

Extreme HOME MAKEOVER



In December Central Detroit Christian CDC was able to present two families with houses to call their own. It was a dream come true for both households and made for a lot of smiling faces.



We renovated a house in the Boston –Edison Historic District (see picture) and as part of the Mayor's Project 14 program, we were able to get a police officer qualified for a mortgage and moved in on December 22nd.



Both CDC and Officer C (name not given to protect his identity) gave all praise to God at the closing. The officer was thrilled beyond belief at the beauty of his home and because of the excellent renovation of his house, there are 10 more officers who are inquiring about a home in this beautiful neighborhood. Next up? Officer C's partner, Officer H.

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I don't think I have ever seen Alicia smile so much as she did on December 17th when she and her girls moved into their home. Thank you and giggles like a school girl were all I heard from her that day. Ward Presbyterian Church and its members renovated this home over the course of three months taking something old, broken down and abandoned and making it into something beautiful. Each of the three girls now have their own bedroom (they never had before) and are in love with their new home. Alicia has had some difficult challenges in her past, but with the help of the Lord and involvement in an ongoing discipleship relationship with one of our staff, Alicia is on a pathway to victorious Christian living. Thanks Ward Presbyterian for making dreams come true.

Letter From the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

There's been a lot of anxiety in Detroit lately; more layoffs at the City; the possibility of an emergency financial manager as a \$300+ million dollar deficit looms; plans for a light rail transport system derailed by the Department of Transportation; a two year old child missing from our neighborhood for over a month.

Smaller calamities face us each and every day in our work in central Detroit—someone stabbed, families homeless, children abandoned, a parent dies, a family home broken into, a car stolen, counterfeit money passed, and each and every day we have to get up and put one foot in front of the other and keep walking in faith and obedience. That is our single greatest accomplishment at CDC—that we get up everyday and keep doing what we do.

“ *We are afflicted but not crushed; perplexed but not despairing; struck down but not destroyed...but we do not lose heart. For momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison. II Cor. 4: 8,16-17.* ”

There is so much we cannot control—so much hopelessness. Our city is battered and challenged, but we serve a living God who is in control of the entire universe! In central Detroit we continue to share a great light and a great hope. Prayerfully we demonstrate that through so much of what we do and even what we say. God is at work doing great and mighty things -- sometimes quietly, but always with love and the deepest compassion for us. So we press on, stay faithful and continue to believe. front of the other and keep walking in faith and obedience. That is our single greatest accomplishment at CDC—that we get up everyday and keep doing what we do.

*Serving Him,
Lisa Johanson*

Welcome

Russell Howard



He is no stranger to CDC having directed summer day camp for a couple of years, but we are pleased to welcome him as our newest staff member. Russell joined staff in September 2011 and has taken over the Children's Director's position.

Russell now runs the Tuesday evening Break-through Enrichment Program, facilitates Karate classes for the children and instructors, and is the “go-to” guy for tutoring on Saturday mornings. We all enjoy his winning smile, his sense of humor and his get it done attitude. Welcome aboard Russell.



Volunteer needed to manage CDC's Facebook page.
IS IT YOU?

I want to HELP

Your financial donations help to meet the needs of our community through relationships and programs

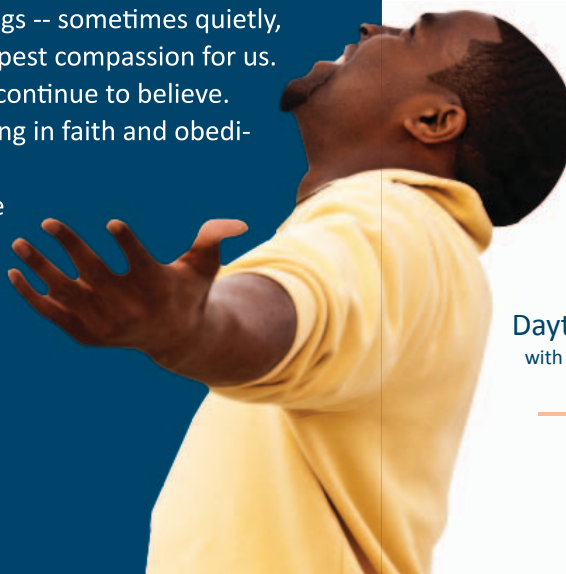
I want to support CDC by making a donation

Amount of Gift:

Name:

Address:

Daytime Phone
with area code





“Do you offer tutoring?” YES WE DO!!

Last spring we launched a tutoring program for children. We heard the consistent cry of our parents looking for academic assistance and saw the struggles of students. God answered our prayer through Trinity Presbyterian Church of Plymouth and Calvary Baptist Church of Canton who joined forces and recruited enough tutors so that each child enrolled in tutoring could have individualized attention! Such attention helps kids reach our goal for them of reading and doing math at their grade level or

above. We thought computer based tutoring was going to be the big draw, but it turns out the tutors are. They are not only creative and fun, but they want to be there and they shower the children with love and lots of personal attention. About 40 students get up on a Saturday morning, forgo watching cartoons to work on building their skills to be successful in school.

In October we started offering tutoring for our high school students on

Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. It started out slowly with only one or two students showing up, but then....report cards came out and reality set in for about 12 more students. While small in size, those faithful who do show up get the academic assistance they need.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Wednesday and/or Thursdays from 5-7 p.m. Please contact our office or Eddie Sailes, our youth director if you are interested in volunteering.

Call: 313-873-0064



SPECIAL EVENTS

Harvest Party Celebration

To celebrate the 3rd anniversary of Peaches & Greens Produce Store and Mobil Truck we threw a party for our neighbors. It was a festive

occasion with hayrides through the community, pumpkin painting, a bonfire to roast marshmallows and bake apples, plenty of healthy food, an opportunity to sound off and say what you wanted to see in the neighborhood, music, time to fellowship with your neighbors, games and good old fashioned fun. About 500 neighbors came out and joined in the party and even stayed to clean up. Everyone had a wonderful time and by the way, Happy Birthday Peaches & Greens.

Boxes of Love

This Thanksgiving, our food outreach with Kensington Community Church expanded to include three more partners, Northend Christian Church, St. John’s CME and Vanguard CDC, in the distribution of 540 baskets filled with food and supplies to help our neighbors have a happy Thanksgiving. On November 17th, the Saturday before Thanksgiving, over 200 volunteers assembled food baskets and delivered them throughout the central Detroit community. Jacinta, a St. John’s volunteer said, “their eyes

told the story of their gratefulness.” Thanks to all who supported this endeavor financially, who handled the purchasing, who assembled and delivered the baskets.

Christmas CDC Style

‘Twas the week before Christmas and all through central Detroit volunteers and staff were gearing up for the annual Pride for Parents Christmas store. This is an opportunity for parents to shop for new items of clothing, toys or housewares for their family’s Christmas presents at 80-90% off the retail price making it very affordable. The mock store provides the dignity of choice and the element of independence for parents who often have to depend on the government or the generosity of others. Over a two day time period, we serviced 210 families giving parents pride.

Thanks to all the volunteers who donated clothing, toys, household goods, wrapping paper and food. Thanks to those who volunteered setting up the store and to those who ran the store so smoothly. Awesome job! More than one mom teared up as they were overwhelmed with gratefulness for all they were able to receive.



48202 & 48206

CENTRAL DETROIT COMMUNITY

Our ministry area covers zip codes 48202 & 48206, one of the poorest neighborhoods in Michigan. God has called us to be salt and light in communities of need.



Thank you to our Volunteers

Thank you Harvest Party, Thanksgiving and Christmas Store volunteers, 350 in total. You make the impossible possible. Thanks to all who serve alongside us in this great work.

2,111 volunteers this year donated 29,688 hours of service. Wow! Thank you!

Thank you to Our Donors

Thank you donors for your faithful giving throughout 2011. We could now have done it without you. You are renewing our lives beyond our imaginations. We are thankful for 88 new donors this year!

CREATING CHANGE

[CDC]
Central Detroit Christian
Community Development Corporation