



A Letter from Jeffery K. Patterson, CMHA CEO

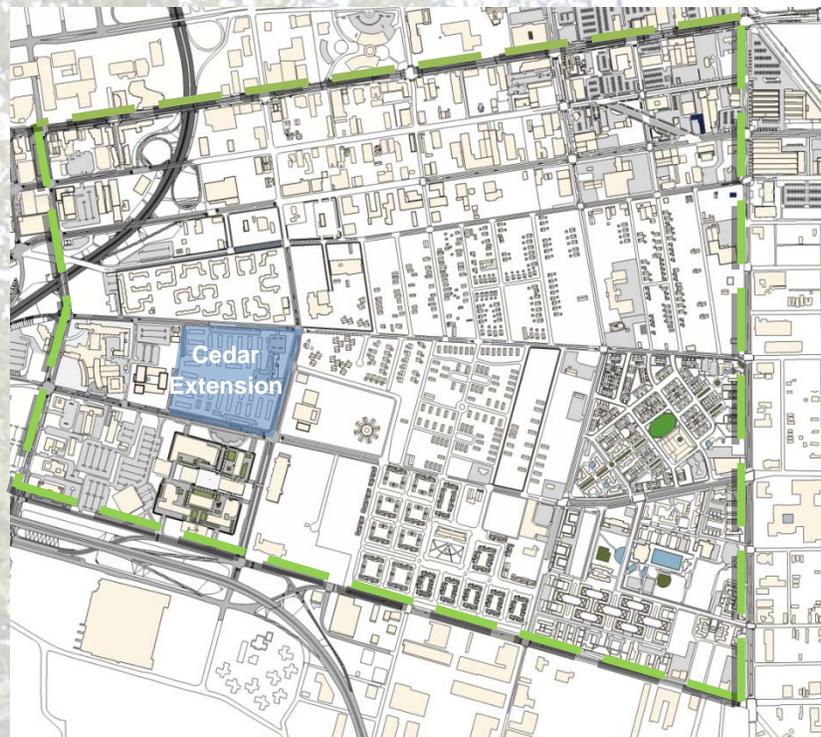


Welcome to the first issue of the quarterly Cleveland's Central Choice Neighborhood Newsletter. On behalf of Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) and the resident leadership, we would like to share with you information regarding the Cedar/Central Neighborhood.

Each publication will include timely information and updates, fun facts about the neighborhood, spotlight features of residents and community partners, details on relocation meetings, and how to get more involved. This edition will focus on UNDERSTANDING the transformation process that is happening in the area related to housing, health, safety, employment, and education, which ultimately leads to positive outcomes for families.

Recently, CMHA has been awarded a \$300,000 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that will focus on the Central neighborhood. CMHA, as the lead applicant, submitted a Choice Planning grant in partnership with the City of Cleveland, Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, The Cleveland Foundation, The Gund Foundation, The CMHA Resident Progressive Action Council; Cleveland Metropolitan School District; Cuyahoga County Planning Commission; Cleveland Public Library; Burton, Bell, Carr Development Corporation; The Campus District; Key Bank; US Bank; PNC; and Enterprise Community Partners.

The program will transform neighborhoods by revitalizing severely distressed public and/or assisted housing and leverage investments in well-functioning services, high quality public schools and education programs, high quality early learning programs and services, public assets, public transportation, and improve access to jobs. For 79 years, CMHA has been committed to providing affordable housing, programs, and services to enrich the lives of the families we serve. We hope you enjoy this issue.



Fun Facts & Info about the Central Choice Neighborhood

- American Poet **Langston Hughes** went to Central High
- **10,150 Residents** live in the Central Neighborhood – 25% in Olde Cedar, Cedar Extension, and Cedar High Rise
- **42.5%** of the population of the neighborhood is under the age of 18
- **Mayor Frank Jackson** is a resident of the Central Neighborhood
- Both **Carl Stokes**, former Mayor of Cleveland, and brother **Louis Stokes**, former 15 term US Congressman, grew up in Outhwaite Homes
- Do you know something exciting about the Central Choice Neighborhood? Let us know!

The Central Neighborhood Welcomes the New Promise Learning Lab

SISTERS of CHARITY FOUNDATION
OF CLEVELAND



Cleveland Central
PROMISE
Neighborhood



The Cedar Estates Promise Learning Lab is located at 2617 Central Avenue, for more information or to register for computer training classes call (216) 348-5170.

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland (SCFC) is leading the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood initiative, to improve schools and bring educational opportunities for children living in the community by offering support and services from cradle through college to career.

Through collaboration with community partners, SCFC has been able to bring new opportunities to the area. A new computer lab was opened at the Cedar Estates in partnership with OneCommunity and CMHA.

The lab has 26 computers where patrons can take classes, perform job searches, and complete school work. The goal is to help bridge the digital divide.

This lab is just the start of new programming SCFC has planned for the Central neighborhood. The goal of the Promise initiative is to provide community supportive services as people move from childhood, through college, and into the workforce.

The Promise Neighborhood stretches from Euclid to Woodland, from East 22nd to East 55th Streets. SCFC hopes their work in the area will help bolster their next Promise grant application.

Cleveland Central Promise Ambassador



"I enjoy living in Central because it is the center of Cleveland and everything is going on in, and around it."

- Antoinette Edrington,
Central-area resident since
2004.

Antoinette Edrington is one of 19 graduates of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute, a leadership development program created as part of the Cleveland Central Promise program.

The purpose of this resident leadership initiative is to empower participants to lead, build, sustain, and monitor the planning and implementation of Promise Neighborhoods through a process of relationship building, connection, and advocacy.

Edrington, a mother of four, hopes to use this opportunity to increase a sense of family and community in the Central area. Her primary focus is on increasing the availability of programming that will help guide children

during their formative years.

She plans to use her position as ambassador to lobby for improvements that will make the Central neighborhood a more livable and walkable community. Her desire is to see more family friendly amenities in the area.

Edrington is also involved in the OSU Extension's FreshLink program, which seeks to provide residents with the proper tools to make healthier food choices when shopping for and preparing food.

She was one of the initial Leadership Institute graduates. It is planned that a total of 50 residents will eventually complete the program.

Central Resident Spotlight: Denise Josie



Denise Josie has lived in at CMHA's Cedar Estates for 13 years. During that time she has grown to love her community, especially the youth living in the Central area. Having raised six children of her own, Josie is now focused on developing a Career

Development Program for other area youth.

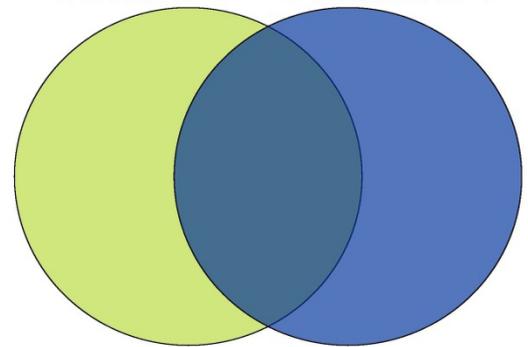
The idea for the career skills program evolved from Josie's experience working at the Cedar Estates Promise Learning Lab. She feels that by engaging youth from pre-school, up through college, they will be better prepared for success as they enter the workforce. The goal is to build business skills while exposing youth to a wide variety of career options.

Josie has written an application to the Sisters of Charity Foundation to receive funding for the development program through the organization's Promise grant initiative. While waiting to learn whether the program will be funded, Josie has committed herself to enriching the lives of Cedar residents through her work in the Promise Learning Lab. She is there during normal operating hours, Monday through Friday, 1 p.m.-5 p.m., helping those who are new to computers and providing pre-school lessons to younger children who accompany their parents to the lab.

// CMHA is very pleased to collaborate on an initiative that will have an immense, positive impact on the Cedar/Central community. This a significant opportunity for CMHA and its residents to work with key community stakeholders and develop a solid plan that will be consistent with the neighborhood's economic development and educational strategies to transform and enrich the lives of the families we serve. //

- Ronald V. Johnson, Jr.
CMHA Board Chairman

CHOICE + PROMISE



= IDEAL NEIGHBORHOOD



WARD 5 Community Family Festival!

On Saturday, June 23, 2012, the 7th Annual Ward 5 Community Family Festival and Parade took place from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. The parade started at E. 30th St. & Community College Avenue and ended at the Friendly Inn Settlement, Inc., near E. 55th Street and Quincy Avenue. With the support of Ward 5 Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland; Friendly Inn Settlement, Inc.; Central Family to Family Collaborative; and Burten, Bell, Carr Development, every summer, residents unite and celebrate the historical past and bright future of the Central, Kinsman, and Garden Valley neighborhoods at the annual Ward 5 Community Family Parade and Festival.

The theme of this family event was "Ward 5 United: Working Together as One," which was crafted by area youth as a symbol of how this festival is a conduit to positive change, creative ideas, and fun activities for the Ward 5 neighborhoods.

National Night Out Against Crime Helps Residents Take a Stand Against Violence

The City of Cleveland is gearing up for the 23rd Annual Night Out Against Crime. The goal of this national event series is to help foster positive relationships between law enforcement and the community. This year there will be five different locations for Cleveland families to hear live music, play games, and enjoy food. Each location will host the event on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 from 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

Steelyard Commons • Cudell's Recreation Center
Fatima Family Center • John Adams High School
Save-a-Lot (123rd & Superior)

For more information, call (216) 664-3290.

// The fact that we can predict health, economic, and educational outcomes of children based on zip code is nothing less than a tragedy. And it's not who we are as Americans. And we know transforming housing, improving schools, and spurring economic development is most effective when local institutions in the public and private sectors can align their resources, break down barriers and cut through the red tape. That's why I'm so proud to award Cleveland one of 13 Choice Neighborhoods planning grants. //

- Antonio R. Riley, HUD's Midwest Regional Administrator

CMHA Police Explorers

The CMHA Police Department is currently offering its CMHA Police Explorers program in the Central area. The purpose of the program is to build character, leadership skills and potential, while building an appreciation for community service. The program is open to young adults between the ages of 14-18, who are CMHA residents or HCVP participants who have a sincere interest in law enforcement. The CMHA Police Explorers are very active in the department and have contributed many hours of community service, from picking up litter around the community to serving meals to the elderly. For more information, call (216) 426-7760.

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority Board of Commissioners

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Want to Learn More & Get Involved in Central?

- Youth Opportunities Unlimited Summer Jobs: 500+ summer jobs for children ages 14-18 in the Cleveland area. Visit youthopportunities.org for more information
- Now enrolling Tri-C Summer Youth Camps Grades three and up visit tri-c.edu/enrichment/camps for more information
- Volunteer with Center for Families & Children at summer long produce markets and help distribute fresh food to those in need
- For information about HUD's Choice Program partner.hud.gov/grants/choice-neighborhoods
- Visit CMHA's Central Choice Web site www.cmha.net/realestate/choice.aspx
- Or email CMHA's Central Choice Program at choice@cmha.net
- For information about educational and healthy living initiatives: www.socfcleveland.org or www.clevelandpromiseneighborhood.org

CMHA provides reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. If you need accommodation, including auxiliary aids and/or services, please contact CMHA's Section 504/ADA Coordinator at 216-348-5000 (voice) or 1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay Service)

Newsletter Prepared by:



CMHA
ENRICHING LIVES SINCE 1933
CUYAHOGA METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

