance.



This year saw the continued support from the **Macy's Shop For A Cause** program. This was the 2nd year that Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today participated in the Macy's Shop for a Cause program. We partnered with the Macy's at Spotsylvania Towne Center in Fredericksburg, Virginia. We raised \$195.00. Thank you Macy's for the opportunity!

2016 was the year of Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today's 3rd Annual Raffle fundraiser. We love this fundraiser and the support has continued to increase each year. This year the most ever was raised!

Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today was able to continue to operate and assist distressed individuals and families. The Board of Directors have budgeted and planned for new events in 2017 along with continuing fundraising and the Scholarship program.

2016 is the 5th year of Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today's existence!! Who would have thought that 5 years later, Avnel and Veronica's vision would be a reality?!! Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today wants all of its Clients and Contacts to be able to do what Veronica and Avnel have done. Since Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today's existence the Board of Directors have given so much time, dedication, support and love to this organization. Without them Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today would not be thriving.

Thank you all for your continued support and time. We are looking forward to what is to come in 2017.

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Programming

Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today participated in the Macy's Shop for A Cause Program for the 2nd year in a row. This event, gives supporters of non-profit organizations a full day of discounts at Macy's stores Nationwide. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today sold over 30 passes.



Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today focused on the Client this year. Many new Clients completed the Client profile and were matched with Contacts that best fit their needs. Contact assisted Clients with researching employment opportunities, budgeting personal finances, formulating a plan for higher education, networking, and much more.

2016 also brought forth many business owners and entrepreneurs. We encountered many individuals who needed assistance in building their business ideas. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today was there to assist in many different capacities. Small business startup, non-profit start up information and assistance, financial planning, profit building ideas and client generating were all ways that Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today assisted and will continue to do in the future.

We supported one of our Clients in their fight in Suicide Awareness. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today donated funds for the Suicide Awareness Walk with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Our 3rd annual raffle was a huge success!! Over \$800.00 was raised. ½ of the money raised, went towards 3 cash prizes. The support was amazing. For the drawing, we went to different Contacts who assisted in drawing the winners. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today thanks I.C. Beauty, Healthy Homes, LLC and Champions Circle Basketball Association for their assistance. The drawings were posted LIVE on Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today's Facebook page. Winners, Congratulations!! Our 2nd place winner, donated ½ of the winning back to BTBT. For 2017, we hope to raise \$1,000 with this fundraiser.

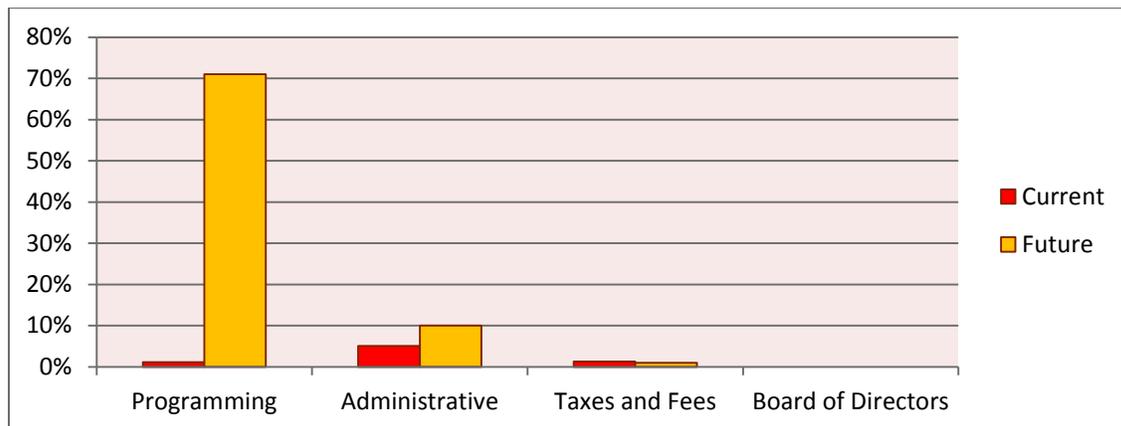
We are continuing the individualized approach. Each Client is reviewed and paired with a Contact that has been where the Client wants to go. This method is essential to goal attainment and Client comfort. Who better to understand the Client than someone who



has taken the same path and succeeded; or even failed, and can educate the Client on pitfalls and missteps. Each Client gets assistance specific to their goal and path.



Financial Breakdown



Fees and Taxes continued to stay low cost. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today continues to maintain federal 501(c)(3) status and Virginia Solicitation Authorization.

Programming cost were very low in 2016, not because money was not allocated for programming, but because our Board of Directors and Contacts put in free time to service our Clients! Actually money spent by BTBT was minimal. Unfortunately, no one applied for the 2016 Scholarship, but now that money will roll over to the 2017 Scholarship (application is NOW open).

Time is also not included in the above figures, but Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today realizes that time is the most important assistance! Thank you to all of our Board Members, Volunteers, and Contacts for helping keep administrative cost low and assisting Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today without compensation.

Looking Forward

In 2017, Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today looks forward to more Contacts, more Clients, Fundraising Events, and continuing and improving our current programs to assist those in distress.

Website – The Board of Directors will implement changes to the Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today website. Keep checking www.brightertomorrowsbegintoday.org for the new features, pages and resources.

Scholarships – Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today opened its first scholarship on October 1, 2015. The application is open until June 1, 2017. This year Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today plans to award \$1000.00 in scholarship funds. The scholarship forms can be found at www.brightertomorrowsbegintoday.org/scholarships

50/50 Raffles - Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today had its 3rd annual raffle. Look for details regarding the 4th annual raffle in September.

Macy's Shop For A Cause – Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today will participate in this fundraiser in 2017.

Facebook – Help Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today reach 300 likes by the end of 2017!!

Contacts and Clients – Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today will be reaching out to Contacts and Clients to make sure all forms are completed, in order for Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today to accurately match up Contacts to Clients and to assess the needs of Clients.

Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today will also reach out to companies, organizations and individuals in order to make new Contacts and diversify the network of Contacts.

Financial Information Lecture/Seminar – Look for more details in 2017 about Brighter Tomorrows hosting a financial information seminar. Topics to include preparing for home ownership, financial accounts, savings money, budgeting, and more.

Basketball Summer Camp – BTBT is in the process of working with Champions Circle Basketball Association to assist, in some capacity, with their first Summer basketball camp in 2017. If anyone is interested in attending the basketball camp, which will be held in Caroline County, Virginia, contact BTBT for more information.

The above are only some of the programs Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today is planning for 2017. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today plans to continue with the programs implemented in 2014 and 2015. Make sure to check Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today's website and Facebook page for details on programs and events.

Donors

Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today could not function without the support, financially and volunteerism, of our donors. There are 4 categories of Donors (Platinum, Gold, Heart, and Accomplished).

Platinum (Donors who gave \$500.00 or more in monetary donations or provided over 50 hours of their time to Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today in the year 2015.

- Gayle and Rusty Boleman Foundation
- HCA
- Veronica Brown-Moseley
- Hubert J.M. King
- Rosalind Brown
- Jessica Farran-Shirley
- Avnel Coates
- Raffle participants

Gold (Donors who gave between \$200.00 - \$499.00 in monetary donations and/or provided 20-49 hours of their time to Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today in the year 2014.

- I.C. Beauty
- Healthy Homes, LLC

Heart (Donors who gave between \$1.00 - \$199.00 in monetary donations and/or provided 1 - 19 hours of their time to Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today in the year 2014.

- Champions Circle Basketball Association
- Macy's Shop for A Cause participants

Accomplished (Clients and Contacts that have had a GREAT impact on Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today either through monetary donations, service to Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today, and/or accomplishment of goals with assistance of Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today.

- 2015-2016 Board of Directors
- High School Graduate Ahlanna Crichlow
- High School Graduate LeighAnne Narehood

Donations should be made payable to Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today and sent to P.O. Box 62, Bumpass, Virginia 23024

Contact Information:

Learn More About Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today at:

Website - www.brightertomorrowsbegintoday.org

www.btbtoday.org

Address - P.O. Box 62, Bumpass, Virginia 23024

Facebook - www.facebook.com/brightertomorrowsbegintoday

LinkedIn - <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/brighter-tomorrows-begin-today/a1/653/828/>