



Impact Report 2025

Thank you for your incredible support!



Glen Ellyn Backyard BBQ Overview

2025 marked the 17th year of the Glen Ellyn Backyard BBQ. This much-anticipated, free, family-friendly festival draws thousands of BBQ and live music fans from across the Chicago region, all to raise funds for Bridge Communities' Transitional Housing Program. And you, as a valued sponsor, helped make it all possible!

Glorious weather, a stellar line-up of four live bands, delicious food from four vendors, and ample libations provided by Two Brothers Brewing boosted attendance and helped create the perfect opportunity to showcase your brand and community commitment.

What started as a small neighborhood event has grown into the largest amateur BBQ competition in the state of Illinois. This year forty-two teams vied for bragging rights and beautiful custom-designed, hand-crafted, fire-branded wood trophies sponsored by Steamboat BBQ. KCBS-certified judges determined honors in five different categories, while attendees tasted samples and cast their votes for the People's Choice Best Sauce winner.

Piglet Playland delivered on the family fun theme with a giant slide, a myriad of activities, live entertainment from Mary Macaroni, and more. The area was full of laughter, energy, and joy and helped draw hundreds of young families to the BBQ.



2025 Financial Results

Thanks to you and our many generous participants, net proceeds were \$37,886. Funds raised will help provide housing and programming for Bridge families in the coming year.

Your sponsorship also enabled Bridge to promote our mission – and your brand – to an estimated 2,000 attendees, competitors, and volunteers. The more sponsor dollars we have the more funds go directly to the bottom line. Your sponsorship was key to maximizing net income and our ability to impact the lives of the resilient families Bridge serves.

We hope you will continue your support of this unique, community-wide event in 2026 and beyond.

2026 Results:

Revenue: \$67,785

Expense: \$29,899

Net: \$37,886



BBQ Marketing

Your brand was promoted via a four-month long email and social media campaign reaching thousands of your current and potential customers. Moreover, 6,000+ of our digital 2025 annual report recipients will see your company thanked as a cherished supporter of Bridge Communities and the brave families we have the honor of helping.

Social Media:

Your logo was shared on Bridge's Facebook page, with more than 3,600 followers, our Instagram with more than 1,400 followers, and our LinkedIn with more than 1,100 followers. On the BBQ's Facebook page, your company received even more attention with over 3,400 followers. In the months leading up to the BBQ, the BBQ Facebook page had a reach of over 23,000 and generated 73,000+ views!

E-mail Campaign:

Your company was thanked and your logo was prominently shared in a series of 7 emails that went out to 5,000+ people.

Website:

Your company's logo was also shared on our website and was seen by our website users through about 5,800 page visits!



Thank you!

Thank you again for supporting Bridge Communities through your sponsorship of the Glen Ellyn Backyard BBQ. You are helping to provide homes and hope to 100+ DuPage families this year through Bridge's unique and proven service model.

Sponsorships sell out fast for this highly popular event. **Won't you please join us and commit now to sponsoring next year's Backyard BBQ on September 12th?**





Connecting families facing homelessness to
a better future since 1988

Mission:

The mission of Bridge Communities is to transition families facing homelessness to self-sufficiency by working with partners to provide mentoring, housing, and supportive services.

Vision:

Our vision is a community where all families are healthy, financially stable, and living in affordable housing.

Values:

Our core values—Partnership, Hope, Integrity, Respect, and Empowerment—guide everything we do and reflect the commitment of everyone involved in Bridge Communities.

