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Twin Cities LISC has been at the table, helping lead collective steps toward neighborhood recovery from foreclosures.

THE PATH TO NEIGHBORHOOD RECOVERY

Coming home to a notice of foreclosure doesn't just affect the security of the homeowner—it erodes the foundation of the entire community. It depletes property values as well as institutional trust. It weakens self-confidence as much as credit availability. It leaves a deep mark on personal finances and industry balance sheets.

In 2007, Minnesota experienced over 20,000 foreclosures—more than a 200 percent increase from 2005. During the first quarter of 2008 alone, there were 813 foreclosure sales in Minneapolis. The city of St. Paul now has four times as many vacant homes as it had in 1992. This trend is expected to continue into the near future, resulting in more damage to our neighborhoods and the people who live in them.

For communities in the Twin Cities and across the country, mortgage foreclosure is more than a problem—it's become a crisis. Facing this crisis today while preventing future foreclosures from occurring is the goal of a diverse group of statewide players in Minnesota, and Twin Cities LISC has been at the table, helping lead collective steps toward neighborhood recovery.

Statewide Collaboration

Through the early, combined efforts of the Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council—consisting of representatives from government, nonprofit, and other community and private partners—several key activities have been realized: statewide data collection on the foreclosure crisis has been greatly improved, and milestone state legislation has been passed to help improve conditions that lead to predatory lending and assist the needs of currently distressed homeowners. New models for reducing

the impact of concentrated foreclosures in Minneapolis and St. Paul neighborhoods are emerging, including launching pilot loan programs to first-time borrowers, testing new methods of securing vacant properties, creatively refocusing resources toward acquisition of properties, and identifying ways to reinvigorate and build confidence in local housing markets. A number of these crucial initiatives are part of the collective action of the Minnesota Housing Partners Council and have been spearheaded by individual partners.

Creating a Reinvestment Framework

The scope of the foreclosure crisis in Minnesota demands a widespread response from all sectors: banks, mortgage lenders and servicers, real estate agents, government agencies, nonprofits and CDCs, elected officials, private developers, business and community leaders, and residents. Within the Partners Council, Twin Cities LISC has been an active participant in drafting a community and neighborhood recovery plan, or framework, to mobilize and organize Minnesota's resources to reinvigorate local markets and promote the well-being of families left in the wake of the foreclosure crisis.

The framework—which itself is an evolving, collaborative document—signals strategic approaches and resources needed to combat the rising number of vacant and boarded homes that are the result of foreclosures. The emerging framework also identifies ways to meet the capital and credit needs for homeowners to stave off foreclosures, understanding that prevention and workouts are critical strategies for stemming the flow and promoting community recovery. Perhaps more important, the

THE PATH TO NEIGHBORHOOD RECOVERY



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neighborhood recovery framework helps prepare Minnesota to take full advantage of national resources that will be coming through the recently passed \$4 billion in federal assistance as well as position Minnesota's innovative collaborative approach within broader philanthropic initiatives (see Living Cities announcement below) and real estate owned (REO) properties disposition strategies such as the National Community Stabilization Trust.

Currently in draft form, the recovery reinvestment framework is expected to be finalized this fall. Next steps in the planning process include:

- Multiple convenings with lenders, policy leaders, developers, residents, and other key stakeholders over the next several weeks to refine the framework and build support.
- Preparation for policy initiatives at the local and state levels.

Solving the foreclosure crisis won't be quick or simple. It will take sustained multifaceted efforts and investments over time. While Minnesota needs an urgent response, we must also look to the future needs of our communities and connect foreclosure recovery to broader, more holistic community development efforts to ensure improved quality of life in our neighborhoods, particularly

those disproportionately affected and experiencing distress. At LISC, we call this building vital, sustainable communities—places where people have choice and opportunity.

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MINNESOTA DRAWING NATIONAL ATTENTION AND RESOURCES

Twin Cities LISC is using its national relationships to attract more resources to the work of foreclosure recovery. One partner is Living Cities—the longest standing consortium of the nation's largest foundations and financial institutions. Living Cities recently announced an award of \$3,750,000 in grant money nationally to support innovative, locally-driven measures to reduce the damaging impact of the mortgage foreclosure crisis on our communities.

As part of the first wave of funding from Living Cities, Twin Cities LISC, on behalf of the Minnesota Foreclosure Partners Council, will receive \$500,000 to develop creative and collective acquisition and disposition strategies and test new models for reclamation of vacant properties to stabilize and re-energize neighborhood housing markets.

In addition, LISC has invested additional resources from Citi

Foundation in the creation of the foreclosure recovery framework noted above. LISC is also part of the National Community Stabilization Trust, a collective effort to coordinate the acquisition or transfer of REO properties from lenders, loan servicers, investors, and GSEs nationwide to return properties to the stock of rental and ownership housing available in local communities.

"Living Cities is making a timely and important investment in Twin Cities partners at the forefront in dealing with the impact of the housing crisis on our neighborhoods. This grant recognizes and supports one of the most promising neighborhood stabilization models in the country."

Kate Wolford
*President, McKnight Foundation
Board member, Living Cities*

MINNESOTA FORECLOSURE PARTNERS COUNCIL

City of Brooklyn Park
City of Minneapolis
City of Saint Paul
Emerging Markets
Homeownership Initiative
Family Housing Fund
Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation
Greater Minnesota Housing Fund
Hennepin County
HousingLink
LISC, Duluth and Twin Cities
Metropolitan Consortium of
Community Developers
Minnesota Home Ownership
Center
Minnesota Housing
Ramsey County
Saint Cloud Housing and
Redevelopment Authority
Three Rivers Community Action

PROFILES

2008 CAREERSHIP UNDER WAY

"Brenda is a true professional. She has fabulous people skills that allowed her to jump right in and take on some of the real work of our Resource Development department. I also really appreciate the respectful manner in which she works with people. She has added to CommonBond's "Resident Voices" initiative by building trust and gathering resident stories for our newsletter and website."

—Deb Sakry Lande, *Director of Community Relations CommonBond Communities*

Brenda Ewing, Careership class of 2007, joins a growing number of professionals from communities of color entering the community development field. Careership is a mid-career apprenticeship program

COMING SOON: NEW TWIN CITIES LISC WEBSITE

To help mark LISC's 20th year of work in the region, Twin Cities LISC is launching a new website in early fall. One of the site's highlights will be virtual tours of five Twin Cities

neighborhoods showing how community development has changed them for the better. We'll send out an announcement when the new site goes live so you can be one of our first visitors!

that trains minority leaders for professional positions in the community development field. Participants hold a part-time work assignment with a CDC, government agency, or for-profit developer. In addition to this position, participants attend a community development seminar at Metropolitan State University and, with the help of a LISC advisor, pursue individualized training necessary for their career interests.

This year's Careership cohort boasts 14 diverse participants, coming from a variety of backgrounds, educations, and work experiences—including finance, youth development, construction, social work, community organizing, agriculture, faith-based ministries, and immigrant services. Professional interests of the 2008 Careership participants range from direct work in housing, business, community, and economic development to executive-level positions in these fields.

The Careership program is a two-way street for participants and host organizations: host organizations benefit from the addition of another qualified, highly motivated person to their team, while the Careership apprentice benefits from the crucial professional experience gained through the position.

The Careership program began in 1998 through a partnership of Twin Cities LISC and Metropolitan State University's Center for Community-Based Learning. Initiated through funding from the National Community Development Initiative, and now supported by the Otto Bremer Foundation, McKnight Foundation, Family Housing Fund, St. Paul Foundation, and partnerships with over 50 host organizations, the Careership program has helped train 83 people to effectively build strong, sustainable communities in their neighborhoods.

Careership alumni gathered for informal networking event. *Photography Kate Smith*



EVOLVING TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES: BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES



Photograph by Del Bey

ANDRIANA ABARIOTES

In December 2007, Andriana Abariotes was appointed executive director of Twin Cities LISC, having served the organization in a variety of capacities for the past nine years. A political science graduate of Macalester College, Andriana received her master's degree in social policy and nonprofit management from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota.

I am delighted to take this special opportunity to reflect on the work of Twin Cities LISC since I became executive director. First, however, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who has helped make LISC what it is today. It is truly a privilege to be a part of such a unique organization and to work with such extraordinary partners in community development.

For the same reasons I am excited to see LISC grow into the future, I am hopeful for the future of community development in the Twin Cities. Although the issues we face today are formidable ones, I am confident in the ability of community development to solve the toughest of community challenges by adapting to change while still putting the health of people and places first.

At LISC, we're evolving to more effectively meet the challenges of today by emphasizing not just the physical aspects of neighborhoods but the quality of life for people who live there. We need an inspirational vision for 21st

“At Twin Cities LISC, we're evolving to more effectively meet the challenges of today by emphasizing not just the physical aspects of neighborhoods but the quality of life for people who live there.”

—Andriana Abariotes, Executive Director

century community development if we want to effect real change in people's lives, and we won't see this kind of transformative impact if we expend our time and resources on buildings and infrastructure alone. Buildings, after all, are just the bones of the community—people are the real lifeblood.

Much of LISC's work in the next three years signaled in our 2008–2010 strategic plan will be done under the auspices of our Building Sustainable Communities initiative. Building Sustainable Communities is a new way of organizing LISC's extensive resources and proven expertise to achieve greater impact. This new initiative will not be a break from the great work we've done in the past; rather, it will build on the knowledge we've gained locally from over 20 years of community development to approach new challenges from a more effective stance.

Broadly, LISC is weaving together five basic goals:

- Investing in the physical environment
- Increasing family income and wealth
- Stimulating economic activity locally and regionally
- Improving access to quality education
- Fostering livable, safe, and healthy environments

Over the years, LISC has worked in concert with a wide variety of community developers to create thousands of quality, affordable homes and apartments that have anchored redevelopment efforts and affordable housing needs in the Twin Cities. From the outset, we were responding to a crisis that was due largely to rising home values and rents.

Today, the need for housing is fueled by the foreclosure crisis, deepening poverty, and recession. To help rebuild affected communities, our region needs comprehensive community revitalization

strategies, and the community development field is well-positioned for addressing the resurging challenges of flight and fleeting economic opportunities.

We know community recovery means more than just responding to foreclosures; it means aiming at a better quality of life and a wider array of opportunities for neighborhood residents. And it means supporting diverse residents in determining their own futures.

Although we face many challenges today, we are also faced with the opportunity to better integrate the way in which we organize community development. Community developers and neighborhood organizations are well-positioned to broker relationships across sectors such as housing, education, safety, health, jobs, the arts, and more.

As an example, we know that having a safe, affordable place to live can help children stay in the same school, which boosts their chances of success. This doesn't mean that housing developers need to become educators, but it does invite new partnerships and synergies; this kind of integration can exponentially increase the effectiveness of neighborhood revitalization.

We will continue to help position community development and CDCs as key partners in identifying and combatting challenges facing neighborhoods and the region as a whole. These hard times are precisely the reason we need to maintain a strong community development industry with a broad set of expertise and partnerships.

As Twin Cities LISC celebrates its 20-year history in 2008, we are looking unflinchingly ahead. I am truly optimistic for the future of our communities and excited to see the new avenues Twin Cities LISC and our partners can explore to help them meet that future successfully.

UPDATES

LISC ADDS NEW PROJECT

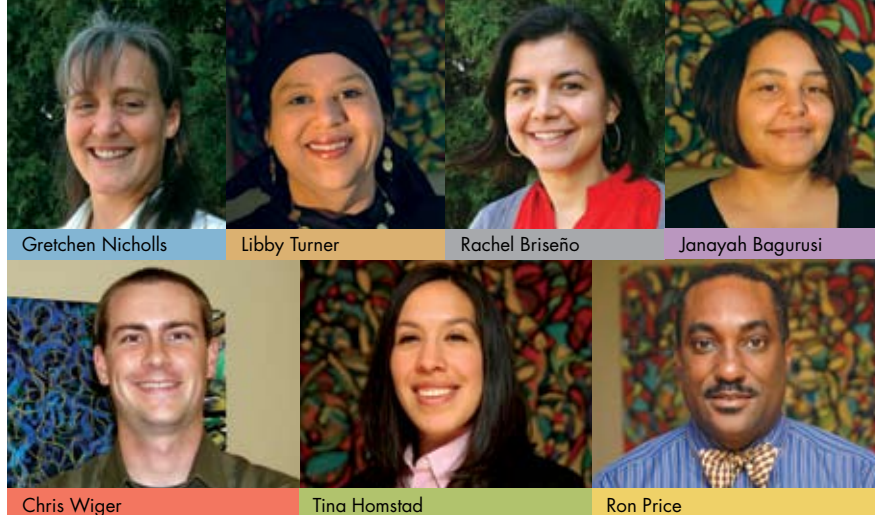
In January, the Corridor Housing Initiative (CHI) became part of Twin Cities LISC. CHI uses a very successful, proactive planning process to involve citizens in development decisions about higher-density affordable housing in their neighborhoods. Originally created by the Center for Neighborhoods, CHI is a great fit for LISC's commitment to affordable housing production and community engagement. The initiative began by working in Minneapolis, but has now broadened its services to include St. Paul and Twin Cities suburbs. CHI's longtime coordinator, Gretchen Nicholls, is now a staff member at Twin Cities LISC. For more information, visit www.housinginitiative.org.

20|20 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXPO

On Nov. 19–20, 2008, Twin Cities LISC and the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) are cohosting an event to celebrate their 20th anniversaries.



The 20|20 Community Development Expo will bring together community development practitioners, partners, and policymakers to celebrate their collective work in the Twin Cities and look ahead to the future of community development's role in promoting neighborhood revitalization and regional vitality. More details to follow. To register, visit www.2020CDExpo.org.



STAFF UPDATE

Four new staff members have come on board over the past year, and several other staff members have been promoted. In fall 2007, Gretchen Nicholls joined LISC as a Program Officer, and Rachel Briseño was added as the new Administrative Assistant. This spring, Ron Price was promoted to Senior Program Officer, Janayah Bagurusi to Program Officer, and Elizabeth (Libby) Turner to Program Assistant. The team expanded further with the recent hiring of Chris Wiger as Program Assistant. Our most recent addition, Tina Homstad, joined the staff in July as a Program Officer.

Staff photography by Del Bey

\$1.5 MILLION GRANT FROM KNIGHT FOUNDATION

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation recently committed to investing \$1.5 million through Twin Cities LISC over the next three years to support Building Sustainable Communities activities in four Twin Cities areas: Phillips and the North Side in Minneapolis, and the East Side and Central Corridor in St. Paul. Building Sustainable Communities is LISC's effort to encourage comprehensive community development that relies on community engagement and moves residents toward prosperity.

ISSUE FRAMING WITH MCCD

In cooperation with the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, Twin Cities LISC is entering its second year of guiding the community development industry in issue framing. This effort began with two large trainings for local nonprofit developers, and continues this year with individualized technical assistance for developers from local issue-framing experts, ActionMedia. Issue framing will help strengthen the communications and advocacy work of everyone involved in community development, and make it easier for the public to understand the importance of community development to the whole region.

OCT. 7, 2008: "FROM STRUCTURAL RACISM TO SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES" CONFERENCE

With support from Twin Cities LISC and the Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs at William Mitchell College of Law, community development professionals from the Careership program and students from William Mitchell and Metropolitan State University will present a one-day conference for those interested in building an inclusive society with shared prosperity. Conference participants will explore the nexus between structural racism, racial disparities, equitable development, health care, and environmental justice. For more information, visit www.wmitchell.edu/lectures.

CENTERS FOR WORKING FAMILIES

The Twin Cities was picked by National LISC and the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a site to expand and replicate Centers for Working Families (CWF). Twin Cities LISC worked in partnership with the Payne Lake Community Partners, local community developers, and financial and human services organizations to design and invest \$187,000 into two CWFs, one on the East Side of St. Paul and the other in South Minneapolis. For more information, contact jbagurusi@lisc.org or visit www.lisc.org/twin_cities.

2007 ACTIONS

COMMUNITY CAPACITY INVESTMENTS

Twin Cities Fund for Neighborhood Development (TCFND) and the Fund for Affordable Production (FAP)

2007 marked the first year of a new three-year round of operating support and capacity-building programs, TCFND and FAP. Twelve CDCs have been selected to receive funding through TCFND, and seven through FAP. For a list of participants, please visit www.lisc.org/twin_cities.

Commercial Corridor Revitalization Programs

Northeast Community Development Corporation (NECDC) Operating and technical assistance funds to enable NECDC to continue their commercial corridor work along Central Avenue in Northeast Minneapolis. **\$47,500**

East Side Neighborhood Development Company (ESNDC) Operating and technical assistance funds to continue ESNDC's work along Payne Avenue and Arcade Street. **\$61,800**

Selby Area Community Development Corporation, Inc. (SACDC) Operating and technical assistance funds to support SACDC's commercial corridor redevelopment along Selby Avenue. **\$61,800**

Sparc Operating and technical assistance funds to support Sparc's continued commercial corridor work along Rice Street in St. Paul. **\$61,800**

PROJECT FINANCING

Loans

Hope Community—Franklin-Steele Commons A mixed-income, mixed-use community project in South Minneapolis, featuring 87 rental units, six ownership townhouses, and 3,300 square feet of community space. **\$100,000**

\$5,317,973 IN TWIN CITIES INVESTMENTS

North East Community Development Corporation (NECDC)—Jackson Street Artist Housing NECDC, in cooperation with the Logan Park Neighborhood Association, is developing a site in Northeast Minneapolis that will consist of 39 affordable artist condo units. **\$100,000**

Neighborhood Development Center—Dale Street Village To develop 48 affordable rental apartments for active seniors. **\$283,639**

Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation—3700 Nicollet A 60-unit, mixed-income project, to include a community room, a computer resource room, green space, and a courtyard. **\$336,000**

Project for Pride in Living—Van Cleve Court Development A conversion of the historic grain elevators occupying this site in Southeast Minneapolis into 139 loft-style, market-rate condominiums. **\$2,000,000**

Selby Area Community Development Corporation (SACDC)—Roots on Selby SACDC, in partnership with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, will build a row of four market-rate, three-bedroom townhouses along Selby Avenue in St. Paul. The project hopes to achieve LEED Certification for sustainable design. **\$52,550**

Predevelopment Recoverable Grants

Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC)—Capri Theater PCYC is pursuing the redevelopment and expansion of the historic Capri Theater in North Minneapolis, which will stimulate economic growth along the West Broadway commercial corridor. **\$50,000**

Little Earth of United Tribes Housing Corporation (LEUTHC)—Phase V Rehab Little Earth, the largest urban American Indian housing complex in the country, seeks architectural improvements of its building and facilities. **\$18,000**

Neighborhood Development Alliance (NeDA)—Stryker Homes Located on a vacant lot in the West Side neighborhood of St. Paul, Stryker Homes will consist of eight ownership units for families earning between 80 and 115 percent of AMI. **\$25,000**

Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation—Creskide Commons In partnership with the Refugee Program of the Mayflower Congregational Church and the Minnesota Council of Churches, a 30-unit, affordable rental housing development in Southwest Minneapolis, part of which will be used to house newly arrived refugees. **\$50,000**

CommonBond Communities—Trail's Edge Built on the site of the St. Paul Monastery in Maplewood, 48 two- and three-bedroom townhomes for low-income and formerly homeless families along with program spaces, including computer training, art, and education rooms. **\$50,000**

CommonBond Communities—Lexington Commons In partnership with the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, adaptive reuse of a former nursing home at the corner of I-94 and Lexington Parkway in St. Paul, featuring 48 efficiency apartments for individuals who have experienced long-term homelessness. **\$50,000**

Seward Redesign—Riverside Market Seward Co-op's relocation and expansion will redevelop the vacant Riverside Market site using environmentally sustainable building methods. The project will create approximately 13,000 square feet of retail space and 100 new jobs. **\$50,000**

West Hennepin Affordable Housing Land Trust (WHAHLT) Twin Cities LISC funds are being used to support WHAHLT's goal of creating, sustaining, and preserving affordable homeownership in the western suburbs of Hennepin County using the Community Land Trust model. **\$30,000**

Feasibility and Technical Assistance Grants

Alliance Housing A grant to fund an appraisal of two rental properties in Minneapolis that Alliance is seeking to purchase and rehabilitate. **\$4,500**

American Indian Community Development Corporation (AICDC)

A grant to explore the development of a project for Native elders at the site located between the Minneapolis Indian Center and Anishinabe Wakiagun. **\$7,500**

Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation (ASANDC)

A grant to support a feasibility study on a vacant site located at 400 Western Ave. **\$5,500**

Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC)

A grant to support a market study for the development of a new fire arts center at 38th and Chicago in Minneapolis. **\$2,500**

Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin (CAPSH)

A grant to support the second phase of the Blake Road Corridor study. The study will gather data from some 350 residents of the area and provide recommendations on how to work with residents in improving services and crafting redevelopment plans. **\$10,000**

Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC)

A grant for a feasibility analysis of a Latino *mercado* that will serve as an entertainment, shopping, and service mall, to be located in the former Borgstrom Pharmacy building at Payne and Jenks. **\$5,000**

Northside Economic Opportunity Network (NEON)

A grant for a predevelopment study on the West Broadway corridor for the provision of business incubator, office, and retail space for NEON entrepreneur training graduates and other North Minneapolis businesses. **\$5,000**

Powderhorn Residents Group, Inc. (PRG)

A grant to help determine the feasibility of constructing a townhouse development adjacent to the Midtown Greenway in the East Phillips neighborhood. **\$5,000**

Project for Pride in Living, Inc. (PPL) / Partnership Academy

A grant to support predevelopment work on a proposed school, affordable rental housing, and a family resource center in a campus-like setting in Richfield. **\$10,000**

River Town Community Partnership

A technical assistance grant to cover a portion of the start-up and operating expenses of River Town Community Partnership (RTCP), a community development corporation in Anoka. **\$5,000**

Whittier Community Development Corporation (as fiscal agent for Soma Bros., LLC)

A feasibility grant to help determine the feasibility of constructing a mixed-use project, containing housing and retail, in the Whittier neighborhood of South Minneapolis. **\$5,000**

West Broadway Business & Area

Coalition (WBBAC) A technical assistance grant to hire a consultant to help WBBAC develop a strategy for its commercial corridor work on West Broadway in North Minneapolis. **\$2,000**

EMERGE Community Development

Corporation A technical assistance grant to hire a development consultant to assist with the redevelopment of a property adjacent to Emerge's 1101 West Broadway office. **\$5,000**

KMOJ/ Center for Communication and Development

A technical assistance grant to hire a development consultant to assist with the redevelopment of 2119 West Broadway in North Minneapolis. **\$5,000**

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Changing the Face of Housing and Careership

The Careership program has become part of LISC's work with Changing the Face of Housing Initiative, cosponsored by the Family Housing Fund and LISC. In 2007, LISC provided grants totalling **\$175,884** to 16 Careership host organizations.

Community Engagement for Community Development Pilot Program

Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corp. (ASANDC) is developing a neighborhood leadership program that will recruit and train local residents who have typically not participated in community development to engage in development decisions, particularly the light rail Central Corridor effort, in their neighborhood. **\$30,000**

Aeon Homes—formerly Central Community Housing Trust (CCHT) is redesigning its resident services program and seeking new ways to create community building in its housing. **\$30,000**

Hope Community will continue to deepen and strengthen its community engagement activities as the organization and its housing portfolio grows. **\$30,000**

PRG/Hawthorne Area Community Council and Stairstep Foundation have come together around the redevelopment of the 2200 block of Lyndale Avenue North. The partners are seeking innovative ways of engaging community residents in the planning and vision for the redevelopment effort. **\$30,000**

Sparc is seeking new ways of deepening its community outreach and integrating new approaches across its programs, including business loans and assistance, home ownership and housing rehabilitation, and commercial corridor revitalization activities. **\$30,000**

HAPPENINGS



Photograph by Chris Scott

TWIN CITIES LISC LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2007-2008 MEMBERS

Julie Causey (Chair), *Chairwoman, Western Bank*

Eduardo Barrera, *Housing Policy Specialist Minnesota Housing—MHFA*

Dorothy Bridges, *CEO and President, Franklin Bank*

Claire J. Chang, *Director, Program Planning & Special Initiatives, Saint Paul Foundation*

Steve Cramer, *Executive Director, Project for Pride in Living*

Amy Crawford, *Executive Director, Phillips Family Foundation*

Neal Cuthbert, *Vice President of Programs, The McKnight Foundation*

David Fey, *Senior Policy Manager, Minneapolis Community Planning & Economic Development Department*

Tom Fulton, *President, Family Housing Fund*

Mike Haley, *Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Housing—MHFA*

Nancy Homans, *Senior Policy Aide, St. Paul Mayor's Office*

Shawn Huckleby, *Director, EMHI*

Reverend Craig Lewis, *CEO, Abundant Life Enterprises, Inc.*

Bob Miller, *Executive Director, Neighborhood Revitalization Program*

Mike Newman, *Vice President, Charitable Contributions & Community Affairs, Travelers Foundation*

Paul Rebholz, *Vice President, Wells Fargo Public Finance*

Stephen Seidel, *Director of Urban Programs, Habitat for Humanity International*

Lupe Serrano, *Executive Director, Casa de Esperanza*

Vicki Murray Shipley, *Vice President, Community Development Manager, US Bank*

Ken Stabler, *Manager, Economic Development, Xcel Energy*

FAMILY HEALTH AND SAFETY DAY

In May, Twin Cities LISC and the Meharry-State Farm Alliance presented Family Health and Safety Day on the grounds of the Martin Luther King Center in St. Paul's Rondo Neighborhood. More than 400 people attended the event, which tied seat belt safety and child safety seats to other critical public health issues such as HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disorders.

Model Cities, Open Cities, Selby Area CDC, Aurora St. Anthony CDC, Safe Kids, the African American Leadership Council, Family Tree Clinic, Face to Face Health and Counseling, and West Side Community Health Services all worked to make the event a success. KMOJ 89.9 FM

radio broadcast live on site, while students from the High School for the Recording Arts provided live music. Also participating were the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Minnesota Safety Council, Saint Paul Department of Human Rights, Council on Black Minnesotans, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

The Meharry-State Farm Alliance is a joint venture between State Farm and Meharry Medical College—a historically African-American academic health center in Nashville, Tennessee. The Alliance focuses on research, education, and public policy to reduce preventable deaths, injuries, and long-term disabilities from vehicle crashes.

Since 2000, State Farm has emerged as one of LISC's strongest partners, providing \$24 million in grants and \$37 million in loans to support community development efforts across the country. While initially focusing on commercial corridor revitalization, small business development, and large-scale commercial real estate projects, the State Farm/LISC partnership has grown to support underserved communities in quality-of-life initiatives including housing, education, health care, safety, recreation, social services, and more. In particular, State Farm's support has been critical to the growth of LISC's work in two areas: economic development and education. This work was instrumental in the formation of LISC's new Building Sustainable Communities strategic plan, and State Farm is one of the key national funding partners in the implementation of the strategy.



LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION

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St. Paul, MN 55104

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Fax: 651.649.1112

Website: www.lisc.org/twin_cities