



December 8, 2008

Dear Friends:

There's a sense of unease hanging over our Detroit neighborhoods because of the economic debacle. Yet, the community we serve does have much to celebrate. Thanks to the faithful support of you and others, our youth program has gone from impacting dozens of children at our base at **All Saints Neighborhood Center** to involving hundreds in exciting activities here, at two nearby schools, and at the new Lafayette Playlot (right). This year, kids learned to kayak and to paint and to sing. Teens spent a week at Madonna University and got a sense of what college will hold in store for them. Others created really good art on garages under the tutelage of artists from the College for Creative Studies and earned the admiration of community adults (e.g., below and right).



Christine Bell and her staff, interns, and volunteers, mentored kids having trouble moving beyond family traditions of education ending at 8th grade. We spent time with others caught up in serious inter-family feuds and got them through dangerous circumstances. We helped parents learn English and computer skills and to get their GEDs.

On the community front, we dedicated the completely rebuilt

Lafayette play lot in June. We purchased land for a new mini-park in support of new housing by a partner agency – the first new homes here in decades. We received funding to begin work in January on planning outdoor recreation sites across southwest Detroit. On the horizon – an exciting neighborhood makeover initiative. We are here to create a better life for families in the city.



Oh yes, to better communicate our mission, we are renaming our organization. **Neighborhood Centers Incorporated is now “Urban Neighborhood Initiatives.”** Building vital neighborhoods is what we are about. We do this through many initiatives – parks, blight reduction, community redesign, youth programs at schools and more. **All Saints Neighborhood Center** is still our anchor site but it's only the beginning of a total neighborhood impact strategy. Our new corporate name gets it right. Please help us to continue to build hope and positive lives in healthy urban neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Dennis Nordmoe
Executive Director

Lea Schefsky
President

Christine A. Bell, MSWLL
Human Development Director

We started with:

Where we continue to develop human skills, creating hope and community in one neighborhood



Then we created:

Neighborhood Centers Incorporated (NCI)
Providing a IRS-recognized charity to assemble funds and staff for positive community development at All Saints Neighborhood Center and other locations.



We evolved into:

Urban Neighborhood Initiatives (UNI)
Communicating better the strength of our broad strategy of comprehensively revitalizing central city neighborhoods.



Our address is still 8300 Longworth, Detroit, MI 48209. Our phone is still 313-841-4447. Though our business name has changed, we are still the same agency, and can legally accept donations under any of the three above names.

- Yes, I'll help.
- Please contact me about joining the Board or a committee.
- Enclosed is \$_____ for your ministry of human and community development.
- I pledge \$_____ per year for the next five years in support of your work.
- Please remove me from your list.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____