



## A JUNCTION VIEW

A Faith-Based Publication...

March 2020 Special Edition



Mark F. Cartledge  
Executive Director

### **Mission**

*To transform  
lives through  
faith and  
action*

### Family & Friends...

As we continue to navigate these uncertain times, the safety and well-being of our kids and families living in poverty remains our top priority. We are reaching out to share important updates on additional steps we are taking to help stop the spread of the coronavirus, while continuing to serve the most vulnerable populations in Stafford County. **A big thank you** to SCPC for providing breakfast and lunch during the time school is closed...

Stafford Junction provides a blanket of programs and services to 7 low-income neighborhoods. We will continue to provide "Tide Me Over Bags" to these neighborhoods during the holidays and on weekends. Stafford Junction will continue to provide critical referral services and Covid-19 education to our children and families that live in poverty. We pray Our Lord will end this crisis. We look forward to resuming our educational and healthy living programs someday soon.

These are extraordinary times, and we are confident Stafford Junction will continue to adapt to the needs and the challenges with the help of our family and friends.

Blessings,

*Mark*



### **COVID-19 Response to Food Insecurity...**

Our Pantry is running low on essential food items. We are asking individuals, churches, and organizations that wish to help, to consider a monetary gift that will allow us to provide emergency pre-packaged food items to children and families that live in poverty in our 7 low-income neighborhoods, during the time school is closed. A monetary donation will give us the greatest flexibility in assisting with this need. Donations are accepted on our website: <http://staffordjunction.org>

We accept **donations of food** that are 1) shelf stable and 2) pre-packaged. No other food items can be accepted due to the issues surrounding safety. Those interested, should contact Stafford Junction to learn what food items are most needed and arrange a time for drop off. Please call (540) 368-0081. Thank you to the Food Bank and our family of churches for your donations.

In the meantime, we continue to transport the food in our pantry to needy families during the holidays, weekends and as needed. Thank you for your help.

## Building a Bright Future, One Grade at a Time

Sacha lives in Foxwood Village and began participating in Brain Builders as a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader at Hampton Oaks Elementary. Brain Builders has helped her make new friendships by building her confidence, understand her homework better (reflected in her improving grades), and have fun all at the same time! Sacha looks forward to meeting with Brain Builders every week, and **enjoys learning**, playtime and arts and crafts. Sacha says she is excited about attending middle school next year. Sacha, like hundreds of other Brain Builders students are building a bright future for themselves.



*Sacha Granados  
(5th grade)*



## Building a Better Tomorrow – Today

Special thank you to our wonderful Storytellers who have joined our Building a Better Tomorrow Campaign, made a personal gift, and are now telling the **Stafford Junction story** to family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. Our Storytellers have brochures, videos and stories of how Stafford Junction has positively impacted kids and families who live in poverty. So many of you have asked “how can I make a gift”? You may go to our website: <http://staffordjunction.org>

Check out our video at: [https://youtu.be/COu-ODpiP\\_M](https://youtu.be/COu-ODpiP_M)

## Spotlight - Giving Back to Our Community



**Jamie Garza**  
Ignite Cinemas

[www.ignitecinemas.com](http://www.ignitecinemas.com)  
com 540-845-7139



**Dave Bohmke**  
Board Member



**Anonymous  
Donor**

There are moments in life when you experience the blessings of Our Lord. Stafford Junction has been blessed to experience these blessings. We refer to them as “Angels on Earth” AOE’s. Dave Bohmke, the Vice Chair of our Board, met **Jamie Garza** at a community fundraising event. Within a few days Jamie was creating a video for Stafford Junction: [https://youtu.be/COu-ODpiP\\_M](https://youtu.be/COu-ODpiP_M). Jamie is the owner of Ignite Cinemas and he donated his time and talent to Stafford Junction. Need a video? Please give Jamie a call (above). **Dave Bohmke** is an AOE who combines the joy of gardening with his passion for our Junction kids. In the picture above, he is selling Daylilies to the faculty at Drew Middle school to support our Building a Better Tomorrow Campaign. Lastly, we want to thank a very caring, kind, and generous **Anonymous Foundation**. They support our Brain Builders program in a big way. Two days ago, they gave us a gift to support emergency meals for the kids and families in our 7 low-income neighborhoods. They too are AOE’s. Join me in thanking our Angels on Earth. God bless you always...