

Program Spotlight: Interfaith Neighbors Business Development Center Food Entrepreneur Program



*Ryan Nelson delivering Viva Energy Bars to
High Voltage Café in Asbury Park*

Entrepreneur Ryan Nelson was about as strong a candidate as they come to be successful once he set out to bring a family concept for an organic and vegan energy bar to market.

Nelson, 26, of Ocean Township, thrives on the hard work that it has taken to get his Viva Energy Bar on the shelves of over 100 retailers in the tri-state area since launching his business a year ago. He has since brought on two Associates who continue to work with him tirelessly as they bake, package, and deliver bars by the thousands.

Nelson was in Interfaith Neighbors Business Development Center's (BDC) first group of potential entrepreneurs in a program that is partnering with Rutgers University's Food Innovation Center to help teams or individuals create a product and bring it to market.

"I grew up in and around the organic retail industry and learned at an early age the values of entrepreneurship and the enjoyment that comes from building a company based around a fun culture," Nelson said.

His family owns Dean's Natural Market in Ocean Township, Shrewsbury, Basking Ridge and

Chester, and has been a supporter of youth development programs in Asbury Park and of other nonprofits.

Ryan's entrepreneurial spirit and work ethic have helped him in launching his successful business. Instilling those values and skills is a big part of the Interfaith BDC program.

"A lesson that we try to teach is there's a lot more to getting a product to market than just having a great concept," said Gillian Edgar, Business Development Center Associate. "We give all of the teams the same guidance that we gave Ryan, and Ryan was able to capitalize on that because of his work ethic and what he could bring to the table."

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Direct from the Director (cont.)

Joe is always quick to acknowledge that our success as a not-for-profit organization derives from the contributions of many and, in particular, from the daily efforts of our dedicated staff and volunteers—some of whom have been working with us for more than a quarter of a century—and whom I delight in recognizing here: 29 Years: Diane Madsen, 27 years: Veronica Bacharde, Meg Flores, Sally Maloney, Sandi Silber, Linetta Wall; 25 Years: Dolores Drobný, Baptiste Pothier, Grace Yannick; 30 Years: Sally Prisant (Board President, original board member), Pam Saunders (original board member).

If you are reading this newsletter then you too are a likely contributor of your time and/or your financial resources to meet the needs of others. We so very much appreciate your support and applaud your kindred spirit! Help us to spread the word—there's no end to the need—and know that we welcome all who wish to join us as either volunteer or a valued donor! Let us together continue to produce tiny miracles in support of those in need for at least another 30 years! Yours in service to others,

Paul L. McEwly, Executive Director



The Joseph J. Marmora Endowed Fund for Rental & Mortgage Assistance

June 2018 marked the retirement of Interfaith Neighbors' founding Executive Director, Joseph J. Marmora. Earlier this year, in honor of Joe's 30 years of service, the Board of Trustees established the Joseph J. Marmora Endowed Fund for Rental & Mortgage Assistance. This program at Interfaith Neighbors continues to be Joe's passion, and he continues to serve as an advisor to the program in his retirement.

Leading up to Interfaith Neighbors' 30th Anniversary Gala held in June, staff, Trustees, and friends were quietly asked to help seed this fund in Joe's honor. He was surprised with the establishment of the fund at the event. And, we are pleased to announce that over \$191,000 in contributions were made, well exceeding the initial goal of \$50,000, a true testament to the leadership, reputation, and character of Joe Marmora.

The funds in the endowment will be invested and held in perpetuity with earnings distributed annually to support the Rental and Mortgage Assistance program, supporting working Monmouth County families at risk of eviction or foreclosure.

If you would like to contribute to the fund in Joe's honor, call 732.775.0525, ext. 220 or visit www.interfaithneighbors.org/endowment.

Want to get involved at Interfaith Neighbors?
There are lots of ways you can help!

GIVE • LEARN • VOLUNTEER

To learn more about the community issues we address or for information about volunteering, joining our team, or ways to give, visit:
www.interfaithneighbors.org
or call 732.775.0525.



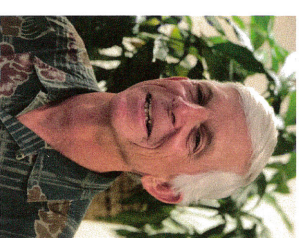
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Direct from the Director

"We are neighbors helping neighbors..."

The first time I heard those words was over 25 years ago, sitting in church listening as Joe Marmora made an eloquent appeal for support for Interfaith Neighbors, something he does once a year from our church pulpit. As I listened to his words that morning, I couldn't help but be impressed by Joe's dedication and compassion for those neighbors of ours throughout the County who were in danger of being evicted from their homes.



About 20 years ago, while on sabbatical from my job in the banking industry and recalling his words, I wondered into Joe's office, said I had some time on my hands, and offered to help out in any way that I could. As so often happens, one thing led to another and soon enough I found myself leaving the corporate world behind to work side by side with Joe helping those less fortunate among us "get to a better place."

Joe has worked tirelessly over these past 30 years to meet the needs of others and to improve the communities within which they live, and has well earned his "Emeritus" status. He has inspired me and countless others to devote their time, energy and financial support to meet these seemingly never-ending needs.

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Of his time with the program, Nelson says: "It was a stimulating four months where I was able to build the brand and different flavor profiles. If you have a product that you want to bring to life, the Food Entrepreneur Program can be the stepping stone to take your product from idea to fruition."

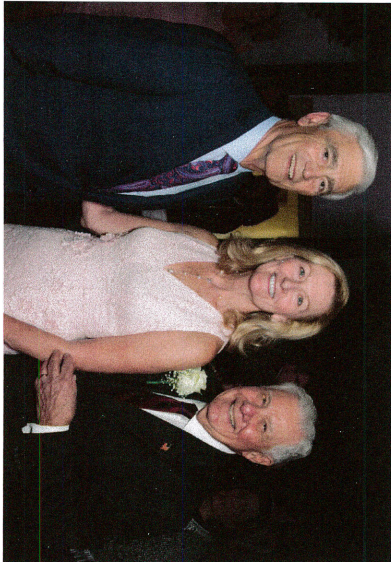
The organic energy bars come in three flavors: Oats, Nuts & Chocolate; Peanut Butter & Chocolate; and Coffee. Vira Bar's mission is to bring the highest quality ingredients together to provide their consumers with an awesome-tasting clean product.



Interfaith Neighbors' 30th Anniversary Gala **DECADES OF DEDICATION**

Improving the Quality of Life at the Jersey Shore

Many thanks to all the volunteers and supporters of Interfaith Neighbors' 30th Anniversary Gala in June 2018. We had a wonderful evening celebrating the careers of two of the shore area's leaders, John K. Lloyd of Hackensack Meridian *Health* and Joseph J. Marmora of Interfaith Neighbors.



John K. Lloyd, Honoree; Kathleen T. Ellis, Gala Chairperson; Joseph J. Marmora, Honoree

Neighbor Spotlight: **Robert Beaty, III**



One of the great matches at Kula Urban Farm last year was bringing on Asbury Park native Robert Beaty, III to help build and manage the Farm Without Borders on Springwood Avenue.

Beaty, who is 30, grew up just three blocks to the west on

Springwood where his father Robert Beaty Jr. owns a building with a restaurant, barbershop and apartments. His dad taught him to be an entrepreneur, but also to give as much to the community as he could, the younger Beaty says.

Beaty came on board with Interfaith Neighbors in March 2017 through Kula Farm's work experience program where residents can be paid for up to 60 work hours at the farm. Fifteen residents completed the program so far and several, including Beaty, continued on to long-term, part-time jobs at the farm.

Beaty also has been able to help staff Kula's Farm to Table dinners at the greenhouse, a type of work that relates to his other job as a supervisor for a catering business at Monmouth Park Racetrack.

"He's been very consistent at work and has such a great personality," says Lisa Bagwell, who with Thisis van Oosterhout manages Interfaith's year-round Kula Urban Farm and oversees the Farm Without Borders program. "He's been good at bringing people into the farm. He's very welcoming."

Beaty says that when he first started helping to create the Farm Without Borders, located on land owned by Interfaith across from Kula Café, people in the neighborhood couldn't understand what he was doing working in a vacant lot.

"I felt we were helping the community," Beaty says. "This is an area that has known a lot of negativity and now that you have a garden smack in the middle of it, it's a positive."

"We help a lot of people with vegetables, and give them seeds to start their own gardens," Beaty

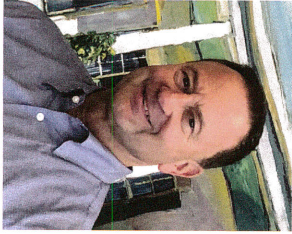
said. "All the food that's grown is free. We want people to stop by and get vegetables to cook and eat."

The farm has expanded from the original lot to nearly three times in size, courtesy of Monmouth Elks Lodge No. 122 which owns the adjacent property.

"We get our water from the city fire department, which we really appreciate, and try to keep good relationships with everyone," Beaty said. "This was just a random dirt parking lot," he added in a rather proud way, standing in the midst of the flourishing summer garden. "We're open to all, and take what you need," he said.

New Addition

Interfaith Neighbors is pleased to welcome and introduce Walter "Chip" Craig, who recently joined the Interfaith Neighbors team as Associate Executive Director. Chip has served as a volunteer at Interfaith



Neighbors, first on the organization's Advisory Board, followed by three years on the Board of Trustees, prior to joining the team.

Mr. Craig most recently served as Principal and Managing Director of Coast Capital Partners, LLC and brings a broad range of relevant experience in business development and mentoring, finance, and corporate legal background.

Chip is a Founder, former Chairman, and current Trustee of The Friends of the Spring Lake 5. He served as a Trustee for the Peddie School in Hightstown, NJ. And, over the past 17 years at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in Spring Lake, Chip has chaired the Finance Committee, been Lay Leader, and serves as ongoing member of the Administrative Council.

Chip has been married for 30 years to Andrea Stephanides Craig. They have had three children. Mr. Craig graduated from Seton Hall Law School in 1981, Bucknell University, cum laude in 1976, and Peddie School in 1972.

Donor Spotlight: **Mary Owen Borden Foundation**

Our First Grant Supporter Has Never Stopped Giving!

Thirty years ago, the Mary Owen Borden Foundation gave a newly-launched Interfaith Neighbors its first grant to help carry out a mission to prevent families from becoming homeless.

This year, as we celebrate 30 years of serving the community, we would like to remember that very first grant and express our appreciation of that foundation that has been with us all the way.

"Mary Owen Borden was the first, and has supported us consistently year in and year out," says Executive Director, Paul McEvily.

"Originally, the grants were for the homeless program, and then, beyond that, the Foundation has had a particular interest in supporting the revitalization of Asbury Park," McEvily said. "They've provided funding for our workforce development program, neighborhood revitalization, the Kula Café and Kula Urban Farm."

Because of Mary Owen Borden's interest in Asbury Park and revitalization, the foundation asked McEvily to join its Board of Trustees. "They were intent on having representation on their board from an agency that provides frontline services for the communities they support," he said.

Bertram H. Borden founded the Mary Owen Borden Foundation in 1934 to honor his wife shortly after her death. In the early decades, the foundation funded local charities and projects at Victory Park, Rumson High School, Monmouth Medical Center and the Manhattan School of Music.

In recent decades, Mary Owen Borden has focused on the needs of disadvantaged youth and their families in New Jersey's Mercer and Monmouth Counties. That focus on disadvantaged families led Mary Owen Borden to become a strong supporter of Interfaith.

Just as it did 30 years ago, the Foundation continues to support our program to prevent homelessness. The latest \$15,000 grant was awarded in June, 2018.