



Americorps Monthly Report

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Organization Name: Boaz and Ruth, Inc.
Program Name: BRACE (Boaz & Ruth AmeriCorps Endeavor)
Name & Title of Reportee: Veronica Kerns
Reporting Period: May, 2006
Date this report completed: June 12, 2006 at 1:11 PM
Approved By: Steve Whitman

Outputs: Briefly describe activities during the reporting period relative to your program's Performance Measures. Clearly state how and/or why the particular activity relates to the performance measure.

Needs and Services: 1. The continuation of restoring the Giles Street House is in full force now. The plumbing is finished and has met the City Building Specifications.
 2. AC members Calvin Carter & Tony Williams are being instructed in insulating the interior walls inside the house.
 3. It was a progressive thing to witness, seeing the insulation installed. No longer can you see the wiring that provides power to the lights, the pipes which the water flows through, nor the inside of the walls where they are sheltered. The metamorphosis of Giles Street House continues.

Member Development: 1. Boaz & Ruth held its first Annual Gala to raise funds by holding a Silent Auction and Live Auction at Union/PSCE. An extensive amount of planning went into preparation for the event, which was backed by many sponsors.
 2. AC member's involvement in The B&R 2006 Gala was ABSOLUTELY amazing. AC members were so professional I didn't ever recognize them at first and I wasn't the only one.
 3. AC members Edbert Smith and Darlene Bell have obviously excelled in their catering and food service skills. Ed Smith has successfully completed two classes at Richmond Tech in the Culinary arts. He spent a lot of time in the planning and preparation of the menu for the Gala and preparing the food which he also served. Darlene Bell was in the back ground in the food service area also, she also played a major role in serving, her manner was so professional I just didn't recognize her. She too assisted in the planning.

Strengthening Communities: 1. On May 20th The City Of Richmond, Channel Six, and many other sponsors held a Canal Walk. All proceeds were donated to the Homeless. It was well organized, people were encouraged to bring the whole family; there were a lot of activities set up for children, food and fun.
 2. AC members Kelvin Coley, Geraldine Williams and her son, Beatrice Robinson and her two grand-daughters attended. Geraldine and Kelvin walked the complete 3 mile course.
 3. Beatrice talked about how well organized it all was, how it provided a sense of community and the children needed that. Geraldine expressed how much fun her son had riding the bull which threw him off and how he got right back on and tried again.
 Spending quality time with your children and socializing with others is very beneficial, it nurtures a sense of community, stated Beatrice.

Sustainability: Describe your program's efforts during this reporting period toward sustainability (defined in terms of media and marketing, volunteer/leader development, collaboration, fundraising/resource development or other areas that may assist the

program toward self-sufficiency).

When Boaz & Ruth was envisioned there was a plan for a Furniture Restoration shop. It has taken almost 3 year to do it. However, we can now report that the Furniture Restoration shop is fully operational and generating revenue. AC members Chris Jones and Alan Webb have learned many things from Master Craftsman Bill McAllister. To date the Parable Restoration Shop has earned \$2,595. Not much for a couple of months, but it's a beginning.

Challenges: Describe any challenges your program currently faces.

One challenge B&R has been faced with is Man Power. We currently do not have enough man power to meet the organizations objectives. We had to pull men from other venues to achieve an important goal in May. B&R was in the process of acquiring the property of an Old Fire Station owned by the City of Richmond. The City had been allowing B&R to store donated furniture & accessories in the Fire Station. B&R was given a deadline to clean out the Fire Station so an architect could come in and draw up blue prints. The City Council needed the architect's blue prints before they would decide if B&R would be awarded with the Fire Stations property Deed. The objective was accomplished. The City Council awarded B&R with the Deed to the Fire Station.

What strategy will you employ to address these challenges?

Boaz & Ruth will spend more time and effort in recruiting volunteers. In our staff meetings, departments heads are working together strategically mapping out efficient ways to use man power.

Assistance: Our program needs the following assistance from the Office on Volunteerism and Service (please be specific).

No information reported

Special Events: Describe a special event that your program has organized or participated in. Examples include service projects, community planning meetings, recognition events, etc.

On May 19th Boaz & Ruth held a special event, its First (Diamond Debut). A Gala of Joy, Hope, and Festivity to Benefit Boaz & Ruth, Inc. The First Annual Gala, Presented by the following sponsors: Owens & Minor, Capital One, Bank of America, Sun Trust Bank, Richmond Times Dispatch, Dominion Power, Martha's Mixture Antiques, Irby + Papit Architects, First Market Bank, Ukrop's. House Of Lights.

The Gala was held to in order to have a Silent Auction and Live Auction. Many companies donated products or services, Kings Dominion, Barksdale Theater, Home Depot, House of Lighting, and many others.

Volunteer Chris Moss was our Diamond Gala Director.

Chris worked tirelessly on the project overseeing all aspects. Rosilyn Lincoln, Mike Meacham, Steven Jenkins, Ann Gordon Will Rollins, Lark Logan Megan Rollins were all volunteers who worked on this project and gave freely of them selves. Richmond City Council Women Ellen Robertson attended.

Boaz & Ruth's annual Gala is another endeavor to achieve self sustainability It was very successful

Member Highlight: Provide a brief description of one member's role in your program, along with a two or three sentence response from the member.

AC member Charles Satchell was recommend to Boaz & Ruth by Civil Rights Pioneer Oliver White Hill, Sr.

Charles came to B&R directly from Va. State Penitentiary after serving 30 years. In response to the first question:

a. Charles said he like the Core Belief, Conflict Resolution and Time Management class. He

learned not to use too much time recreationally and leisurely. Time should be used, economically, productively; time should be dedicated to family and community.

b. Charles said his most enlightening experience was the Time Management class. He realized he needed to make a shift in the way he managed his time and in doing so he was empowered.

c. Since I have been a part of B&R / AC program and share the same vision I give even more of my self.

d. It's the only program he is familiar with that has half way house settings with classes, teaches skills, skills enhancements that will help people move forward with their lives.

Notes: Please list any additional information that you believe the Office on Volunteerism and Service needs to have.

No information reported

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1 Comments

[Steve Whitman](#) said on 6/12/06 at 01:11 PM

Lloyd/Veronica,

As always, a very interesting and enjoyable Monthly Report!!

Only one thing to mention - please be sure to conduct a spelling check BEFORE submitting the report.

Thanks!

Steve

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Office on Volunteerism & Community Service | Virginia Department of Social Services
7 North 8th Street | Richmond, VA 23219

Toll free in VA: (800) 638-3839 | Direct: (804) 726-7065 | Fax: (804) 726-7024 | Email:
info@vaservice.org