



The Black Belt Community Foundation

DATA IMPACT CENTER

The Black Belt Bulletin

ISSUE 28 | FEBRUARY 12, 2024 | FOCUS ON ACTION



Every Day is a 'Day of Action'



BBCF Community Associates, H.O.P.E. Ambassadors, and staff represented the foundation and distributed resources to attendees at the Day of Action in Selma, AL.

with BBCF and other non-profit, business, and governmental agencies to combat poverty by connecting community to resources.

With 87 agencies present, attendees were provided with resources in the areas of housing, employment, finance, law, food access, veteran's services, and education. As an organization of action, BBCF helped service the hundreds of local participants who attended. "Today means our community has hope. To have an event where vendors are present that can offer resources to transition out of poverty means the world", according to BBCF's TRHT Director, Lydia Chatmon.

"The BBCF is celebrating our 20th year anniversary of 'perpetual action', so this event was in keeping with our vision and mission and a mirror of our motto, Taking What We Have to Make What We Need", stated BBCF President, Felecia Lucky.

Selma, a city with a 30% poverty rate, took advantage of the opportunities offered by the Day of Action as evidenced by the exceptional attendance. Selma mayor James Perkins offered, "Poverty is something that can be overcome but it is going to take an entire community effort...that is why the Day of Action is so important to get people engaged."

The Black Belt Community Foundation (BBCF) was honored to co-sponsor the Selma Day of Action on February 2, 2024, in the gymnasium of historic Selma High School. The purpose of the Day of Action was to offer resources and direct assistance to those transitioning out of poverty in Selma and Dallas County. WSFA 12 News, as part of their Raising the Bar, Overcoming Poverty series teamed up



Attendee plays a game at a vendor's booth during the event.

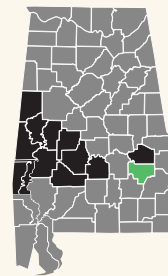


Attendee interacts with vendor, collecting resources and giveaways at the event.

The Day of Action was designed to coincide with the anniversary of the January 12, 2023 tornadoic event that devastated the city of Selma and numerous counties in West Alabama. Although the event had to be postponed until February due to the threat of severe weather, the collaborative, community effort provided impactful resources for those most in need. If you would like to support the BBCF's ongoing efforts to aid Black Belt communities, consider donating at blackbeltfound.org/donate. Sources: wsfa.com (2/2/24); bullockal.com

SPOTLIGHT ON - BULLOCK COUNTY -

Bullock County is located in the southeastern portion of the state of Alabama and is one of the 12 Black Belt counties serviced by BBCF. The City of Union Springs serves as the county seat.



BULLOCK CO. HAS
A TOTAL AREA OF
623
SQUARE MILES



The area was originally home to the Creek Indians until their final forced removal in 1830. This heavily timbered land gained economic success through the cotton industry fortified by the labor of enslaved people.



BULLOCK CO. HAS
A POPULATION OF
10.3K

Today, Bullock County's demographics reflect their history (72% Black, 22% White, 5% Hispanic). Large employers in Bullock County include Wayne Farms, Bonnie Plants, Bullock County Correctional Facility, Bullock County Public Schools and two healthcare facilities.

As an original service area for BBCF, Bullock County has a twenty-year relationship with the organization engaging with local schools, healthcare, criminal justice, businesses and addressing issues of food in-security, housing, teen mentoring and education.

Those living in Bullock County can access the resources of the BBCF or donate to the organization through one of your local Community Associates.



Robert Turner
BBCF Board Member
Bullock County

BBCF BULLOCK CO. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATES:

Carolyn Jackson, Tracy Larkin, Betty Sanders, Juanita Smith, Ron Smith, Saint Thomas, Robert Turner, Ruth Turner

BBCF BULLOCK CO. 2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS:

(ARTS GRANTS & COMMUNITY GRANTS)

Bullock County Humane Society CAMO Kids
Chilly's ICE Cool Band Perote Colored Cemetery
Christian Leaders of USA, Inc. BCHS Beehive Booster Club