Join Us to Celebrate

50 years of Bonnie

@ Peace Neighborhood Center's 26th Annual

Thanks for Giving

Thursday, November 5, 2026

5:30-9:00 pm | Venue Restaurant | Bar

This year, Peace's annual Thanks for Giving dinner falls on Bonnie Billup's 66th Birthday — and also marks two important milestones: Bonnie's 50 years at Peace, and his 20 years as Executive Director.

Our goal this year is to raise funds to support "Life-changing Experiences and Opportunities" for Peace youth, their parents, and families — the special program initiatives, educational support, and learning opportunities that we know change young lives, including Bonnie's:

- Helping our youngest Peace kids learn to read;
- Transformational Road Trips that offer life-changing exploration and learning experiences;
- Special support to help Peace graduates achieve their educational and professional goals;
- Helping families find and maintain stability.

Peace Neighborhood Center

Sponsorship Opportunities

For more information, please contact Suzanne Upton at 734-662-3564 or supton@peaceneighborhoodcenter.org.

Community Leader: $10,000

Logo on all Event Marketing Materials and Reserved Table for Ten

Support at this level will help Peace scale a new Literacy Initiative that provides phonics-based reading instruction with trained professionals for elementary students.

Community Partner: $5,000

Logo on Marketing Materials and Reserved Seating for Eight

Support at this level will help Peace lead a cross-country Transformational Road Trip.

Neighborhood Partner: $2,500

Logo on Marketing Materials and Seating for Four Guests

Support at this level will help Peace graduates cover post-secondary educational expenses: room & board, school supplies & fees, transportation, technology, etc.

Neighborhood Supporter: $1,500

Business Name Listed in Program and Seating for Two Guests

Support at this level will help a Peace family through an extraordinary crisis.

All Sponsors will receive recognition for their support on Peace's marketing materials:

- Digital Screen(s) throughout Venue's Event Space • Event Website Page • Event Program
- Social Media Posts with average reach of 5,000+ • Peace's monthly E-Newsletter with reach of 3,200+
- Peace's 2026 Annual Report, with reach/engagement of over 4,000+ community supporters & leaders

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1971, Peace Neighborhood Center is a community-supported organization with a 55+ year history of successfully helping people change their lives. Peace has helped thousands of youth, adults, and families overcome challenges that stem from generational poverty, social and economic inequality, and trauma.

Over 89% of Peace's staff identify as people of color and have similar lived experiences as the people we serve. Our staff has a deep understanding of the challenges our families face — which is essential in cultivating a genuine sense of trust, respect, and accountability with our clients.

Because of that trust, Peace is the first place our clients call with their best news — and their worst.

WHO WE SERVE

98% of the households Peace serves live below the poverty line or ALICE threshold, unable to cover basic living expenses. Over 90% identify as people of color.

WHAT WE DO

Peace makes a long-term commitment to the youth and families we serve. Our goal has always been to help families break generational cycles of poverty — helping them build futures that include self-sufficiency and positive community involvement.

We provide in-depth 360° wraparound support through an integrated range of programs/services:

- **After-School and Summer Programs provide K-12 youth** individualized academic support, social/emotional learning, enrichment & recreational activities, and off-site learning experiences through field trips and transformational road trips beyond Southeast Michigan.
- **College & Career Prep for high school students, with continued support through college.**
- **Family Enrichment Programs** promote parent engagement through family-centered activities, field trips, and skills workshops.
- **Wellness Programming helps youth, parents, and families improve their mental, physical, social/emotional health & well-being** through weekly Wellness Activities; Support Groups; and Individual & Family Counseling Support with licensed clinical social workers.
- **Meals and Transportation with every program; childcare as needed.**
- Case Management services connect families in need to vital community resources.
- Weekly food distribution, emergency financial assistance, and holiday assistance.
- Advocacy for and with families at school, in court, and with medical care providers.

OUR IMPACT

Of the 5,000+ people who have attended Peace's youth & family programs, an estimated 75% have achieved self-sufficiency.

- **98% of youth enrolled in Peace's After-School Programs graduate from high school in four years.**
- **80% go on to college or a skilled trade program to earn professional certification.**
- **Countless Peace Alum have been the first in their families to earn a college degree.** Many have gone on to careers to pay it forward by helping others — as educators, social workers, medical professionals, and nonprofit executives. Three Peace Alumni serve on Peace's Board.