

2015 Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today Annual Report



Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today
January 1, 2016
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Executive Summary

2015 was a year of continuing the momentum for Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today continued popular programs such as the Higher Education Assistance Program and Small Business assistance and development.



We held two fundraisers this year. The Macy's Shop For A Cause programs was a new and fun way to raise money and awareness for BTBT's mission and vision. We sold over 20 passes and heard that purchases were able to get some get deals at Macy's. Thank you Macy's for the opportunity! We had our **2nd Annual Raffle** this year. We had 3 winners instead of 1 and raised over \$650.00!

Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today accomplished was able to continue to operate and assist distressed individuals and families. The Board of Directors has already planned for 3 fundraisers this year and the continuation of our most beneficial programs.

Thank you all for your continued support and time. We are looking forward to what is to come in 2016.

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Programming

Fresh off getting the 501(c)(3) status, Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today was in full gear to continue what was started in 2014.

Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today participated in the Macy's Shop for A Cause Program. This event, gives supporters of non-profit organizations a full day of discounts at Macy's stores Nationwide. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today sold over 20 passes.



The Higher Education Admission Assistance program which assist students, step-by-step; navigate the processes to gaining higher education continued to be a popular and beneficial program. A trip to John Tyler Community College revealed that there are many programs for students who don't want a "traditional" college education. The staff, administration and program directors were extremely helpful and guided our Client on how to obtain her goals through their institution.

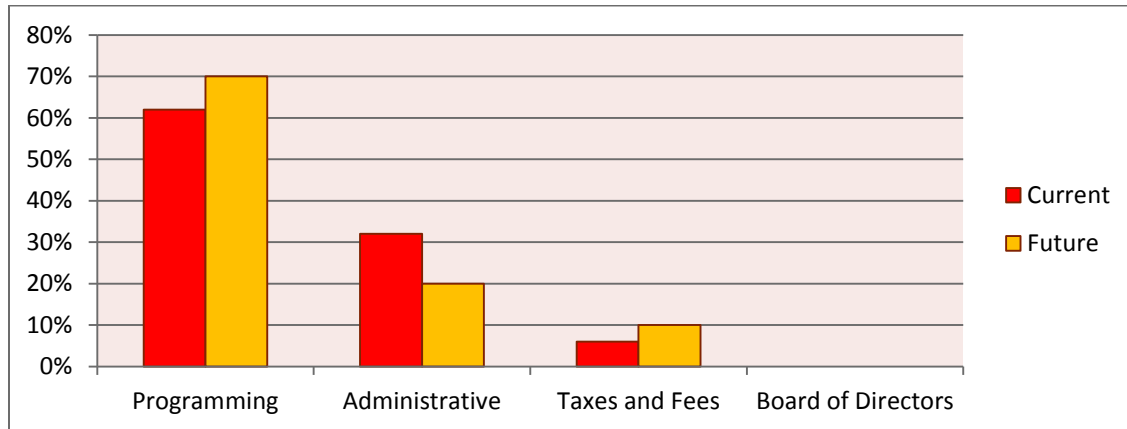
This year we encountered many individuals who needed assistance in building their business ideas. Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today was there to assist in many different capacities. Small business startup, donation letters, volunteering at events were all ways that Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today assisted and will continue to do in the future.

Our 2nd annual raffle was great!! This fundraiser program was a huge success. Board members and friends of the organization, sold over 120 tickets. The proceeds raised will go towards programming for 2016. This year instead of 1 winner there were 3. Our 3rd place winner donated their winnings back to the organization. We appreciate all of our supporters!!

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



As anticipated, the fees and taxes expenses were not as much as in 2014. The non-profit application fee and Virginia solicitation application fee was necessary to get all of the necessary documents in line in order to provide the community with services in 2014, but in 2015 the expense was minimal and we hope that continues.

Money raised is being used to service Clients!! Programming expenses were a little bit above 60%! But the actual number is actually greater than what is reported. This is because many of our volunteers came right out of their own pockets to provide lunches, gas, transportation, and other costs to Clients. We hope that providing programs and events continues to be our greatest expense.

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 2016, 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.

Scholarships - Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today opened its first scholarship on October 1, 2015. The application is open until March 1, 2016. The scholarship forms can be found at www.brightertomorrowsbegintoday.org/scholarships

50/50 Raffles - Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today had its 2nd 50/50 raffle. Late 2016 will be the 3rd annual Raffle

Macy's Shop For A Cause - Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today will participate in this fundraiser in 2016.

Facebook - Help Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today reach 300 likes by the end of 2016!! This will more than double our reach on Facebook.

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.

Yard Sale - Come see Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today at an area yard sale in 2016.

The above are only some of the programs Brighter Tomorrows Begin Today is planning for 2016. 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).

- Veronica Brown-Moseley
- Hubert J.M. King
- Rosalind Brown
- Jessica Farran-Shirley
- Avnel Coates

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).

- 50/50 Raffle Ticket Purchasers
- Alexandra Griffin
- Hubert J.M. King
- Iisha Crichlow

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).

- Daniel & Avnel Coates
- Healthy Homes LLC
- Allair P. King
- Olive King
- Macy's Shop For A Cause pass purchasers

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).

- 2014-2015 Board of Directors
- LeighAnne Narehood
- Iisha Crichlow

Donations made 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

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/>