

HOPE

in motion



2009 MISSION CAMPAIGN

HOPE *turns heads!*

Turning heads, hearts and minds to the Gospel is what keeps BHITC up at night. It's our passion. We seek to repopulate the city with new congregations and ministries. Our first goal: **Five new worshipping communities by 2012**. That means taking the Word across barriers of race, income level and culture. Your support in 2009 will fuel the following missions:

- **Arabic Mission** – BHITC Missionaries **Nicola and Nadia Abuamsha** now lead weekly Arabic worship services, as well as programs that give immigrants from the Middle East a helping hand in learning English and building relationships through care and Bible study groups.
- **African Refugee Mission** – BHITC Missionary **Francois Banyeretse** helps newly arriving refugees from nations like Burundi find Northeast Ohio a warm and welcoming new home. Weekly worship in Swahili imparts the Word of God to 60 people a week, while refugees build new friendships with volunteers who share basics about life in America.
- **Ministry to Southeast Asians** – In 2009, BHITC will launch new ministry efforts to serve refugees from Burma and Bhutan who are now living in Cleveland and Lakewood. Resettlement officials estimate hundreds of Southeast Asian people will resettle in Northeast Ohio over the next couple years.



BHITC Missionary Nadia Abuamsha and her volunteers minister to the health and relational needs of local Arabic women through care groups, cooking classes and health fairs.

HOPE'S

a breath of fresh air!

At urban congregations and schools like **St. Luke Lutheran Church** and **Luther Memorial School**, BHITC applies fresh mission approaches to spark renewal. A new worship service now gathers nearly 50 neighbors each week at St. Luke. Meanwhile, at LMS, enrollment grew by nearly 35% last year. In 2009, mission efforts on West 85th Street will be extended again by **Trinity's Vicar Gary Timm**, who will continue seeding the hope of the Gospel into homes and families.

BHITC's tutoring ministries at Luther Memorial School and Trinity now operate summer programs that help many students advance a whole grade level or more in reading in just four weeks.



*BHITC volunteers show the fruit of their labors: more than 200 fully-stuffed backpacks!
The school supplies are given to children and refugees in BHITC ministries.*



HOPE *hits the books!*



Transformation takes place one person at a time. That's what BHITC teaches urban congregations who host our **tutoring ministries**, through which at-risk children and youth sharpen their reading and writing skills and are blessed by the encouragement of a volunteer tutor. Such ministries also provide congregations with effective outreach tools and engage God's people in meaningful cross-cultural and urban ministry.

In 2009, BHITC's **Urban Family Learning Centers** will expand ministry to reach more than 200 youth in Cleveland, Akron and Cincinnati. Plus, we'll initiate a parallel **ministry for urban parents** that imparts Bible-based life and employment skills to help end the poverty cycle. These efforts continue to develop at:

- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Luther Memorial School
- Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
- Lakewood Lutheran School
- Zion Lutheran Church (Akron)
- Grace Lutheran Church (Cincinnati)
- **New site opening in 2009:
St. Peter Lutheran Church**



BHITC pours itself into developing future urban ministry leaders. Through 2009, Rev. Jeff Johnson will mentor two vicars. Pictured here are (l. to r.) Vicar Gary Timm, Rev. Jeff Johnson, Rev. Tom Eggold of the LCMS Great Lakes Urban Ministry region, Vicar Marc Cohen, and Rev. Jim Weist of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Shaker Heights.

HOPE

has a good head on its shoulders!

First and foremost, ministry is about God working in people. We believe all of God's people are called and empowered to serve in His Kingdom. That's why Building Hope in the City equips servant leaders who help renew existing ministries and start brand new efforts.

- **Pastors Equipping Pastors** – In Cleveland, Youngstown and Cincinnati, pastors receive continuing support and learning experiences from BHITC to help them become more effective leaders.
- **Volunteer Training** – In 2009, Building Hope in the City will deepen its instruction in ministry leadership and understanding cross-cultural diversity for hundreds of volunteers.
- **Service Events and Retreats** – One-day service events, such as CitySERVE, marshal the talents (and muscle!) of hundreds of people for the sake of city ministry, providing powerful catalysts for change, discipleship and witness.

HOPE

sees the big picture!



the **HOPE center** for
refugees and immigrants

BHITC's cross-cultural mission efforts are leading to a new and exciting vision: **The Hope Center for Refugees and Immigrants**, a future BHITC ministry that will welcome families from any and every culture with resettlement assistance that includes linking them to supporting area congregations, ministries and schools. This blossoming ministry builds on the work God is already doing, directing new refugees and immigrants to Northeast Ohio every year. BHITC will begin laying the groundwork for this opportunity in 2009 through the efforts of a new part-time staffer, **Vicar Marc Cohen**.

It's futball not football – as in soccer! Outreach events, like soccer clinics, draw hundreds of youth and children into relationship with BHITC and its partnering congregations and ministries.



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Our volunteers and donors give feet to BHITC's visions. Here's how you can join us in moving mission forward in 2009:

GIVE

To accomplish these efforts, a mission investment of **\$300,000** is needed in 2009. Donations of every size are a blessing. Use the enclosed reply card to make a pledge or gift. You can also donate with a debit or credit card today by calling (216) 281-4673.

PRAY

When the people of God pray, things happen. Remember our missionaries and the people of the city in your prayers and in the prayer life of your ministry or congregation. We're counting on your prayers!

VOLUNTEER

Come and make an eternal difference in the life of a child, youth, refugee or someone in need. We guarantee you'll find the city an exciting place to serve, make friends and grow in your faith.

REMEMBER

Include Building Hope in the City in your estate plan and you'll rejoice in knowing your gift has been invested wisely and will bear fruit for generations to come!





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*Building Hope in the City exists to connect Christians
in mission by planting new congregations and
helping revitalize existing urban ministries.*