

# Brockton Interfaith Community

## ANNUAL REPORT: 2013

The past year has been filled with joy, enthusiasm, and motivation to do God's good work. As part of the Massachusetts Faith Voices initiative, we have engaged with the Raise Up Massachusetts campaign to promote economic dignity, advocated for immigration reform, and have begun research for a drug court program in Brockton. With over 35 congregations and 75 local leaders involved in our work, 10 meetings this past year with local elected officials, leader trainings, and engagement with the Haitian, Cape Verdean, Caucasian, and Latino populations, our organization has continued to empower Greater Brockton residents to advocate for positive change in this community.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

BIC leaders have begun research on drug court programs in Massachusetts and plan to begin advocacy work for a program here in Brockton. Complementing the Jobs not Jails campaign, drug courts alter the pathway to prison and offer a road to recovery. A successful Substance Abuse Education forum emphasizing Prevention vs. Prosecution was held in September to educate the community about this issue.

### LEADER TRAININGS

This August BIC leaders attended a weekend retreat in Waltham, MA to prepare for our economic dignity and immigration campaigns this past fall. This weekend brought leaders from Brockton, the North Shore, Fall River and New Bedford, and Boston together. Leaders also attended trainings this fall in preparation to gather signatures for the Raise Up Massachusetts campaign.

### ALLY CAMPAIGNS

In a city that continues to struggle with an excess of foreclosures, BIC and City Life have continued their partnership with the Brockton Bank Tenant Association. Residents receive legal help, activism opportunities, and the chance to stop feeling alone.

### ECONOMIC DIGNITY CAMPAIGN: Raise Up MA

In an economy where people have become expendable, BIC joined with the statewide Raise Up Massachusetts campaign to restore economic dignity to all of God's children. In an effort to secure a minimum wage increase and earned sick time for all workers, the campaign set out to collect 230,000 signatures for the two ballot initiatives. In nine weeks, the campaign gathered 275,000 signatures. BIC contributed 12,173 signatures to this total surpassing our goal by over 3,000 signatures! Beginning in June with a widely attended interfaith prayer service and a Brockton kickoff event at Wal-Mart in July, this incredible achievement has only been possible due to our enthusiastic, relentless, and blessed volunteers who braved the cold, the rain, and the occasional rude remark to pray with their feet and bring economic dignity back to this community.



### IMMIGRATION REFORM

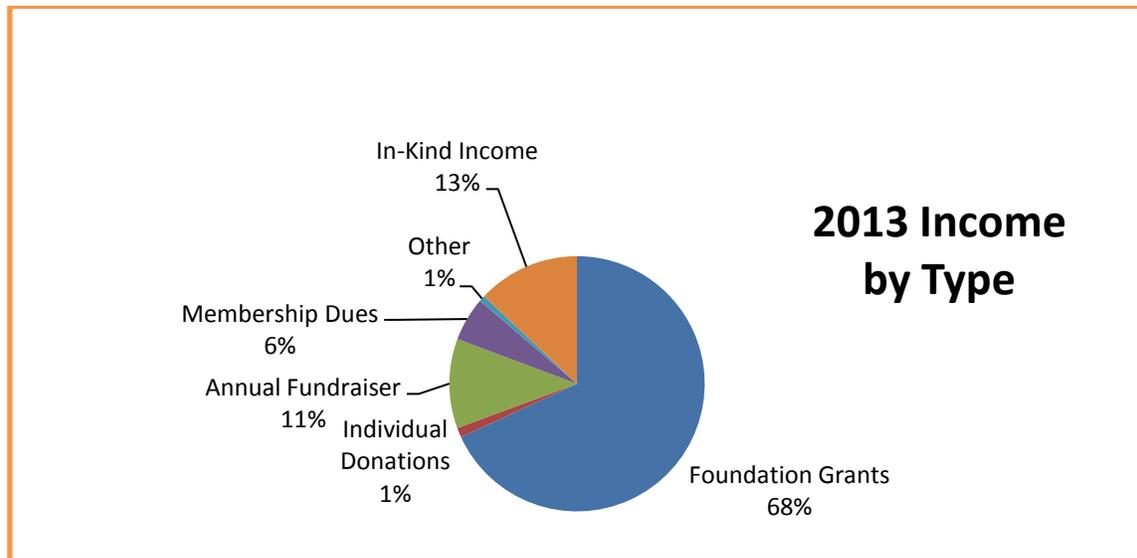
In February, BIC leaders hosted one of its largest public actions with nearly 600 area residents gathered in the St Patrick's Church hall. Congressman Lynch joined them and committed to supporting a pathway to citizenship and to stopping deportations until that pathway was created. He has since signed onto HR15, our hope for the passage of one acceptable bill. 10-15 leaders remained active throughout the year and brought in hundreds of other community members at different points. They hosted Know Your Rights workshops, Understanding Immigration Reform Now training, a Prayer Vigil, a Procession & Mass for citizenship, meetings with Senator Kennedy and his staff on supporting the Safe Driving Bill, joined others in Boston for a day of Action, and most recently took a pilgrimage to DC to pray for the softening of the members of Congress's hearts who are standing between families and citizenship.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT | JANUARY 1-  
NOVEMBER 14, 2013

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2013 Projected Budget: \$142,279  
2013 Total Income: \$85,728.38  
2013 In kind Income: \$12,000.00  
2013 Total Expenses: \$112,282.88



*Like many nonprofits, BIC is working to diversify its funding. The organization will be cycled out of 2 of our largest funding sources, an equivalent of \$60,000. We are working toward engaging new grant sources but are also spending time focusing on building our individual donor base. We're so grateful that you're here with us. Please consider us for your year end giving.*



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