



ANNUAL REPORT

2024



BRIDGE *of* GRACE
MINISTRIES

MISSION

We empower people to build on their God-given strengths and live life with purpose.

VISION

To break the cycle of poverty by building thriving and sustainable neighborhoods in southeast Fort Wayne.

PURPOSE

To close the gaps of opportunity and create access to resources southeast Fort Wayne residents need and opportunities they deserve.

BG
MINISTRIES

It is amazing what God can do in a year! In 2024, Bridge of Grace had a lot to celebrate, including the opening of our new building thanks to the success and completion of our HOPE Unleashed capital campaign. With that dream becoming a reality, work began on another dream for our neighborhood with the groundbreaking of Brewer Park.

With the support of our community partners, sponsors, volunteers, and donors, we made strides in our goal and vision to build thriving and sustainable neighborhoods in southeast Fort Wayne.

Thank you for joining us last year in effort to break the cycle of poverty and close gaps of opportunity for the families we serve. Your generosity made an undeniable impact.

Bridge of Grace looks forward to serving with you in 2025!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Javier", is positioned in the bottom left corner of the text box.A photograph of Javier Mondragon, a man with a goatee wearing a grey suit and a light blue shirt, smiling. He is standing next to another man whose face is partially visible on the right edge of the frame. The background is a blurred indoor setting with green plants.

JAVIER MONDRAGON
BRIDGE OF GRACE
FOUNDER & CEO

BRIDGE OF GRACE RIBBON CUTTING

On June 11, 2024, we hosted the official celebration of our fully funded capital campaign and opening of our new building with a ribbon cutting. The building is home to our Early Years Academy, Alliance Health clinic, community spaces, and Bridge of Grace offices.







BREWER PARK GROUNDBREAKING

The groundbreaking ceremony on September 18, 2024, launched the construction and renovation of Brewer Park. This neighborhood park will offer a splash pad, pavilion, walking track, two basketball courts, and multi-age play spaces for families and residents of Mount Vernon Park. Brewer Park is expected to open Summer 2025.

BY THE NUMBERS

\$18M

FULLY FUNDED

*Our HOPE
Unleashed
capital campaign
was fully funded
in 2024*

311

VOLUNTEERS

*In 2024, 311
volunteers served
5542 hours as a
commitment to
Southeast Fort
Wayne*

3

STAFF MEMBERS

*Our team was
strengthened by
the addition of
Jennifer Platt,
Jery Westfall,
and
Frank Lopez*

1

BOARD MEMBER

*Our board of
directors
welcomed new
board member
Andy Birkley*

PROUD TO SERVE SOUTHEAST FORT WAYNE WITH OUR ON-SITE PARTNERS IN 2024

Alliance



MVP Landscaping LLC

 **PARKVIEW**
Parkview Community Nursing



**Westminster
Preschool**


**EARLY YEARS
ACADEMY**



 **The
Literacy
Alliance**



EARLY YEARS ACADEMY

In 2024, Bridge of Grace partnered with Westminster Preschools to provide quality early childhood education at our Early Years Academy. Doors opened in August, and since opening, 16 Early Years Academy staff members served 60 children ages six weeks through pre-k.

Alliance

HEALTH CENTERS

ALLIANCE HEALTH

To bring exceptional and accessible healthcare to Mount Vernon Park and southeast Fort Wayne, an Alliance Health clinic opened on the Bridge of Grace campus in August. **2,382** patients were seen in the last half of 2024.



MVPkids

Our Afterschool program served 25 first to fifth grade students in 2024. With the mentorship of 20 volunteers, we offered a safe and encouraging environment to help students build relationships and realize their potential.





In an effort to develop the young leaders in our neighborhood, Bridge of Grace launched the Junior MVP Leadership Academy in 2024. Our first class consisted of 18 middle school and high school students.

SUMMER CAMP

FLIGHT SCHOOL

For five weeks over the summer, 60 elementary students participated in the Summer Clubhouse Flight School. These happy campers experienced faith centered programs rich in reading, STEM, art, music, and field trips. Summer camp helps close opportunity gaps for our deserving youth.



A red wheelbarrow filled with yellow flowers and a shovel stuck in it, sitting on a green lawn in front of a house with a flower box.

spring▶▶ FORWARD

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, **\$18,028** was raised for our social enterprise, MVP Landscaping, as well as our Housing initiative during our Spring Forward fundraiser in April.

BRIDGE THE GAP

In October, Bridge of Grace hosted the ninth annual Bridge the Gap fundraising event. Nearly **300** attendees helped raise **\$128,257** to fuel our mission.

We were pleased to name Lisa Starks as our 2024 Catalyst of HOPE award winner, and present Mayra Dominguez with the 2024 Lillian Nelson Community Impact award.

BRIDGE THE GAP '24





MVP LANDSCAPING

MVP Landscaping, a Bridge of Grace social enterprise, employed **11** young adults from southeast Fort Wayne. The lawn maintenance and landscaping company provides opportunities and training for career and skill development.

HOUSING

In an effort to build thriving and sustainable neighborhoods, we renovated **seven** homes in the Mount Vernon Park and Pettit-Rudisill neighborhoods.

104 housing volunteers helped us turn neglected houses into affordable and accessible housing for the families we serve.



2024 COMMUNITY PARTNERS



W E I G A N D



ANDY & AMY BINKLEY

JEFF & KELLY OSTERMANN

2024 COMMUNITY PARTNERS





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JAVIER MONDRAGON | *Bridged Grace*

MATTHEW GRAVES | PRESIDENT | *Strahn Building Solutions*

ROB HAYWORTH | VICE PRESIDENT | *Summit Financial Group*

ANDY BINKLEY | TREASURER | *Wagard Construction*

LARRY WHITE | SECRETARY | *Liberty Group Realty*

KATHY CALLEN | *Old National Bank, retired*

PALERMO GALINDO | *Consultant and Community Advocate*

GARRY HAMILTON | *FVFPD Community Relations Department*

STEVEN HAYS | *Kendall Electronics, retired*

JEFF OSTERMANN | *Snellville*

TEAM BRIDGE OF GRACE

JAVIER MONDRAGON | Founder/CEO

KELLI PACKNETT | Vice President, Education and Engagement

JACQUELYN WALKUP | Chief Financial Officer

SIERRA DU BOSE | Programs Director

PATRICIA CORDERO | Office Manager/Executive Assistant

CHRIS MINIER | Senior Director of Facilities

DAVID DE LEON | Property Construction Manager

DENNIS SALAZAR | Videographer/Grant Writer

ALLIE SUTHERLAND | Child Development Specialist

JENNIFER PLATT | Fund Development Administrator

ZURI WILLIAMS | Financial Assistant

JULIE KISTLER | Programs Coordinator

GENTEL MCGHEE | MVP Landscaping General Manager

FRANK LOPEZ | MVP Landscaping Maintenance Coordinator

JERRY WESTFALL | Housing Maintenance Coordinator

KRISTIN PACKNETT | Marketing Coordinator

WATCH
MVP
GOOD NEWS
TODAY



bridgeofgrace.news/MVPGoodNewsToday

Our 2024 Annual Report presented by MVP kids