BFR365

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An Investment In Our Future

TriHealth PRESENTS

THE 38th MIDWEST REGIONAL
BLACK FAMILY REUNION
RESOUNDING RESILIANCE

AUGUST 13–16, 2026

WELCOME TO BFR 365

A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the inaugural edition of BFR 365, a publication born from a vision that extends far beyond one weekend in August.

For nearly four decades, the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion has brought together thousands of people to celebrate the strength, beauty, and richness of the Black family. We have laughed together, worshipped together, learned together, and created memories that have become part of our community's legacy.

But our mission has always been greater than a single event.

That is why I am proud to introduce BFR 365, an initiative designed to keep the spirit of the Black Family Reunion alive every day of the year. BFR 365 is our commitment to creating meaningful partnerships, celebrating excellence, sharing resources, and highlighting organizations, businesses, and individuals who are making a difference in our communities all year long.

Each month, we will feature inspiring stories, community leaders, nonprofit organizations, businesses, educators, healthcare providers, artists, entrepreneurs, faith leaders, and young people who are strengthening our neighborhoods and creating opportunities for future generations. Together, we will educate, inspire, connect, and empower families throughout the year.

Our 2026 theme, Resounding Resilience, perfectly reflects who we are. Resilience is more than perseverance, it is our ability to rise above challenges, remain united through adversity, and continue building stronger families and stronger communities. It is the story of our ancestors, our parents, our children, and all those who continue to make a lasting impact despite life's obstacles.

Throughout this magazine, you will discover stories of hope, innovation, collaboration, and service. You will also learn about our twelve featured community partners whose work aligns with our mission and demonstrates what is possible when organizations come together with a shared purpose.

At the heart of everything we do are the values that define the Black Family Reunion:

Culture. Family. Community.

These are more than words, they are the foundation upon which BFR 365 stands. They remind us that our culture deserves to be celebrated, our families deserve to be strengthened, and our communities deserve intentional investment every day of the year.

I invite you to become part of the BFR 365 movement. Support our partners, attend community events, volunteer your time, mentor a young person, shop with local businesses, and continue building relationships that uplift our community. Together, we can ensure that the impact of the Black Family Reunion is felt not only during our annual celebration but throughout every season of the year.

Thank you for believing in this vision and for helping us build a stronger future together. As we move forward, may we continue to honor our past, embrace our present, and inspire generations to come.

With gratitude,

Tracey A. Artis
Executive Director
Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion

Our Mission: Celebrating Family. Strengthening Community. Inspiring Generations.

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion exists to celebrate the enduring strength, resilience, and legacy of the Black family while bringing together communities, organizations, businesses, and visitors throughout Greater Cincinnati and beyond. Through education, health and wellness initiatives, cultural programming, entertainment, and community engagement, BFR creates opportunities that uplift families and strengthen connections across generations.

Founded on the belief that strong families build strong communities, the Black Family Reunion honors the contributions, achievements, and traditions that have shaped the African American experience. By showcasing the arts, connecting residents with vital resources, and creating spaces for celebration and empowerment, BFR continues its legacy of improving the quality of life for families throughout the region.

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More Information available at www.myblackfamilyreunion.org

HOW ONE OF CINCINNATI 'S 52 NEIGHBORHOODS BECAME A FOUNDATION FOR BLACK HOMEOWNERSHIP, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND GENERATIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

COLLEGE HILL: A LEGACY BUILT TO LAST

College Hill, a historic neighborhood on Cincinnati's East Side, has long been more than a picturesque residential community—it became an important place for African Americans seeking stability, ownership, and opportunity. By the late 19th and early 20th centuries, College Hill developed a reputation as one of the earliest Cincinnati neighborhoods that allowed African Americans to purchase property. That access to homeownership mattered: it created generational roots, built wealth through real estate, and offered families a degree of permanence that was often denied elsewhere due to discriminatory housing practices.

As the community formed, African American civic and social life expanded alongside it. Churches, social organizations, and neighborhood networks helped strengthen leadership and public participation. Over time, College Hill also grew connected to the broader life of Cincinnati through its commercial

corridors—especially the business district along Hamilton Avenue.

Hamilton Avenue became a vital economic hub where African American-owned enterprises could thrive. In an era when discriminatory barriers limited where many people could work, shop, or run a business, Hamilton Avenue offered a recognizable center of commerce. Local stores, service providers, and specialty businesses served residents while also welcoming customers from across the city. These establishments did more than sell goods; they supported employment, cultivated entrepreneurship, and helped circulate money within the neighborhood—key ingredients for community resilience.

Today, the legacy of African American homeownership and business life in College Hill remains part of Cincinnati's shared story. College Hill's early promise of property access, paired with the prominence of African American businesses along Hamilton Avenue, helped shape a neighborhood where opportunity could be built—one house, one shop, and one block at a time.

~ Dwight E. Farley

Building Stronger Families Every Day of the Year

BFR 365

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion has always been more than a weekend celebration, it is a movement rooted in the belief that strong families build strong communities. For nearly four decades, the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion has brought together thousands of people to celebrate culture, heritage, health, education, entrepreneurship, faith, and service. But the work of strengthening families cannot be accomplished in a single weekend. It requires year-round collaboration with organizations whose missions align with the values that have defined the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion since its beginning. BFR 365 was created to continue that work by connecting families with trusted community partners who are making a lasting difference every day of the year.

In this special section, we spotlight organizations that are transforming lives across Greater Cincinnati and beyond. From healthcare providers and educational institutions to faith-based organizations, entrepreneurs, artists, and community advocates, each partner shares a commitment to empowering individuals, creating opportunity, and building healthier, more resilient communities. These stories celebrate the businesses behind the missions, the impact of their work, and the partnerships that make meaningful change possible. Together, they remind us that resilience is not simply about overcoming challenges, it is about investing in one another, strengthening the bonds of family, and ensuring that future generations inherit communities filled with hope, opportunity, and purpose.

Healing Beyond the Hospital

When most people think about healthcare, they think about hospitals, doctors' offices, or emergency rooms. But for TriHealth, improving health begins long before someone walks through a hospital door. It begins in neighborhoods, churches, schools, community centers, and around kitchen tables where families make decisions that shape their futures.

For decades, TriHealth has become one of Greater Cincinnati's most trusted healthcare systems by recognizing that good health is about more than treating illness. It is about preventing disease, educating communities, addressing health disparities, and ensuring that every family—regardless of income, race, or zip code—has access to quality care.

This commitment is especially important in Black communities, where generations of unequal access to healthcare have contributed to higher rates of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, maternal mortality, and cancer. Rather than simply acknowledging these disparities, TriHealth has invested in programs designed to eliminate them through health equity initiatives, community partnerships, preventative screenings, and culturally responsive care.

As the Presenting Sponsor of the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion, TriHealth's partnership extends far beyond sponsorship. Throughout Reunion weekend, thousands of families receive health education, wellness resources, screenings, and opportunities to connect directly with healthcare professionals.

But the work doesn't stop when the tents come down.

BFR365 exists because healthy families require year-round investment. Together, TriHealth and the Black Family Reunion are creating opportunities for healthier conversations, healthier choices, and ultimately healthier generations.

Strong communities begin with healthy families.

Why BFR365 Chose TriHealth

Health has always been one of the six pillars of the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion. Our partnership reflects a shared commitment to reducing health disparities while empowering families through education, prevention, and access.

www.trihealth.com

How TriHealth is Building a Healthier Future for Black Families

City Gospel Mission Believes Every Family Deserves a Second Chance

There are moments when hope seems impossible to find.

For a parent who has lost a job...
For a family without stable housing...
For someone fighting addiction...
For a child growing up surrounded by uncertainty...

Those moments are exactly where City Gospel Mission begins its work.

For more than a century, [City Gospel Mission](https://www.citygospelmission.org/?utm_source=chatgpt.com) has stood alongside Cincinnati's most vulnerable neighbors, helping individuals and families break the cycle of poverty and despair, one life at a time. Founded in 1924 by James N. Gamble of Procter & Gamble, the organization has grown into one of the region's most trusted community partners by providing more than temporary assistance. Its mission is to engage, equip, and empower people with the tools, relationships, and opportunities needed for lasting transformation.

City Gospel Mission addresses four critical areas that shape a person's future: food and shelter, recovery, employment, and youth development. Every day, the organization serves nutritious meals, provides emergency shelter, offers addiction recovery programs for men and women, and connects job seekers with career training and employment opportunities. Their Employment Network equips individuals with workplace skills while partnering with local employers to create pathways toward financial independence.

Perhaps nowhere is their long-term vision more evident than in their investment in young people. Through programs such as Whiz Kids Tutoring, Jeremiah Scholars, Rising Scholars, one-on-one mentoring, summer camps, Little Village, and Hispanic Outreach, City Gospel Mission walks beside children from early learning through college and career preparation. These initiatives do more than improve grades—they build confidence, develop leadership, strengthen families, and help young people imagine futures that once seemed out of reach.

The organization's philosophy is simple yet transformational: lasting change happens through relationships. Emergency shelter becomes permanent housing. Recovery becomes restoration. Job training becomes meaningful employment. Tutoring becomes graduation. Mentorship becomes leadership. Every success story creates a ripple effect that strengthens families and transforms entire communities.

Why BFR365 Chose City Gospel Mission

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that believe strong families create strong communities. City Gospel Mission shares that vision by investing in people—not simply meeting immediate needs, but helping individuals build lives filled with purpose, stability, dignity, and hope. Their work reminds us that when one life is restored, an entire family's future can be rewritten.

www.citygospelmission.org

The Cincinnati MLK Coalition Continues Dr. King's Legacy Through Action

For many Americans, Martin Luther King Jr. Day has become another holiday on the calendar. For Cincinnati's Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition, it is a call to action. Since 1979, the MLK Coalition has served as one of the region's leading voices for justice, education, nonviolence, and community engagement. Their mission is to strengthen the diverse human community by promoting Dr. King's ideals through education, service, understanding, and collective action. (MLK Coalition)

Each January, thousands gather for Cincinnati's annual MLK Commemorative March and Program, one of the city's most enduring civil rights traditions. But the Coalition's work extends far beyond one day. Throughout the year, it sponsors leadership initiatives, community conversations, youth engagement, the MLK Chorale, the Drum Major Awards recognizing local champions of justice, and educational programming that encourages every generation to continue the work of building a more equitable community. (MLK Coalition)

Their message is clear: Dr. King's dream belongs to every generation. The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion shares that vision. Family reunions have always been places where elders pass wisdom to younger generations. The MLK Coalition carries that same tradition into the broader community by inspiring young leaders to understand history, embrace civic responsibility, and become agents of positive change.

Because dreams survive only when people choose to live them.

Why BFR365 Chose the Cincinnati MLK Coalition

The Coalition reminds us that resilience isn't simply surviving history—it's creating a better future through service, education, and leadership.

www.mlkcoalition.org

HBCUs

Preserving Our Legacy. Preparing Our Future.

Some institutions do more than educate—they preserve history, shape culture, and inspire generations to dream beyond the limits placed before them. For nearly two centuries, Historically Black Colleges and Universities have stood as beacons of opportunity, proving that when access to education was denied, Black communities responded by building institutions of excellence that continue to change lives today.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were established before 1964 with a singular purpose: to educate African Americans during a time when segregation and discrimination excluded them from many colleges and universities. What began as a necessity became a powerful movement rooted in faith, perseverance, and the belief that education is one of the greatest pathways to freedom. Today, the nation's 99 federally recognized HBCUs continue to graduate leaders who leave campus not only with degrees, but with confidence, purpose, and a lifelong commitment to serving their communities.

Ohio holds a distinguished place in that legacy. Wilberforce University, founded in 1856, is the nation's oldest private HBCU owned and operated by African Americans and remains a symbol of Black self-determination and educational excellence. Its rich history helped pave the way for Central State University, Ohio's only public HBCU and one of the nation's prestigious 1890 land-grant institutions.

Together, these universities have educated generations of educators, ministers, scientists, entrepreneurs, military officers, artists, physicians, and civic leaders whose influence extends far beyond the classroom.

Yet the HBCU experience has always been about more than academics. It is found in the pride of a marching band, the harmony of a gospel choir, the traditions of Homecoming, the lifelong bonds of fraternities and sororities, and the mentors who encourage students to lead with integrity and purpose. HBCUs create environments where students are challenged to excel while embracing their culture, history, and identity. They preserve traditions that strengthen communities and inspire graduates to return home ready to serve.

The impact of HBCUs can be seen throughout every sector of American society. Their alumni have led the fight for civil rights, transformed medicine, advanced scientific discovery, influenced business and government, strengthened the Black church, and enriched the arts. They continue to produce a disproportionate number of Black professionals, educators, judges, engineers, and community leaders who help shape the future of our nation.

As our country continues to pursue greater equity and opportunity, HBCUs remain indispensable. They are not relics of history—they are engines of innovation, leadership, and hope. Their legacy reminds us that investing in education is an investment in families, communities, and future generations.

Why BFR365 Celebrates HBCUs

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion believes that strong families build strong communities, and education is one of the greatest gifts a generation can pass to the next. HBCUs embody that belief by preserving our history, celebrating our culture, and preparing tomorrow's leaders to serve with excellence. Their enduring legacy continues to inspire resilience, create opportunity, and strengthen the future of the Black family for generations to come.

Cincinnati State

Education That Changes Lives and Communities.

Education has the power to change the course of a life. It creates opportunities where barriers once existed, transforms dreams into careers, and strengthens families for generations to come. Every student who earns a credential, masters a trade, or becomes the first in their family to graduate from college represents more than a personal achievement—they represent the promise of a stronger community.

For more than 50 years, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College has been helping students turn ambition into accomplishment. Founded in 1969, the college has become one of Ohio's premier institutions for career-focused education, serving thousands of students each year through affordable degree programs, technical certifications, workforce training, and university transfer pathways. Its mission is rooted in providing accessible, high-quality education that prepares students to succeed in today's evolving workforce while meeting the needs of employers throughout the Greater Cincinnati region.

What sets Cincinnati State apart is its commitment to learning by doing. Through nationally recognized cooperative education (co-op) programs, students gain valuable real-world experience while still completing their education. Partnerships with hospitals, manufacturers, technology companies, small businesses, and public agencies allow students to graduate with practical skills, professional connections, and the confidence to enter their chosen careers. Whether preparing nurses, engineers, chefs, information technology professionals, first responders, or skilled trades workers, Cincinnati State equips students with the tools to build meaningful careers and stronger futures.

The college has also demonstrated a deep commitment to expanding educational access and economic mobility for historically underserved communities. Through scholarships, workforce development initiatives, transfer partnerships, adult education programs, and community engagement, Cincinnati State creates pathways for first-generation college students, working adults, veterans, and individuals seeking new opportunities. Its emphasis on inclusion, affordability, and student success reflects the belief that talent exists in every neighborhood when opportunity is within reach.

Every classroom becomes a place where futures are shaped. Every credential earned strengthens a family. Every graduate contributes to the economic vitality of the region. Cincinnati State's impact extends far beyond its campuses, creating a ripple effect that benefits employers, neighborhoods, and communities throughout Southwest Ohio.

Why BFR365 Chose Cincinnati State

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that believe education is one of the greatest investments we can make in our future. Cincinnati State empowers individuals through knowledge, workforce development, and opportunity while helping families achieve economic stability and generational success. By preparing students for meaningful careers and lifelong learning, the college continues to strengthen communities one graduate at a time.

www.cincinnatistate.edu

MORTAR

building communities through entrepreneurship

Communities thrive when dreams become businesses, businesses become employers, and entrepreneurs become leaders. Every successful small business represents more than a storefront or a product—it represents a family pursuing financial independence, a neighborhood gaining new energy, and a legacy that can be passed from one generation to the next. MORTAR was founded on the belief that entrepreneurial talent exists everywhere, but access to opportunity does not.

Since 2014, MORTAR has been empowering historically marginalized entrepreneurs by providing the education, resources, relationships, and capital they need to launch and grow successful businesses. Established in Cincinnati and now serving entrepreneurs in cities across the country, MORTAR was created to address the inequities that have long limited business ownership in underserved communities. Its mission is simple yet transformational: build stronger communities through entrepreneurship by ensuring that talented business owners have the opportunity to succeed. ([Cincinnati Gives][1])

At the heart of MORTAR's work is its nationally recognized Entrepreneurship Academy, an intensive business training program that equips aspiring and existing entrepreneurs with practical skills in finance, marketing, operations, legal compliance, branding, and business strategy. Participants are paired with experienced mentors, business leaders, and industry experts who continue to support them long after graduation. Through its BRICK Pop-Up Shops, entrepreneurs can test their businesses in real retail environments, while the Iron Chest Fund and access-to-capital initiatives provide grants and financial resources that help turn ideas into thriving enterprises. ([Cincinnati Gives][1])

MORTAR's impact reaches far beyond individual business owners. The organization has helped hundreds of entrepreneurs launch companies, create jobs, revitalize neighborhoods, and generate opportunities for economic mobility. A significant majority of its participants are Black entrepreneurs, including many Black women, demonstrating that investing in historically overlooked talent strengthens families, creates community wealth, and builds lasting legacies. By championing ownership instead of dependency, MORTAR is helping redefine what economic development looks like in Cincinnati and beyond. ([Cincinnati Gives][1])

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion shares this same vision. Strong families are built through opportunity, and thriving communities are built by entrepreneurs who create jobs, inspire others, and reinvest in the neighborhoods they call home. MORTAR reminds us that when we invest in people with vision, we create prosperity that extends far beyond a single business.

Why BFR365 Chose MORTAR

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that create pathways to generational success. MORTAR empowers entrepreneurs to build businesses, create wealth, and strengthen their communities through innovation, education, and ownership. Their commitment to expanding opportunity reflects the belief that when local businesses succeed, families flourish, neighborhoods grow stronger, and future generations inherit a legacy of possibility.

wearemortar.com

The TRACEY ARTIS Show

Every Voice Matters. Every Story Builds a Legacy.

Every community is shaped by the stories it chooses to remember. Behind every family legacy, every successful business, every neighborhood tradition, and every movement for change are people whose courage, vision, and determination made a difference. Those stories deserve more than a moment—they deserve to be preserved, celebrated, and shared with generations yet to come. That is the mission behind "The Tracey Artis Show".

Hosted by Cincinnati native Tracey Artis, the podcast is dedicated to capturing the voices of the leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs, artists, educators, faith leaders, and everyday changemakers who have helped shape their communities. Through thoughtful conversations and authentic storytelling, each episode explores the experiences, challenges, and triumphs that have defined their journeys while inspiring others to create meaningful legacies of their own.

The show is deeply rooted in Cincinnati—a city whose history reflects resilience, courage, and the ongoing pursuit of freedom and opportunity. From its pivotal role on the Underground Railroad to its rich contributions to music, business, education, and civil rights, Cincinnati has long been a place where history is made. The Tracey Artis Show continues that tradition by documenting the voices of those who are making history today, creating a living archive of stories that might otherwise be lost with time.

More than a podcast, The Tracey Artis Show is a platform for connection. It reminds listeners that leadership is built through service, that communities grow stronger when wisdom is shared, and that every generation has a responsibility to preserve the experiences of those who came before them. Each conversation becomes an opportunity to celebrate resilience, inspire future leaders, and reinforce the values that unite families and communities.

With a lifelong commitment to uplifting people through media, entertainment, public service, and community engagement, Tracey Artis brings curiosity, compassion, and purpose to every interview. His conversations encourage listeners not only to celebrate remarkable accomplishments but also to appreciate the everyday acts of leadership that often have the greatest impact.

Every story shared becomes part of a larger legacy. Every voice recorded helps preserve our history. Every episode reminds us that when we honor our past, we empower our future.

Why BFR365 Chose The Tracey Artis Show

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations and initiatives that preserve culture, strengthen families, and inspire future generations. The Tracey Artis Show reflects that same commitment by capturing the stories of the people whose lives have shaped our communities. Through meaningful conversations and authentic storytelling, the podcast ensures that today's voices become tomorrow's history, preserving a legacy of leadership, resilience, and hope for generations to come.

Every Birthday Matters

The first year of life should be filled with milestones—first smiles, first words, first birthdays. Yet for far too many families, that first birthday is never celebrated. For years, Cincinnati has faced one of the nation's most challenging infant mortality rates, with Black infants disproportionately affected.

Founded to address one of Greater Cincinnati's most urgent public health challenges, Cradle Cincinnati is leading a community-wide effort to improve maternal and infant health while eliminating preventable infant deaths. Bringing together hospitals, healthcare providers, doulas, public health agencies, community organizations, and families, the organization is united by a simple but powerful vision: every baby deserves the chance to celebrate a first birthday.

Cradle Cincinnati understands that healthier births begin long before labor and delivery. Through prenatal education, community outreach, safe sleep initiatives, maternal mental health support, smoking cessation resources, neighborhood partnerships, and evidence-based programs, the organization empowers parents with the knowledge, care, and support needed for healthier pregnancies and stronger beginnings. Their collaborative approach addresses not only medical care but also the social factors that influence family health, recognizing that thriving mothers create thriving babies.

The organization's commitment extends beyond birth. By advocating for equitable healthcare, supporting families during the critical first year of life, and working alongside community partners to reduce racial disparities in birth outcomes, Cradle Cincinnati is helping reshape the future for generations of children. Their work reflects a belief shared by the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion: strong families are built by investing in mothers, children, and the communities that surround them with care.

Every healthy pregnancy strengthens a family. Every first birthday celebrates hope. Every child who thrives represents a future filled with possibility.

Why BFR365 Chose Cradle Cincinnati

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that strengthen families from the very beginning of life's journey. Cradle Cincinnati reminds us that investing in maternal and infant health is an investment in the future of our communities. By ensuring more babies reach their first birthday and more mothers receive the care they deserve, they are creating healthier families, stronger neighborhoods, and a brighter tomorrow for generations to come.

www.cradlecincinnati.org

Turning Life Experience Into Lasting Community Impact

Every community has young people searching for direction, acceptance, and someone who truly understands the challenges they face. For many, the difference between choosing a positive path and making a life-altering decision comes down to one caring adult who is willing to listen, mentor, and lead by example. Brothas Inc. was founded on the belief that the most powerful lessons are often taught by those who have lived them. By sharing life experiences, building authentic relationships, and offering hope, the organization is helping young people see possibilities beyond the streets and discover a future filled with purpose.

What began as a group of lifelong friends gathering around the dinner table has grown into a respected nonprofit dedicated to restoring peace, respect, and unity throughout underserved communities in Greater Cincinnati. Brothas Inc. describes its members as "credible messengers"—men and women who use their own experiences to connect with youth in meaningful ways. Through mentorship, violence prevention, leadership development, and community engagement, the organization creates safe spaces where young people are encouraged to grow, lead, and make positive choices for themselves and their families.

One example of that commitment is Project Surge, an after-school initiative serving students in grades five through twelve. Combining educational enrichment with recreation, the program offers young people a safe, welcoming environment where they can receive academic support, build relationships with trusted mentors, and develop the confidence needed to reach their full potential. Beyond the classroom, Brothas Inc. partners with families, schools, and neighborhood organizations to strengthen the support systems that help youth succeed long after the school day ends.

At its heart, Brothas Inc. believes that every young person deserves to be seen, valued, and given the opportunity to succeed. By meeting youth where they are, demonstrating compassion without judgment, and investing in the next generation of leaders, the organization is transforming lives one relationship at a time. That philosophy reflects the mission of the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion, where strengthening families and empowering future generations remain at the center of everything we do.

Why BFR365 Chose Brothas Inc.

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that believe lasting change begins with relationships. Brothas Inc. exemplifies the power of mentorship, community, and authentic leadership by creating opportunities for young people to grow into confident, compassionate, and productive citizens. Their investment in today's youth is helping build stronger families and safer communities for generations to come.

www.brothasinc.org

LHOI
Lincoln Heights Outreach Inc.

Building Strong Families Through Opportunity

Strong communities are built by organizations that see potential where others may see obstacles. Every day, families face challenges that can seem overwhelming—from finding stable employment and quality educational opportunities to accessing nutritious food, caring for aging loved ones, or simply finding a safe place for children to learn and grow. Lincoln Heights Outreach Incorporated believes that with the right support, every individual and every family has the capacity to thrive. That belief has guided the organization's work for more than a decade, creating opportunities that strengthen not only lives but entire communities.

Since 2012, Lincoln Heights Outreach Incorporated (LHOI) has served the historic Village of Lincoln Heights and surrounding neighborhoods with a mission to empower families and individuals through education, advocacy, and compassionate outreach. Rather than focusing on a single issue, the organization takes a holistic approach by addressing educational, social, emotional, physical, spiritual, and economic needs. Through partnerships with community organizations, volunteers, and local leaders, LHOI works to create pathways toward self-sufficiency and lasting success.

LHOI understands that opportunity begins with access. Its Youth Enrichment Program and Summer Camp provide academic support, mentoring, character development, and enrichment activities that inspire young people to discover their talents and build confidence. Adults receive workforce development services including career coaching, résumé preparation, interview assistance, and job readiness training, while families benefit from food assistance, clothing resources, utility and rent support, health and wellness programs, and Adult Day Services that help seniors remain active and connected. Every program is rooted in the belief that investing in people today creates stronger communities tomorrow.

At the heart of LHOI's work is a commitment to restoring dignity and creating opportunity. The organization recognizes that lasting change happens when families have access to resources, encouragement, and relationships that empower them to overcome barriers and achieve their goals. That philosophy closely reflects the mission of the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion, where strengthening families has always been the foundation for building resilient communities and future generations of leaders.

Why BFR365 Chose LHOI

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that believe every family deserves the opportunity to succeed. Lincoln Heights Outreach Incorporated demonstrates that meaningful transformation begins by meeting people where they are and walking beside them on their journey toward independence, stability, and hope. By investing in children, supporting families, and strengthening communities, LHOI is helping create a legacy of opportunity that will benefit generations to come.

www.lincolnheightsoutreach.org

Empowering Families. Inspiring Leaders. Transforming Communities.

CHAMBER MUSIC CINCINNATI

Opening Doors Through the Power of Music

Music has always been more than a performance. It is a connection between generations, a reflection of culture, and a powerful reminder that every community has a story worth hearing. Across Cincinnati, music has brought people together in moments of celebration, inspiration, and transformation. For nearly a century, Chamber Music Cincinnati has carried that tradition forward by making world-class music accessible while creating opportunities for future generations of musicians and music lovers.

Founded in 1929, Chamber Music Cincinnati is one of the nation's oldest chamber music presenters and has become a cultural cornerstone in the Greater Cincinnati region. The organization brings internationally acclaimed chamber ensembles and soloists to local audiences, presenting performances that showcase the highest level of artistic excellence. Through concerts, artist interactions, and community partnerships, Chamber Music Cincinnati continues its mission of building current and future audiences for chamber music.

But the impact of Chamber Music Cincinnati extends far beyond the concert stage. The organization believes that access to music education can change the trajectory of a young person's life. Through student coaching, school partnerships, artist engagements, and its Young People's Music Education Fund, Chamber Music Cincinnati works to remove barriers that prevent talented young musicians from pursuing their passion. By helping students access lessons, instruments, and mentorship, the organization creates pathways for young people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in classical music.

Representation and inclusion are also an important part of the organization's evolving story. Chamber Music Cincinnati has featured and collaborated with acclaimed Black musicians and composers, including Grammy-winning artists and performers who are expanding the traditional boundaries of classical music. Its programming has included artists such as pianist Awadagin Pratt, soprano Karen Slack, and cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, demonstrating the richness and diversity of voices shaping today's classical music landscape.

Cincinnati has long been a city where Black artistic excellence has influenced culture—from gospel traditions and jazz to contemporary music and the performing arts. Chamber Music Cincinnati's partnerships with organizations, churches, schools, and community spaces reflect a commitment to making exceptional music available throughout the region. Performances held at venues such as Corinthian Baptist Church, New Jerusalem Baptist Church, and other community locations demonstrate that music belongs wherever people gather.

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion understands the power of culture, creativity, and storytelling in strengthening families and communities. Chamber Music Cincinnati shares that belief by using music as a bridge—connecting generations, inspiring young people, and reminding audiences that excellence has no boundaries.

Why BFR365 Chose Chamber Music Cincinnati

The Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion celebrates organizations that preserve culture while creating opportunities for the future. Chamber Music Cincinnati demonstrates that music is not only an art form—it is a pathway to education, connection, and community. By bringing extraordinary performances to Cincinnati and investing in the next generation of musicians, Chamber Music Cincinnati helps ensure that every voice has the opportunity to be heard.

www.cincychamber.org

FAMILY.
COMMUNITY.
CULTURE.