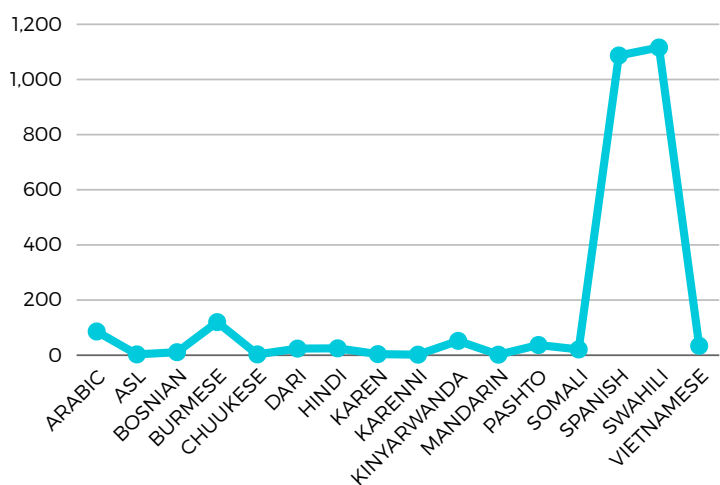


## Numbers at a glance:

- Mailers sent for community engagement events: **663 postcards/letters**
- (2) E-newsletters & social media reach: 1,366 **subscribers w/ 264 opens & 214 engagements/reach**
- Information, assistance and referrals cases: **51 assist cases**
- Special Events Permitted: **0**
- Road Closures/No Parking Signs: **1**
- Noise Variances Issued & Film Permits Processed: **0**
- (2) Training in Cultural Comp./Language Access Training with **10 employees**
- Participants in Community Engagement activities: **1,853**



## **Language Access Provided to Residents with Limited English Proficiency March 2026**

**2,627** Total Minutes of Language Interpretation Used  
**2,387** minutes from 911 Dispatch/BGPD VRI  
**240** minutes all other City Depts.  
**3** minutes of Video Remote Interpreting  
**19** different languages requested

## **NEW Community Engagement Division's Video**

The CED team worked with the City's PIO Division to create our first-ever introductory video. The video, which was unveiled during this month's Community Impact Awards, offers a brief introduction to every staff serving in the Division.

The video is 3.20 minutes long and it will serve as an opportunity to educate neighbors and new Americans on the role and function of this new Division. The entire CED team had an active role in creating the script for the video and working with the PIO to bring this video to life!

 **City of Bowling Green, KY - Municipal Government**  
 Published by Reina Johnson · April 8 at 1:51 PM ·  
 📢 Announcing a new division for the City of Bowling Green: The Community Engagement Division for Neighbors and New Americans! 🌟  
 This division merges International Liaison and Neighborhood Services to enhance connections with residents. Its mission is to foster relationships, improve access to services, and support the success of every neighborhood.  
 #communityengagement #onecityoneteam #teamBGKY



## 2026 OVER 50 CITIZENS ACADEMY

The Community Engagement Division successfully hosted the 2026 Over Fifty Citizen Academy March 5 through March 11. This year's class included 20 participants, all first time attendees, representing a strong interest in civic engagement and learning more about City operations.

The week long program provided participants with a comprehensive overview of City government through presentations, tours, and direct interaction with department leaders and staff. Sessions included an overview of City government and budgeting, Neighborhood and Community Services, Planning and Zoning, Code Compliance and Animal Protection, and Aging Programs. Participants also heard from community partners and organizations providing services throughout the region.

Tour days included visits to City Hall, Public Works Operations, Police, Fire, Parks and Recreation, and participation in a GO BG Transit ride. A collaborative Stormwater and Environmental presentation highlighted the partnership between City and County services and demonstrated how departments work together to serve the community.

The program concluded with a graduation ceremony recognizing participants for their completion of the academy. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing appreciation for the accessibility of City staff, the transparency of information shared, and the opportunity to build connections with both staff and fellow participants.

The Over Fifty Citizen Academy continues to serve as a valuable community engagement tool by increasing awareness of City services, encouraging civic involvement, and fostering strong relationships between residents and local government.



## 2026 COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARDS

A celebration years in the making took center stage Tuesday night, as the City of Bowling Green unveiled a bold new tradition, honoring the people behind nearly 900 families housed, thousands of residents engaged, and a growing wave of community transformation, at its inaugural Community Impact Awards, a reimagined celebration of community excellence formerly known as the Neighborhood Builders Banquet.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the inaugural Community Impact Awards, recognizing exceptional service and leadership:

**C.O.M.P.A.S.S. Award:** Presented to Kris York and Sharon Allgeier for their outstanding collaboration and compassionate community outreach through Goodwill's Another Way Program.

**Downtown Spark Award:** Awarded to Jim Steen for over two decades of leadership, advocacy, and dedication to strengthening Downtown Bowling Green.

**Catalyst for Change Award:** Presented posthumously to Abraham Williams and his family in recognition of his transformative contributions to housing, economic development, and community revitalization.

**Stronger Together Award:** Awarded to the City's Public Works Operations Division for their essential behind-the-scenes support of community events and public safety efforts.

**Legacy Impact Award:** Presented posthumously to Mike Murphy, honoring his decades of leadership, community investment, and lasting contributions to Bowling Green's growth and development.

Honorable mentions for the Legacy Impact Award included Timothy Allen and Kent Madison, both recognized for their significant and ongoing contributions to the community.



## Ohanami Spring Festival at WKU

It was a joy to celebrate Ohanami with WKU global. It was a beautiful day to honor Japanese culture, and we loved connecting with WKU students while sharing what the City of Bowling Green has to offer. We highlighted ways to access City services and get involved in Downtown engagement opportunities. Mayor Alcott even joined in on the fun!



## RABIES AND MICROCHIP CLINIC

The CED Team got to be part of the Rabies and Microchip Clinic on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. This program is hosted by our Codes and Animal Protection Division in partnership with All Creatures Veterinarian Hospital and BG/Warren Co. Humane Society.

This year we served a record breaking 304 pets! We administered 285 rabies vaccinations and implanted 123 microchips!

The Community Engagement Team helped by providing snacks and cold drinks to volunteers as well as disseminating flyers to local businesses and pushing out posts on social media. CED staff also helped on the day of the event with set up, helping participants fill out paperwork, and recording vaccine/microchip info on forms.



## SMOKE ALARM DRIVE

On Saturday, March 21st, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., members of the Neighborhood and Community Services Community Engagement Team, along with Code Compliance Officers, partnered with the Bowling Green Fire Department to conduct a smoke alarm installation drive. The effort focused on Patrick Way and surrounding streets, where more than 40 smoke alarms were installed for residents in duplexes and apartment complexes.

This initiative played a critical role in helping tenants at the 1708 Patrick Way apartments safely evacuate when a building fire occurred, highlighting the life-saving importance of properly installed smoke alarms.



## APPRECIATION PLAQUE FROM OVER 50 ALUMNI

Alumni from the 2026 “Over 50 Citizens Academy” surprised CED staff with a plaque of appreciation for our work during this most recent academy.

The plaque read: “for providing a welcoming, inclusive, and engaging environment to benefit all citizens.”

We are grateful to serve our constituents in such a meaningful way!



## Plano Elementary Career Day

CED Staff participated in the Plano Elementary Career Day and interacted with approximately 700 students. Shared information about Neighborhood and Community Services, with a focus on Community Engagement and the role we play in planning and supporting large City events.

Talked about the creative side of the work and how problem solving is a big part of what we do every day. The purpose was to help students understand different jobs they could grow into and the many ways they can be involved in their community. It was a great opportunity to show how events and community efforts come together behind the scenes.



# At-a-glance Community Engagement



| Dates            | Event Name                                                                      | Host Organization & Lead Staff                                        |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 4          | Read United                                                                     | Early Learning Center<br>Parker-Bennet EL<br>Hannah and Rahel         |
| March 5-6 & 9-11 | Over 50 Citizens Academy                                                        | CED Team led by Emily Brawner                                         |
| March 12         | JA Girls                                                                        | Junior Achievement, Hannah,<br>Rahel                                  |
| March 18         | Community Garden Rentals                                                        | BG Parks and Rec, Hannah, Leyda,<br>Emily B                           |
| March 18, 31     | Employee Cultural Competency<br>& Language Access Training                      | Leyda B.                                                              |
| March 21         | Smoke Alarm Outreach for<br>Patrick Way and O'shea area                         | BG Fire Department, Natcher<br>Elementary, Red Cross, Rahel,<br>Leyda |
| March 23 & 30    | Cultural Orientation / Traffic<br>Laws / Basic Laws for Afghan<br>Women's group | Survivors of Torture Recovery<br>Center, Leyda, Hannah                |
| March 24         | Community Impact Awards                                                         | CED Team, organized by Hannah                                         |
| March 25         | Ohanami celebration of Cherry<br>Blossoms, Japanese Culture &<br>Career Fair    | WKU Global Studies, Hannah,<br>Emily G.                               |
| March 26         | Academy for New Americans<br>Session II                                         | CED Team, led by Leyda                                                |

# At-a-glance Community Engagement



| Dates    | Event Name                                           | Host Organization & Lead Staff                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 27 | Covington Woods Park Dedication                      | BG Parks and Rec, CED Team mailed to neighbors                    |
| March 28 | Rabies Clinic & Micro-Chip Jennings Creek Elementary | Code Compliance and Animal Protection, Emily G., Hannah, Emily B. |
| March 30 | Plano Elementary Job Fair                            | Plano Elementary staff, Emily B. and Hannah                       |