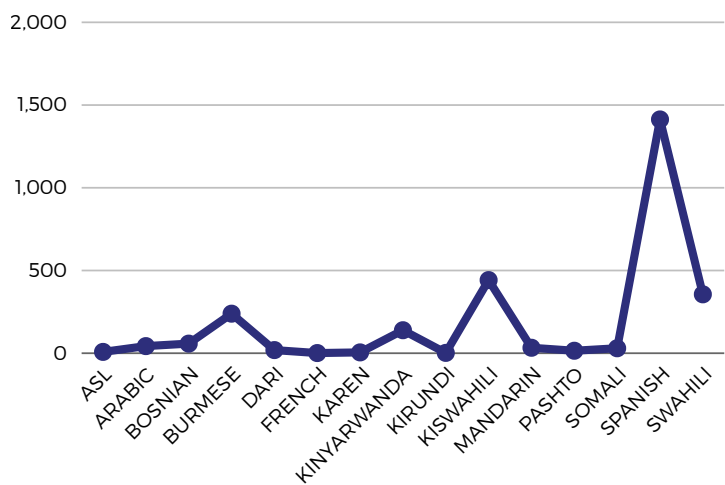


Numbers at a glance:

- Mailers sent for community engagement events: **446 postcards/ letters**
 - **180 annual notices for Crossridge Subdivision**
 - **175 event calendars to Amigos Resource Network**
 - **87 construction notice letters to neighbors near Preston Miller Park**
- **(3) E-newsletters & social media reach: 1,648 subscribers w/ 942 opens & 3,754 engage/reach**
- Information, assistance and referrals cases: **45 assist cases**
- Special Events Permitted: **13**
- Road Closures/No Parking Signs: **8**
- Noise Variances Issued: **0**
- Film Permits Processed: **1**
- **(1) Training in Cultural Comp./Language Access Training with 8 employees**
- Participants in Community Engagement activities: **2,598**



Language Access Provided to Residents with Limited English Proficiency September 2026

2,801 Total Minutes of Language Interpretation Used

2,703 minutes from 911 Dispatch/ BGPD VRI

81 minutes all other City Depts.

17 minutes of Video Remote Interpreting

15 different languages requested

SEPTEMBER: A MONTH CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

September was filled with a plethora of colorful and vibrant opportunities to engage with our New Americans and residents in general! CED Staff covered events 3 out of the 4 Saturdays in September. participating in one brand-new event: *the Latin American and Caribbean Festival* and joining for the first-time in the *Firehouse Festival*, hosted by our Bowling Green Fire Department.

Other opportunities for cross-cultural learning came about during a visit from the WKU Society for Lifelong Learning and our monthly *Employee Cultural Competency and Language Access Training*. We just love September!



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL & STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

The International Communities Advisory Council met on Tuesday, September 8 at the Neighborhood and Community Services Dept. to discuss the City's Stormwater Utility Fee.

Matt Powell, Environmental Compliance Manager with the City's Public Works Dept., gave an educational presentation to leaders of the diverse ethnic communities representing the Greek, Karen, Karenni, Chin, Burmese, Congolese, Iraqi, Somali, Saudi Arabian, Colombian, & Salvadorian communities.

The group had a number of insightful questions about the new fee and its purpose. The CED provided a culturally appropriate meal to all in attendance.



MOSS MIDDLE BLOCK PARTY

Our team was grateful to take part in the annual Block Party for Moss Middle School and Jennings Creek Elementary. With over 800 people in attendance, this was a great opportunity to share about City services and our partnership with the Promise Neighborhood initiative.

We were able to give out 20 cleaning kits at this event. Cleaning kits include laundry detergent, dish soap, a dust pan, sponge, disinfecting wipes, trash bags, paper towels, and multi-purpose cleaner.

We also partnered with the GoBG Transit to give out 30 bus passes at the event. Families were able to enjoy a free meal, entertainment, and gather information on various community resources.



LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL

The Hispanic Community Alliance of Bowling Green, Inc., held the inaugural **Latin American and Caribbean Festival** in Lampkin Park on Saturday, September 12.

The event was a great success, welcoming approximately 2,900 people throughout the nine-hour celebration. Families enjoyed the cultural performances, food, music, children's activities, community resources, and soccer tournaments. Local vendors also experienced strong sales, with several businesses selling out before 6:00 p.m.

Our team helped to coordinate all of the Special event permits and park rentals as well as an official proclamation in English and Spanish for Hispanic Heritage Month, which was a meaningful part of the opening ceremony.

We also provided piñatas and candy for the children, which brought a great deal of excitement and happiness to the families who attended.



WKU CONSTITUTION DAY

The Community Engagement Division, along with the Bowling Green Police Department and Downtown Development, was invited by **WKU SGA** to participate in **Constitution Day** on campus. This was a great opportunity to connect with students, introduce them to City services and resources, and encourage civic engagement and involvement in the Bowling Green community.

We enjoyed talking with students about ways they can stay connected, get involved, and make a difference in the community while attending WKU. We also had the opportunity to promote the upcoming Harvest Festival and invite students to come out and enjoy one of Bowling Green's largest community events.



BG FIESTAVAL "10TH ANNIVERSARY"

BGFIESTAVAL Celebrates 10 Years of Culture and Community

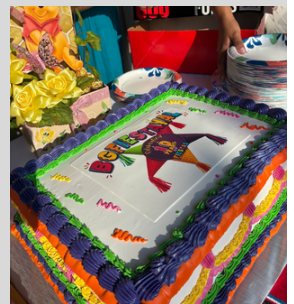
BGFIESTAVAL, a celebration of Hispanic and Latino culture and heritage, celebrated its 10th anniversary September 18–20. The three-day festival featured folkloric dances, live music and singing, traditional foods, and activities that offered an all-around cultural experience for the community.

For the past 10 years, **BGFIESTAVAL** has brought life and energy to Bowling Green's West End, bringing residents and visitors together, fostering connections, celebrating our differences, and highlighting the diversity that makes Bowling Green a vibrant multicultural community.

On Saturday, September 19, the City of Bowling Green Community Engagement Division participated with a City resource booth, sharing information about local programs and services. The team also hosted a raffle and gave away 15 cleaning kits valued at \$50 each to community members.

The City of Bowling Green and Warren County Fiscal Court recognized BGFIESTAVAL's 10th anniversary with a special proclamation and celebration. Mayor Todd Alcott and City Commissioners joined in recognizing the milestone, which included a commemorative cake and the presentation of medals to BGFIESTAVAL members who have dedicated their time and efforts to making the festival possible over the past decade.

BGFIESTAVAL also welcomed members of the Bowling Green Police and Fire Departments to enjoy the food, culture, and festivities alongside residents, providing another opportunity to build connections between public safety and the community.



Community Engagement Assist Highlight: Community Partners Coming Together to Support a Local Family

Jennifer Madison, FRYSC at Drakes Creek Middle School, reached out to our Community Navigators about a local family who was struggling and needed help connecting with the right resources.

This hard-working family, whose mom is an employee with Warren County Public Schools, had been experiencing homelessness before finally finding an apartment in Bowling Green's West End that was a perfect fit for their family. However, after being out of work following the birth of their baby and only recently returning to work, they needed some extra help getting through their first month's rent.

Thankfully, an amazing community partner stepped up to help. Choosing to remain anonymous, the partner provided a donation that was exactly what this family needed to get settled and begin moving forward. Through Promise Neighborhood funds, our team was also able to provide the family with a cleaning kit for their new home.

We are so thankful for the many ways our community comes together to support our neighbors. This is a great example of what can happen when schools, community partners, and the City work together to help a family get back on their feet.

BGFD FIRE HOUSE FESTIVAL

On Saturday, September 19, the Community Engagement Division joined the Bowling Green Fire Department at SOKY Center for their annual Firehouse Festival. Our team helped promote the upcoming Harvest Festival while connecting with residents and enjoying a fun day of fire safety education.

Participants had the opportunity to watch a live smoke burn demonstration, walk through a smoke maze, and explore different parts of a fire truck. It was a great opportunity to connect with the community while supporting our local firefighters!



BOWLING GREEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

The 36th Annual **Bowling Green International Festival** brought the community together at Circus Square Park in downtown Bowling Green to celebrate the many cultures, ethnicities, and traditions represented throughout our community. Attendees experienced cultures from around the world through food, music, dance, performances, and cultural displays.

The City of Bowling Green Community Engagement Division joined the celebration with cultural displays representing Venezuela, Costa Rica, and Mexico. Team members shared personal memories, experiences, and traditions with attendees, creating opportunities for cultural learning and connection.

The team also set up a City of Bowling Green information table, where attendees could learn about City programs, services, and community resources, as well as the upcoming Harvest Festival.

To add to the celebration, the City provided a free photo booth, giving individuals and families the opportunity to capture a special memory from the day.

The festival continues to bring residents and visitors together to celebrate the diversity that makes Bowling Green a vibrant multicultural community.



At-a-glance Community Engagement



Dates	Event Name	Host Organization & Lead Staff
September 8	ICAC Stormwater Utility Event	PW Environmental Systems, CED team
September 11	Bike/Walk BG Education Program at Parker-Bennett	Bike Walk BG, Hannah M., Rahel Morfin C.
September 12	Latin American & Caribbean Festival/Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation	Hispanic Community Alliance. Leyda B.
September 15	Jennings Creek/Moss Middle School Block Party	Moss Middle & Jennings Creek FRYSC, Emily B., Emily G.
September 17	Constitution Day at WKU	Hannah M., Rahel Morfin C.
September 18-20	BG Fiestal 10 Year Anniversary Proclamation	La Luz del Mundo, Rahel Morfin C., Leyda B.
September 19	BGFD Firehouse Festival	BGFD, Hannah M.
September 21	WKU Society for Lifelong Learning Session	Downtown Development, CED Team, Leyda B.
September 23	BGHS Multicultural Club Hispanic Heritage Month	BGHS, Rahel Morfin C.
September 26	BG International Festival	CED Team
September 30	Employee Cultural Competency Training	Leyda B.
September 30	FRYSC Leaders at GRREC	GRREC, Hannah M. Rahel Morfin C.