



# Called to Care for 130 Years

## *The Story of the National Benevolent Association*

*Jackie Compton Bunch  
Rev. Rebecca Hale*



Inasmuch  
as ye have  
done it unto  
one of the  
least of these  
my brethren,  
ye have  
done it  
unto me.

st. matthew 25:40



NBA

what  
we do  
best  
is  
care.

since 1887

®



National Benevolent Association

**XPLOR**

FAITH, JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY





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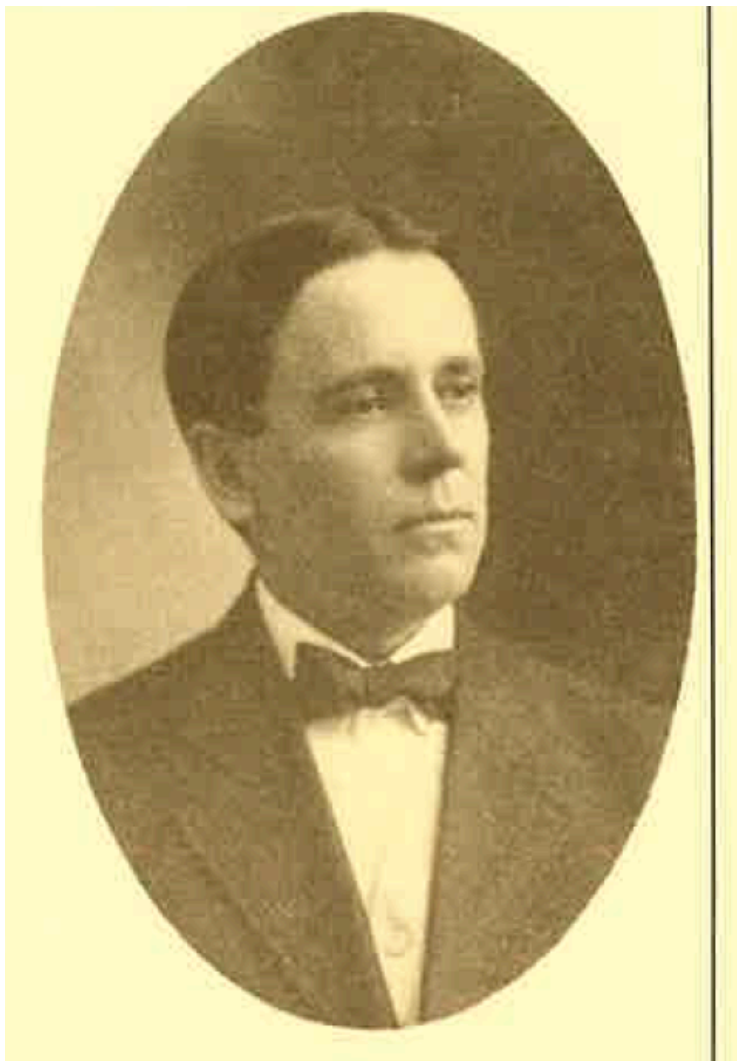


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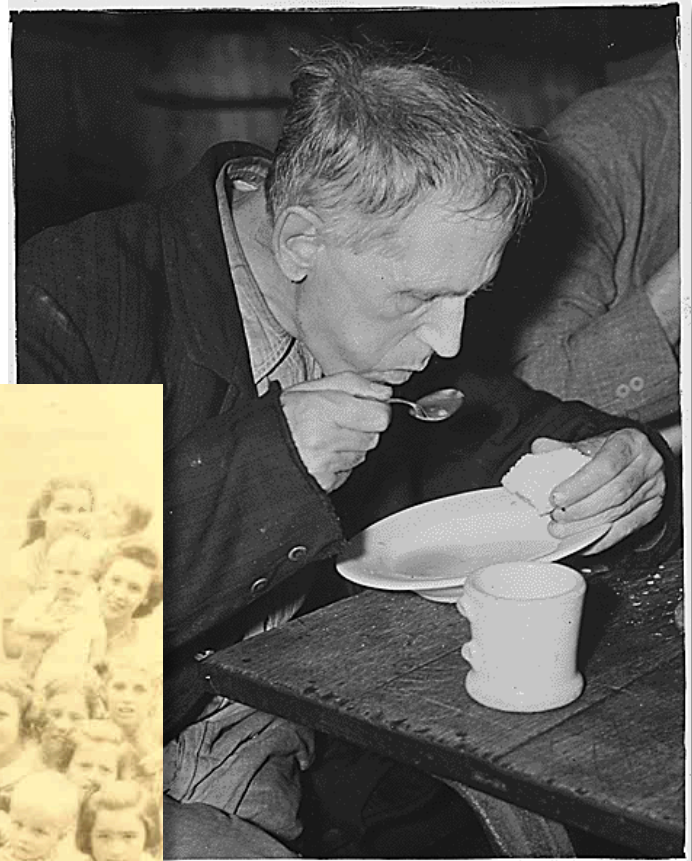


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# GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

OCTOBER 29, 1937

1887-1937

COLUMBUS, OHIO

**"SHOULDERING, SHELTERING, LOVING"**

## At the 50 year anniversary, we see that:

- Exact replicas of the 12 Homes, electrically lighted to reveal models of children and oldsters at play and at work, were arranged geographically on the floor so viewers could walk among them.
- Asa F. Seay was introduced as President of the National Benevolent Association, replacing W. Palmer Clarkson who became Chairman of the Board.
- Thirty-two hundred attendees watched the evening presentation—"March of Mercy"—with a cast of 100. This pageant depicted 50 years in NBA and included 70 children from the Cleveland Christian Home under the direction of Anna Garver, Superintendent.
- J. Eric Carlson, the new General Secretary, was introduced to the Convention.
- Family Talk was becoming the mouthpiece for NBA.
- Two thousand sixty churches were listed as contributing to NBA – a gain of 86 from the previous year.
- Barton Stone's grandson entered Florida Christian Home.
- Offerings from churches increased by \$18,705 from the previous year.
- The number of annuity bonds doubled.
- Bequests increased by \$7,000.

**NBA  
JUBILEE**

50 Years  
of  
Benevolence

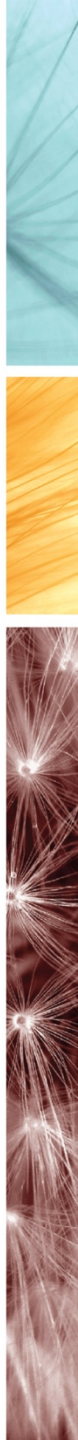


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## Moving Forward

# Snapshot: 2003

## NBA Owned and Operated:

- 11 Senior-Care Facilities
- 3 Special-Care Facilities for individuals who are developmentally disabled
- 4 Children's-Care Facilities

**The NBA managed 70 HUD-financed Communities – adult low-income residential housing projects**

*Source: In Matter of National Benevolent Association of Christian Church (Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, 2009.)*





*"NBA was a vibrant, strong, growing, expanding ministry with magnificent staff and leadership, committed people, and I think everybody felt the sky was the limit ... 9/11 and then the huge loss of money and the ensuing bankruptcy were dismal, dismal days."*

*- Rev. Dr. Ben Bohren, Former NBA Director of Church Relations; Current Mission Specialist, NBA XPLOR*



*"I was concerned, like everybody in the denomination, about the bankruptcy and what it would mean for this health services unit that we had all come to know and love and depend on...There was this question of, 'Now what do we do?' - in addition to a very real sense of hope for whatever's going to happen in the future, and what we are called to do as a board is to be faithful to the task that the denomination has invited us to take on."*

*- Rev. Belva Brown Jordan,  
Former NBA Board Chair*

# Mark Anderson Called as President



*"My experiences in the social work arena have been vast and varied, with challenges and joys along the way, but always at the core of my professional career, it was my faith in God that kept calling me back to caring for those in need and living on the margins of our society. So when the position opened up at NBA, with the charge from the Board of Trustees to lead with vision and passion, I was all in!"*

*- Mark D. Anderson,  
NBA President and CEO*







# Mission, Vision, Values

## Mission Statement

Following God's call, the National Benevolent Association exists to inspire and connect the people and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), to accompany one another in the creation of communities of compassion and care, and to advocate for the well-being of humanity.

## Vision Statement

Creating communities of compassion and care

## Core Values

The core values of the NBA, a general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), serve as the foundation of how we go about our work, organize ourselves and the communities we partner with, and how we measure our programs and initiatives. We live out these values in our daily interactions with one another and with the community members we accompany and advocate alongside. These values endure from season to season, situation to situation, and person to person. They guide our organizational culture as we live out faithful commitments to all of God's creation.



# Values → Culture / Behaviors

- Rooted in Compassionate Care
- Accountability
- Collaborative Partnerships
- Accompaniment
- Forward-Leaning



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# How We Work



HER Faith Ministries Summer Camp

## INCUBATE

The NBA incubates new ministries, empowering Disciples-led health and social service projects to focus on their growth, strengthen their impact, and plan for appropriate sustainability. Through the **NBA Incubate Initiative**, we support social entrepreneurs of faith who are serving their communities in a variety of innovative ways.



NBA XPLO Residents in North Hollywood

## INITIATE

The NBA initiates ministries designed to establish and grow partnerships with health and social service supporters and providers. In 2014, we launched **NBA XPLO**, a 10-month, faith-based Residency for young adults discerning lives of care and service.



Sozo Health Ministry, Patchwork Central

## CONNECT

The NBA connects **Disciples-related health and social service ministries** and mission partners—connections that empower them to learn, collaborate, and grow stronger. Our networks include the **Mental Health Initiative**, **Prison and Jail Ministries**, and **Peer Groups** for executive leaders and marketing/development professionals.



# 130 Years and Counting!



spread  
**JOY**



spread  
**HOPE**

WE ARE THE  
**HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE  
GENERAL MINISTRY**  
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)





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# Thank You!

ENGAGE WITH THE NBA!



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