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Subject: Are you part of the movement to Go and Do Likewise?

June 2024



CHURCHES RESPOND. HOMELESSNESS ENDS. HOPE BEGINS.



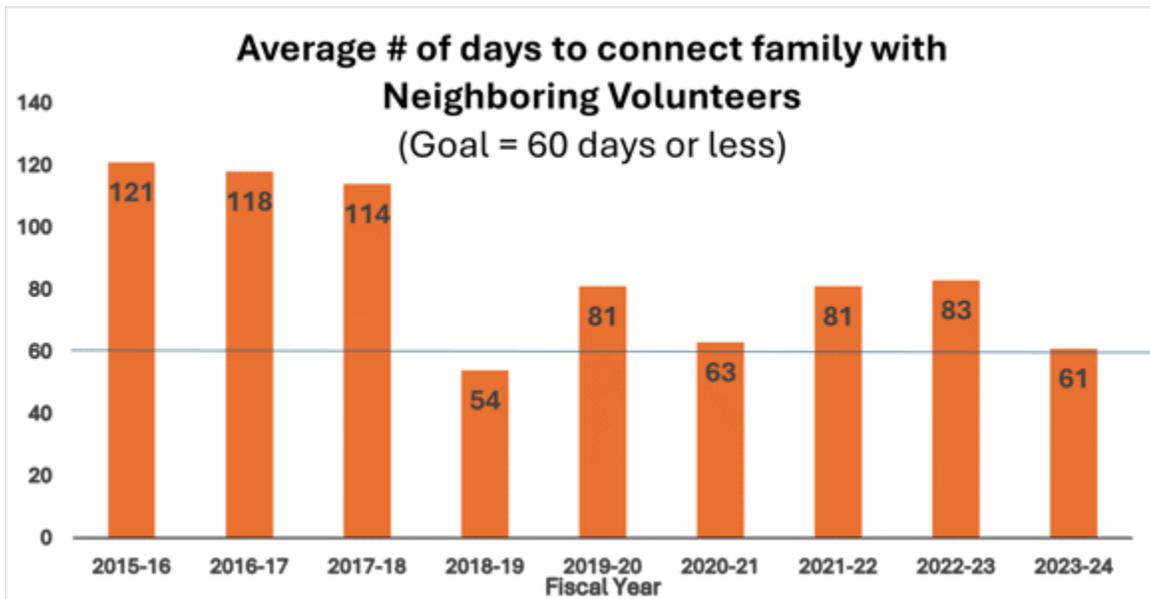
When was the last time you learned a new skill? What do we know to be true about honing and building your skills?

This spring and summer I've spent most Saturday mornings watching my 5-year-old grandson, Ashton, play T-ball. If you have never watched a T-ball game with little ones, you might just be missing one of the most entertaining events of spring. I've loved watching Ashton's team of seven children begin to figure out what the game of baseball is all about. Over the course of seven weeks, these kids started occasionally hitting and catching balls! Practice was the key.

Practice is what hones our skills. And practice builds our faith as well.

By Neighboring a family facing homelessness, 653 followers of Jesus were living out – practicing – their faith this past year.

Our Bridge of Hope network of 21 locations across 13 states, has worked hard this past year to decrease the number of days it takes to “launch” a Neighborhood of Support for a family facing homelessness, from 83 to 61 days this past year (see graph). Without groups of 6-10 people from local churches, Bridge of Hope is unable to serve more families in need. The timing of these groups saying “yes” really matters to families facing homelessness!



The more quickly we can introduce Neighboring Volunteers to a family in Bridge of Hope, the closer that family is to finding housing and beginning the journey out of homelessness.

At the same time, this past year, 100% of families served in Bridge of Hope reported caring, friendship, helpful connections with Neighboring Volunteers. Neighboring matters!

Jesus said “[Go and do likewise](#)” after telling the story of the Good Samaritan. Let’s practice our faith, just like those little T-ball players I watched this spring.

Summer is a great time to [practice our faith](#) by loving our neighbor!

Edith Yoder
Chief Executive Officer



Help us spread the word! Bridge of Hope is hiring a Chief Mission Officer, effective September 2024, as Andrea Popielski prepares to retire. To learn more, visit: <https://bridgeofhopeinc.org/job-opportunity-chief-mission-officer/>.

Did you know? The housing crisis in the U.S. continues to grow. Last year, nationwide, there was a 13% increase in family homelessness. That's the largest increase in family homelessness since the government has been tracking this data. First-time homelessness is also increasing in our country. Single moms who never expected they would be homeless are facing devastating choices for their families.

Denver, Colorado (metro area) has the 5th largest homeless population in the U.S. but ranks 19th in population of U.S. cities. [Bridge of Hope Greater Denver](#) is one of our largest locations and continues to work hard to meet the pressing needs in their region. Kudos to Bridge of Hope Greater Denver for their good work in a tight housing market!

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