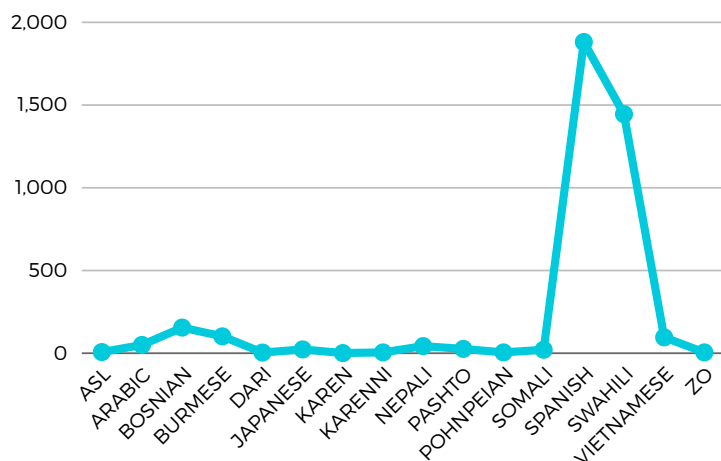


Numbers at a glance:

- Mailers sent for community engagement events: **60 postcards/letters**
- **(1)** E-newsletters & social media reach: 714 **subscribers w/ 162 opens & N/A engagements/ reach**
- Information, assistance and referrals cases: **80**
- Special Events/Parades Permitted: **4**
- Road Closures/No Parking Signs: **1**
- Noise Variances Issued: **0**
- Film Permits Processed: **2**
- **(1)** Training in Bilingual Incentive Pay with **12 employees**
- Participants in Community Engagement activities: **0**



Language Access Provided to Residents with Limited English Proficiency January 2026

3,881 Total Minutes of Language Interpretation Used

3,694 minutes from 911 Dispatch/BGPD VRI

146 minutes all other City Depts.

41 minutes of Video Remote Interpreting different languages requested

A Month filled with Planning, Recruitment, and Grants

While January is generally our slowest month in regards to face-to-face community engagement, it is our busiest planning month for the year ahead. This month our team was busy in so many ways:

- **Academy for New Americans:** Recruitment ended January 9. We have 32 participants selected for this year's cohort. Acceptance letters were sent out, email notifications, and preparations are underway for all logistics, speakers, and materials needed to implement this program.
- **Strategic Neighborhood Grant Funds Spring Cycle:** The application submission cycle was open from January 1 thru February 1. We received 29 grant applications for review and many other inquiries and questions about the program. CED Manager sent submission notification receipts to all applicants and has begun reviewing and scoring all submissions.
- **Over 50 Citizens Academy:** Applications opened mid-January and in less than a week we had 79 submissions! We were forced to have to close the application portal sooner than expected due to the overwhelming response. CED Coordinator is organizing logistics and speakers for the week long program.
- **Community Impact Awards:** Planning and logistics have started for this reformatted community celebration taking place March 24, 2026.

PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

Promise Neighborhood partners met in-person at the Foundry on January 14, and worked on taking a thoughtful and collaborative approach as we plan for 2026, with a strong focus on listening to families and community voices to guide future programming.

While 2025 carryover funding has been allocated to the City of Bowling Green, partners are asked to hold spending as shared priorities and a unified action plan are developed based on this community input. A partner meeting with Family Resource Coordinators at Warren County Public Schools is planned for February 19th to connect, share updates, and discuss opportunities for collaboration. Additional updates will be shared as this planning process continues.

We are excited to continue the collaboration for projects in the Creekwood and Stonehenge Neighborhoods



COMMUNITY PLANNING RETREAT

On Thursday, January 15, the Community Engagement Team met at the Historic Railpark Museum alongside community partners and local businesses that contribute to Bowling Green to reconnect and map out a year's worth of outreach and events.

During the Community Event Retreat, we introduced our new division and team members Hannah Minton and Emily Gentry. Our team shared our goals and excitement for the year ahead. We also highlighted our major upcoming events for the entire year 2026 to be included in the compiled Community Events Calendar.

Throughout the retreat, the team participated in icebreakers, networking, and interactions with community partners. As well as participating in individual breakout group sessions, which sparked meaningful conversations and helped identify new ways to collaborate with community partners.



At-a-glance Community Engagement



Dates	Event Name	Host Organization & Lead Staff
1/8/26	Debrief 2025 Downtown Lights Up	Emily Brawner, Rahel Morfin Castillo, Hannah Minton, Emily Gentry, Telia Butler, Cameron Levis, and other BGPR staff
1/13/2026	Community Engagement Planning Retreat	CED Team
1/14/2026	Promise Neighborhood Partner Meeting	The Prichard Committee CED Team Warren Co. Public Schools Family Enrichment Center United Way of Southern KY The Foundry
1/15/26	2026 Community Event Retreat	Telia Butler, CED Team, multiple community/downtown partners
1/28/26	Employee Cultural Competency	Leyda Becker, Trainer