Our Vision & Mission

Once again, old men and women will be standing in the streets with canes in their hands telling stories to one another - "A great place to grow old" and children will be playing in the streets "A great place to grow up."

Through Education, Employment and Economic Development, Central Detroit Christian CDC strives to transform individuals to be caring, confident individuals while transforming the community to be a place of Shalom.

Central Detroit Christian CDC was founded in 1993 when a coalition of pastors agreed that the community would experience a greater impact with a unified effort. At that time the coalition developed the following focus areas: youth ministry, job training & development, housing, and meeting direct needs. Programs launched in 1994. In the course of meeting our mission, Central Detroit Christian CDC provides numerous youth programs, employment training and placement, business development, housing renovation and counseling and even provides for direct needs.

25 Years of God’s grace
Dear Friends:

In 1993 Central Detroit Christian CDC was formed as a legal entity in the state of Michigan. In 1994 we started serving the community. So, in 2018 we “legally” became 25 years old and in 2019 we will celebrate becoming 25 years old because that’s figuratively when we started doing the work. No matter what year you want to celebrate, this is an historic time for CDC—we are 25 years old! Being 25 years old allows you to celebrate history, to look back and reflect on all that has happened both good and bad. It’s a time to remember valuable lessons learned, and to cherish loved ones we have lost. It’s even a time to evaluate the progress we have made in the lives of people and the life of our neighborhood.

We now have two generations of children and families involved. It’s amazing, but some kids we worked with years ago now bring their children to our programs because they remember the good times, they remember the spiritual foundation they got, they remember the love and nurturing they received, and they want their children to experience the same. Some of our staff have also grown up with us. What an endorsement for doing right.

In our history we experienced the biggest upheaval of our City’s economy (and the nation’s for that matter) with the recession and collapse of the housing market ten years ago. CDC emerged stronger than ever and in those ten years we quadrupled in budget and tripled in staff size. We developed more businesses and more houses than the 14 preceding years. We started over in so many ways, but got better at it in the process.

I am impressed that this organization has financial integrity and has had it since its inception. There are no skeletons in our closet and our audits demonstrate that. We pay our contractors and vendors and we try to use wisdom with what God has given us to steward.

We answer that loud question of “is it safe” with a commanding “our safety is in Jesus!” In 25 years we have seen and experienced our fair share of criminal acts, but so have our neighbors. Theft? Just about anything possible. Violence? Towards us—yes, defending others—yes, but God has kept us.

In 25 years we have stayed faithful to our mission of reaching the least, the lost, and the last in central Detroit. We have tweaked our mission statement, but the core of it has remained the same—education, employment, economic development and evangelism with the goal of transformation both of people and places. We have been involved in redemption work on multiple levels. Redeeming lives with an eternal reward and redeeming a community that was in need of and worthy of love and care.

We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the lives of so many people over the past 25 years. We are humbled that God has chosen to use us to serve our neighbors over the past two and a half decades.

Gratefully yours,

Lisa J.

Letter from the Executive Director
Brooklyn was six years old when her mom enrolled her in our Summer Day camp. She is such a bright and sweet child. Reading was our theme for day camp that year. We know that urban children actually digress in their academics in the summer without some type of reinforcement when they are out of school for such an extended period of time. It was during this time that we noticed that Brooklyn was reading below her grade level. We worked with her throughout the summer and then enrolled her in the SOAR reading based, volunteer driven tutoring program that we facilitate at our ministry center. Brooklyn excelled and we saw a steady improvement in her reading skills over the school year so much so that by the end of the school year, Brooklyn advanced two grade levels and is reading at a higher level than the grade she is in.

The educational challenges we face with the children in our community are enormous. This past year, we changed all of our children's programs to have a strong, measurable educational emphasis. Besides SOAR and ABC’s in the D, we utilize a program Zondervan publishing has created and where young readers are rewarded with character and Bible based books as they move through various reading levels. Students can earn up to 30 books a year.

Our Kids Are Smart

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Our Educational Programs reached

450+ people weekly

Programs offered included:
- Parenting with a Purpose Parenting classes & Home Visitation
- ABC’s in the D for 40 students; 1600 tutoring hours
- Breakthrough Enrichment – Tuesday & Thursday evenings (elementary & middle school); 100 students weekly
- Karate 4-12 students year round
- Teen Club; 60 students weekly
- SOAR Tutoring 25 students; 500 tutoring hours
- After School programming for HFA; 200 students 2x a week
- Cooking & Nutrition classes; 25 students total; 2 classes offered
- Summer Day Camp; 150 campers for 6 weeks
- Overnight Camp; 75 campers
- 4 weeks of Socrates in the Summer for 17 students
- Sports—flag football and soccer; 40 students in each
- GED training for 20 enrolled; 8 hours a week
Financial Wellness

We want our families to be well financially. Our Family Financial Wellness Center focuses on just that — making families financially well. As a HUD certified counseling agency, our counselors are well trained and prepared to deal with a variety of issues that face families in our community. These services range from Credit Counseling to Property Tax Exemption assistance, Tax Foreclosure Counseling, Home Buyer Education, Home Preservation Training and more. These counselors work with 500 families on an annual basis to bring financial healing to their household by the grace of God.

Recently, Mr. Jenkins came to our office asking if Central Detroit Christian could help him save his home. At that time we advised Mr. Jenkins he needed to attend our Home Buyer Education workshop. After meeting with one of our counselors, the counselor realized he had already lost his home and that his home was acquired by the Detroit Land Bank Authority.

Our counselor reached out to the DLBA, to see if Mr. Jenkins could participate in their buy back program. After a few weeks they sent Mr. Jenkins a letter stating that he could participate in the program.

While working with Mr. Jenkins through several life issues and assisting him with his budget and walking with him through the process, we celebrated with him as he received his deed back this year. It took a lot of prayer, but God is faithful.

Our Family Financial Wellness Center worked with over 500 families this past year in the following programs:

- Foreclosure counseling - 139
- Shepherding Zero Percent Loan applications - 41
- 30 families purchased a home of those enrolled in Home Buyer Education
Change a Parent
Change a Family

For two and half years Nia and her family have been a part of CDC. Nia heard about CDC’s parenting program from a friend in the neighborhood. At the time, her daughter, Mya was one years old and Nia was five months pregnant with twins. High school sweethearts, Nia and Thomas met each other and graduated from the same school. Nia, Mya and Mya’s father, Thomas were living together with Nia’s mother and little sister. The house had two bedrooms, so the family was pretty cramped together.

Nia started coming to parenting classes, our parent café and volunteering when she could in the parent pantry. She was happy to find a parenting program that offered more than just lessons on being a better parent. Moving forward, we’ve supported Nia delivering healthy twin boys (now 2). Mya is 3 years old now and in our Pathways of Promise Early Childhood Center, and Nia and Thomas got married (going on two years). Nia’s mother and sister moved into one of CDC’s apartments so the house is not so cramped, or cramped in a different way! Nia continues to receive home visits from our early childhood staff and is working full-time too.

Over the past summer Nia and Thomas had a few life changing experiences. First, Thomas, at the age of 25, had major heart surgery which led to him getting a pacemaker. Second, while counseling Nia, she prayed and accepted Christ into her heart. Our Parenting Director, Tanisha continues to meet with Nia to talk about parenting, the Bible, her relationship with others and with Christ. For the past few months, Nia & Thomas have been meeting with Tanisha and her husband Thomas to pray and talk about marriage. We are praying and believing that Nia’s husband Thomas will come to know Jesus Christ as his Lord as Savior.

CDC has walked beside this young family and met their felt needs including knowing Jesus. We don’t even want to think of what could have been if caring staff were not there in their time of need.

In our Community Outreach events we were able to reach families through 3 major events

- Back to School Backpack distributions resulted in 560 backpacks given to kids
- Thanksgiving Box distribution to 100 families
- Pride for Parents Christmas store and Christmas Adopt a Family reaching 90 families and approximately 350 people
In September, CDC held a MAN CAMP for about 35 teen aged young men. The two day event took place at CDC and involved sleeping in tents overnight — a first for many. Our theme was how God uses imperfect men to do incredible things for his kingdom using Jacob from Genesis as the example. They worshipped together and prayed as well. The young men felt free to be vulnerable, open up and ask questions in their small groups. They had a great time playing basketball and video games too. They prepared meals together and ate like a family (thanks Mr. Allen for teaching the cooking class). The young men took various skills classes like construction where they learned about different building materials and used drills and other tools. They learned how godly men treat women in today’s society. An added bonus was a talk presented by guest speaker Detroit Police Officer Shon Lott, a former CDC club kid, who spoke to the men about the correct way to interact with law enforcement.

At the end of this fun and faith packed weekend, eight young men accepted Christ as Lord and Savior! God continues to use the men and women of CDC to impact this community for His Kingdom. By building on the various youth programs that CDC offers year round, the team will continue to work with these young men in the areas of discipleship, mentoring, and leadership development. We are looking forward to continued opportunities to minister through our youth programs such as our weekly Teen Club program and our teen employment program, READY.

Change our young men and we change the destiny of our community.
Shandar walked in confidently and all full of energy. She looked familiar compared to the many other applicants because her children are enrolled in Pathways of Promise Early Childhood Day Care.

Shandar explained who she was as part of the interview process to become a student in our Prosper US entrepreneurial class. She is the mother of 3 beautiful children (she and her husband just had their third) who wants to start a business to give back to her community. Besides enrolling her children in Pathways of Promise, Shandar said that she was the recipient of many of the services CDC offers. Now that is interesting because we don’t offer a lot of programming for adults and she was already trying to get accepted into the Entrepreneurship class.

After Shandar gave birth to her two year old, she suffered severe postpartum depression. Staff came to visit her and they loved her and prayed with her and encouraged her — “the very things they were eager to do.” (Galatians 2:10) Those were the “services” she received. All we did was meet her where she was at. We did not have a sophisticated program to address her clinical condition. Instead we met her where she was while being the hands and feet of Jesus. Incredible what a little bit of tender loving care can do for someone and how that motivates them to give back.

Shandar is proof of that because you want to know what business she wants to start? She wants to start a child care center just like Pathways of Promise so that more parents and children can experience the love of Jesus.

Our Employment & Entrepreneurial Programs made significant inroads helping people become employed

- 270 teens received employment training either through READY or GDYT; 77.5% of READY teens got jobs outside of CDC; Teens worked 30,200 hours with CDC
- 32 adults experienced job training through classes including Construction training, Electrical training, Life Skills, Computers; 12 got jobs
- Staff connected with 90 adults in one-to-one appointments leading to 15 people getting jobs
- 40 graduates from 3 Prosper US entrepreneurship training classes
City Kids Soup is CDC’s 12th business and it’s a teen driven one at that! Teens package soups for resale would be the short answer to what is City Kids Soup, but during the semester they are with us, they learn how to start a business, sanitary practices, health and dietary concerns, how to market and then of course, how to assemble the soup. When we interviewed the teens regarding their experience and what they learned from being a part of this entrepreneurship class and City Kids Soup, we expected one set of answers and got something totally different.

They learned how to be a team and they loved the team that they had developed. They felt they accomplished so much as a team. And, they felt safe and could let their guard down and not have to have that tough exterior that is expected in the hood. They could laugh and leave their burdens at the door. Wil (far right) loved the experience so much he came back to work in the summer and not only work but lead. He is brimming with potential, but can be overlooked because he is a shy, good kid. City Kids Soup has helped develop him into the young man God wants him to be and what a leader he has become.

Who knew soup could do that?

In Economic Development/Business Development several significant things happened:

- Shadow of the Almighty Security Co. guarded The Casamira and The Eloise employing 5 men
- Peaches & Greens turned 10 years old; has 4 tenants in the commercial kitchen
- CDC’s Farm & Fishery is growing over 100 catfish and producing kale and basil
- Pathways of Promise turned 1 and is at capacity with a waiting list
- City Kids Soup had a great year getting soup on the shelves of Holiday Market, Papa Joes and other outlets selling nearly 1,000 units
- Utilizing both hoop houses, Faith, Hope & Love Garden Productions had a money making year with Eastern Market and Wayne State University as 2 of its clients
- Restoration Warehouse took a year off to accommodate construction projects
- Fit & Fold continued to serve the community and was profitable 75% of the year
- Detroit ReMade continued to focus on custom work and had a profitable year
- Solid Rock Property Management now manages 15 houses on the west side of Detroit and 5 more properties in Piety Hill, totaling 55 units; collected $346,000 in rent development.
Construction Training

CDC offered Construction Training classes twice in 2018. Jacob was part of the second class and was one of the few who stayed to the end to graduate. He took on an apprenticeship with us getting on the job training by working on houses we are rehabbing. He excelled at that and became the go-to guy when Rick, our construction manager was not around. He showed up on time and stayed till the job was done. Tom, our painting instructor was impressed with his painting skills too. After several months, Jacob got a job outside of CDC – he got skilled up and ready for the workforce. He left the nest and now has more hours and more money too!

That’s our goal with our businesses – to employ hard to employ people, develop them and help them find employment so they can take care of themselves.

Economic Development Housing

In 2018, CDC completed the renovation of 680 Delaware, a 44 unit apartment building, and worked on 15 other units of housing that are either complete or substantially rehabbed. Through our own construction company, CDC Construction, we hired men from the community to work and we completely rehabbed 7 homes for low income families.

Renovation & Construction Highlights:

- Completed The Casamira, 44 units, a $10.4 million dollar project
- Completed 7 units of housing using CDC Construction as the general contractor
- Completed Clairmount Studios, aka, the Art House, a 3500 square foot project
- Completed renovation of the Multi Purpose Room of our Community Center
- Started work on 12 units of housing to be complete in 2019
- Acquired 4 new units of housing in Piety Hill; 15 units in the Weatherbe neighborhood and 85 vacant lots for development
Thank You To Our 2018 Donors

CORPORATIONS
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Citizens Bank
City Light
Comerica Bank
Fifth Third Bank
Gangwer Insurance Agency
Ghana Think Tank
Greenman’s Printing & Imaging
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Local Initiatives Support Corporation
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Morgan Stanley
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Roma Moulding
Southfield Christian School
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The Alethia Group
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Huntington Bank Foundation
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June & Cecil McDole Foundation
Lloyd & Mabel Johnson Foundation
Miami Foundation
Minerva Education and Development Foundation
National Christian Foundation
PNC Foundation
Rite Aid Foundation
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Wells Fargo Foundation

GOVERNMENT
Detroit Land Bank Authority
MSHDA (Michigan State Housing Development Authority)

CHURCHES
Calvary Baptist Church
Christ Presbyterian Church
Christ the Redeemer Church
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
Farmington Hills Church of God
Harbor Light Community Chapel
Highland Congregational Church
Highland Park Baptist Church
Life Changers International Church
Mount Union Bible Church
Northport Covenant Church
Northridge Church
Oak Pointe Church
One Hope Church
Penns Valley Community Church
Rossville Bible Fellowship
Solid Rock Bible Church
The Young People’s Church of the Air
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Troy Christian Chapel
Venture Church
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church

And 233 Individual Donors!
### Statement of Financial Position

#### ASSETS

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#### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

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**Central Detroit Christian**

**Board of Directors**

- **Jason Hover** (Chairman of the Board)
  Committee: Finance
- **Denise Gray** (Vice Chair)
  Committee: Governance
- **Marilyn Williams** (Secretary)
  Committee: Development
- **Quincy Jones** (Treasurer)
  Committee: Finance

- **Laura Davis**
  Committee: Governance
- **James Ewing**
  Committee: Development
- **Joy Greer**
  Committee: Development
- **Craig Nash**
  Committee: Development
- **Sarah Pavelko**
  Committee: Governance
- **Herman Shelton**
  Committee: Development
- **Adam Smart**
  Committee: Development
- **George Thompson**
  Committee: Finance
- **Jonathan Wynne**
  Committee: Governance

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**Central Detroit Christian**

**Staff**

- **Aiesha Jeter**
  Early Childhood Director
- **Antoni Sailes** (aka Ricky Bobby)
  Construction Manager
- **Calvin Kilgore**
  Security
- **Catherine Bindschadler**
  Farm & Fishery Manager
- **Craig Nash**
  Development Director
- **Deonte Snow**
  Security
- **Curtis Mason**
  Youth Director
- **Donovan Allen**
  Youth Staff
- **Dottie Foster**
  Housing Counselor
- **Evan Neubacher**
  Garden Production Manager
- **Helen Logan**
  Accountant
- **Justin Johanon**
  Fit & Fold Manager
- **Kate Cramer Herbst**
  Cooking & Nutrition Director
- **Lisa Johanon**
  Executive Director
- **Lissy Gangwer**
  Parenting with Purpose Staff
- **Marlynn Minus**
  Fitness
- **Matt Corbin**
  Solid Rock Property Manager
- **Nate Gangwer**
  Volunteer Coordinator
- **Russell Howard**
  Children's Director
- **Sarah Johnson**
  Accountant
- **Stephen Herrod**
  Children's Co-Director
- **Tanisha Finley**
  Parenting with Purpose Director
- **Tony McDuffy**
  Workforce Director
- **Tracy Smith**
  Housing Administrator
- **Uclesha Ray**
  Peaches & Greens Manager

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**Central Detroit Christian Community Development Corporation**
Thank You
For Your
Continued Support