

The Scope

Bigger Vision Of Athens Monthly Newsletter



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Bigger Vision Highlights:

New School Year, New Faces, and our Bigger Vision!

With Athens ringing in a new school year this past month, Bigger Vision of Athens has welcomed many new faces into our dedicated family of supporters. As you visit Bigger Vision's campus over the coming weeks, you may have an opportunity to meet some fantastic undergraduate and graduate student volunteers helping expand our services' quality and reach.

As Bigger Vision prepares its campus for cooler temperatures, we have been extremely privileged to welcome a team of upperclassmen and graduate-level Landscape Architects from the University of Georgia to revitalize our outdoor spaces, including the potential development of brand-new areas for our guests and staff. In addition to seeking input from staff, guests, and board members in preparing our new spaces, our landscape architecture volunteers will be helping semi-regularly in the evenings to meet with and serve alongside our community of volunteers. Please feel free to say hello and share your thoughts and input with these spectacular artists over the coming weeks!

In addition to our new upper-level students and graduate-level volunteers, we have also been fortunate to meet and partner with undergraduate fellows within the University of Georgia's Institute for Leadership Advancement! These rising stars are in the beginning stages of their undergraduate careers and will provide critical support to our fundraising

and marketing operations.

We are excited to welcome all of our new volunteers into our operation, and we hope you get a chance to meet with these exceptional young people while visiting our campus over the coming months!

Temporary Technical Issues:

We've been experiencing temporary technical issues with the **director at biggervisionofathens.org** email address, but our tech wizards are working hard to get everything sorted out! While they tinker away, please reach out to thebiggervisionshelter@gmail.com to reach our director, or call the facility at 706-340-6062 and choose extension 5.

Thank you for your patience!



We are having some technical problems

Meet Our New Intern: Kaylah Holmes

Bigger Vision Welcomes Kaylah With Open Arms!

Kaylah Holmes is our newest MPA Intern from the University of Georgia. In her program, she specializes in Nonprofit Management. Kaylah received her Bachelor's in Political Science with a Public Policy and Management minor from UGA in 2021. She is sincerely passionate about making significant changes for those experiencing homelessness in Athens, Georgia. With her educational background and professional skills, we are sure she will help our organization exceed its goals. Welcome, Kaylah!



Donor Spotlight of the Month: Zombie Donuts

On Thursday, September 1st, Athens's own Zombie Coffee and Donuts

donated three dozen designer donuts to Bigger Vision of Athens. The donuts were a special dessert for our shelter guests that night. The donut donation was the start of a larger collaborative partnership between Zombie and Bigger Vision. In the coming months, Zombie will feature Bigger Vision in their Zombie Gives Back initiative. This charitable giving program allows Zombie customers to vote for their favorite of three nonprofits to receive 5% of Zombie's revenue for that month. We are so grateful to partner with a local favorite like Zombie! We will provide more information on the Zombie Gives Back fundraiser in the coming weeks!



Volunteer Opportunities:

Serve a meal! Meal Providers can now choose between coming inside to serve our guests directly or dropping the meal off to be served by staff and Evening Volunteers as we have done during the past two years. We understand that everyone's schedules are different, and we feel that providing this choice will allow more of our supporters to provide dinner for our guests. Meal Providers will be asked to wear masks while present inside the facility and interacting with staff, guests, and other volunteers. Sign up to become a:

Meal Provider Volunteer

- In a group or individually, plan and prepare, or purchase a meal for a minimum of 40 guests.
- Deliver & drop off the meal at Bigger Vision between 5:00-5:30 pm **OR**
- Arrive between 5:30 and 5:45 to set up the meal and serve dinner between 6:00 and 6:15.

OPEN SEPTEMBER DATES FOR MEAL PROVIDER VOLUNTEER

September 9th
September 17th
September 19th
September 20th
September 21st
September 27th
September 28th
September 29th

Evening Volunteer

- Assisting staff with guest check-ins

- Assisting guests with minor issues
- Help facilitate a smooth dinner process
- Build relationships with guests through conversations and games
- Provide encouragement and offer advice when requested

Evening Sessions

- Provide an enriching experience for up to ten individuals that can cover any number of topics including, but not limited to:
 - Financial Literacy
 - Health/Wellness
 - Coping Strategies
 - Religious Groups
 - Local Services
 - Recreation/Hobbies
 - Education/Skill Building

To sign up for an evening session, please reach out to thebiggervisionshelter@gmail.com.

Questions?

Please don't hesitate to reach out for assistance! We are always available to help with the volunteer sign-up process. To contact us via email, please send your questions to thebiggervisionshelter@gmail.com. To reach us by phone, dial the shelter number at 706-340-6062 and hit extension 3.

Learn More

Opportunities for Financial Donations:

Bed Sponsorship Program: While any donation is greatly appreciated, we have a goal of raising enough money to sponsor all of the beds for the guests of our overnight stay program. One night's stay includes two meals, a shower/laundry, and any basic necessities a guest may need. Please email Director@BiggerVisionOfAthens.org or go to our website if you are interested in donating to one of our three commitment tiers:

BRONZE LEVEL



Bronze Bed Sponsorship:
\$20/Monthly Commitment
Contributions are

SILVER LEVEL



Silver Bed Sponsorship:
\$250/Monthly Commitment
Contributions are

GOLD LEVEL



Gold Bed Sponsorship:
\$500/Monthly Commitment
Contributions are recognized with:

recognized with:
Standard magnet with
chosen name on bed &
recognition on the
Bigger Vision of Athens
website & social media

1 bed for 1 night each month

recognized with:
Custom magnet with
chosen name, a photo
op with you/your group,
& recognition on the
Bigger Vision of Athens
website & social media

1 bed for 182 nights each year

Stand-alone custom
magnet with chosen
name & logo on bed, a
photo-op with you/your
group, &
recognition on the
Bigger Vision of Athens
website & social media

1 bed for 365 nights each year

Givebutter – Using Givebutter, you will be able to contribute as a one time donation, or as a monthly contribution to the Bed Sponsorship program through the portal on our [website](#) or by scanning the QR code provided.



Check – If your check represents a Bed Sponsorship, please indicate so in the memo line. Either drop them off in-person M-F between 9am-4pm, or mail it to:

The Bigger Vision of Athens, Inc.,
P.O. Box 8022, Athens, GA 30603

Other Opportunities: If the bed sponsorship program isn't right for you, we appreciate one-time donations as well through the avenues listed above. In addition, we provide the option for you to donate while also shopping online or for your groceries:

Amazon Smile – When using [Smile.Amazon.com](#) (instead of Amazon.com), a percentage of every purchase you make will be donated to Bigger Vision of Athens if you select our organization.

Kroger Plus – Activate [Kroger Community Rewards](#) to donate a percentage of every purchase you make using your Kroger Plus card to BVOA if you select our organization.

Creative Ways to Donate: Here are some fun ways to get your network involved in your support of Bigger Vision!



Donate Gently Used Clothes!
One cost-free way is to



Car Wash Day!
Grab a group of friends
and host a local car



Host a Bake Sale!
Do you love to bake?
Hosting a local bake

donate any of your unwanted or old clothes to our guests at the shelter! Fall and Winter are approaching so those seasonal items would really help our guests keep warm! Gloves, sweaters, t-shirts, scarves, hats, you name it!

wash to raise funds! This is a great way to get the community to come together and not only raise money but to have fun while doing it!

sale is a great way to do what you love while raising funds for those experiencing homelessness!

Opportunities for Item Donations:

Amazon Donation List: Our supply of items fluctuates, so we keep a list of items we're currently most in need of on [Amazon](#).

Walmart Registry for Good – Visit our [Walmart](#) registry to see more items the shelter is in need of, including gift cards that can be used for future purchases!

This month's **highest** needs:

- **EARPLUGS**
- **NEW MEN AND WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR**
- **NEW SOCKS**
- **RAZORS**
- **DEODORANT**
- Assorted Snacks

COVID-19 Shelter Updates:

In an effort to continue placing the health and safety of guests, volunteers, and staff as a top priority, the board has determined that some existing precautions **will continue to remain in place**. These precautions include:

- Guests are asked to provide proof of at least one COVID-19 vaccination.
- Guests are having their temperature checked, are asked to sanitize their hands & are required to wear a mask.
- Volunteers are asked to wear a mask while inside the facility and interacting with guests.
- In the case of exposure to the virus, we will close the shelter until we deem it safe to return.

Upcoming Events

September 10th:
Street Love Ministries
Monthly Giveaway
11:00 – 1:00
FREE

September 17th:
1:00 – 2:00
Hall Family Lunch
Event
FREE



FAQ:

When can fall and winter supplies begin to be donated?

- Right now! With the cool weather approaching, Bigger Vision is gearing up to serve our guests during the coldest parts of the year. Please help support our guests by donating gently used clothing, new socks and underwear, hand warmers, blankets, and other cold-weather items.

What volunteer opportunities work best for returning students?

- New and returning UGA students should check out our Evening Volunteer role! This is a great way to help us serve our guests while also providing a wonderful learning experience about the importance of human services and community support.

What food items does Bigger Vision NOT accept?

- While we always enjoy receiving donations from our supporters, there are some limitations to what we can accept due to local regulations surrounding food health and safety. Here are some items that we are unable to utilize here at our facility:
 - Canned goods that require a can opener (pop tops are okay!)
 - Uncooked meats
 - Open jars or bags
 - Uncooked rice, pasta, or other unprepared items

If you have a question about whether your food donation would be applicable, please call us! If we cannot take the donation ourselves, we'll make sure to point you in the right direction so nothing goes to waste.

Connect with us

Bigger Vision of Athens, Inc. | 706-340-6062 | [Volunteer](#) | [Website](#)



The Bigger Vision of Athens, Inc. | 95 North Avenue, Athens, GA 30601

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