



From the Executive Director

Where Do We Go From Here?

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S ADDRESS to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1967 entitled "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?" came after more than a decade of active, non-stop work of the Civil Rights Movement, after King sprang to national prominence in the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It comes after defeats as well as successes. It came at a time when the basic nonviolent and collaborative philosophy of the movement was being challenged from within by the Black Power movement. It came at a time of increasing criticism of King personally and the erosion of support because of King's anti-Vietnam War stance. He had been drawn into something much larger than himself. He surely wondered, "Can we finish what we have started?"

"We see our national politicians asking, "where do we go from here: chaos or cooperation?" in the aftermath of one of their own being gunned down in a shopping center parking lot."

I CAN IDENTIFY WITH THAT QUESTION. As a new Executive Director, have I gotten into something that is bigger than me? Certainly. Has Good News Partners started something that it cannot finish? Left on our own, quite possibly. While neither my personal work nor that of Good News Partners is anywhere as dramatic as Dr. King's and that of the SCLC, our societal issues are just as dramatic. We see our national politicians asking, "where do we go from here: chaos or cooperation?" in the aftermath of one of their own being gunned down in a shopping center parking lot. The failure of our wise systems to provide for the common good are just as evident today as they were in 1967. Few have, then and now, the courage to ask what the relationship is between poverty in our immediate midst and the wars we fight; against drugs, terrorism, or foreign nations.

BUT HOWEVER DRAMATIC OUR CIRCUMSTANCES MAY BE, all of us are faced with the question "Where do we go from here?" Good News Partners is staring that question in the face now. We have openings for many new opportunities to share Good News in the North of Howard area: purchase of new properties to expand stable affordable and rental housing; continued work to figure out what will it take to educate our children; young people eager to join the movement of God's proclamation of "the good news of the poor." By this we are encouraged.

YET, WE ARE ALSO FACING MANY TRANSITIONS: Most, if not all, of our staff positions are changing this year, including some leaving employment with Good News Partners. For those of us who were introduced to this faith community through employment, we have

to ask ourselves, "where do we go from here: is employment my only connection or has God rooted me more thoroughly and beyond employment? Is this community mine if I am unemployed, like so many of our resident partners?"

"WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?" is also a question for our resident partners. How real is this community to me? With changes and decreases in staffing, is there essential work which our resident partners can and should

In This Issue

<i>From the Executive Director</i>	Pg. 1
<i>Eight Directions We are Going Now</i>	Pg. 2
<i>#1 Way to End Homelessness: Buy a Building</i>	Pg. 3
<i>How To Save \$160,000 On Home Repairs!</i>	Pg. 4
<i>Recycling for Good</i>	Pg. 4
<i>Volunteer with Us</i>	Pg. 5
<i>Good News Partners Contact Info.</i>	Pg. 6

From the Executive Director - Continued...

do for themselves and one another? Will those who are unemployed and have been failed by the ruling systems say, "this is my community and I will offer what I have, knowing God can bless it to provide for all."

OUR SUPPORT PARTNERS MAY ASK, "Where do we go from here? Does my partnership with Good News transcend one simple and stagnant role? Will the contributions and financial support of our partners outside the neighborhood be limited to charitable contributions and strategies of wealth management? Or is there a reality to this partnership that transcends common wisdom? Is there a reality that, no matter where we live, says "this North of Howard area and the people in it are my community?"

Will the church continue to tithe on its decreasing income or will we share what we have so that there is "no needy among them" and our neighbors say, "See how they love each other?"

DR. KING REALIZED IT IS MISLEADING TO FOCUS ONLY UPON THE PARTS, even as we seek practical, con-

crete solutions to daily issues. He quotes Jesus' statement to Nicodemus, the learned and wise leader of his day, "Nicodemus, you must be born again." Each of us must be born again. Good News Partners must be born again. Our economy and our national commitment to pursue the common good, must be born again. Our commitment to do whatever it takes to educate our children, must be born again.

OUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOOD NEWS IS ALIVE AND KICKING. Come and see anew, what God is doing in this place. Come and be a part of your community, here and now, which is being born again! Know that there will be pain along the way, as there is for our staff and residents this year. But know also that "he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

Shalom! May the justice, peace, prosperity, and salvation of God be yours!



Eight Directions We Are Going Now:

1. PURCHASING a 27 unit building for affordable housing!

See following article



2. CHANGING the traditionally spring-time Annual Dinner to celebrate community, moving it to the fall of 2011.

3. SCHEDULING our 2nd Annual Fundraising Event for the Spring of 2012. We had a wonderful turn-out for the Rick Steves Event in December 2010 and are already



busy making plans for an even larger event in 2012. **See our website for a slideshow of the Rick Steves event**

4. MOVING the Offices

of Good News Partners to our storefront building on Paulina the end of March — making available 5 more units for affordable housing in the Jonquil Hotel. **WATCH FOR OUR GRAND OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT**



5. DOUBLING your money through a **Matching Grant Challenge** offered by the Pierce Family Foundation. For every gift from now until August 31, 2011, Good News Partners will receive double your gift: your gift will be counted

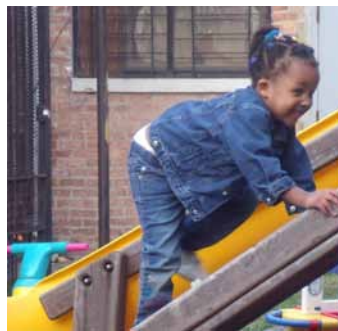
toward the \$75,000 needed for the match, and result in a \$150,000 gift to Good News Partners.



The timing for this opportunity could not be more critical. Our families, like many, are suffering in this economic downturn and extra support for them now will significantly ease their transition to a more stable living environment.

Your contribution is fully tax deductible because you and we together meet all IRS regulations for 501(c)3 organizations.

6. GIVING through our Monthly Automatic Giving Program will begin in March. The program will allow you to donate each month through a deduction from your credit card, so that our resident partners may be assured of a roof over their heads. **WATCH FOR SIGN-UP ANNOUNCEMENT COMING SOON**



7. DEVELOPING an investment model much like Rick Steves implemented in Seattle suburbs. Several of our expert partners are developing a way to allow investors in real estate to purchase a building for affordable housing that Good News Partners will manage. Contact Ronn Frantz for more information. <ronn@goodnewspartners.org>

8. ENGAGING a new generation of volunteers at our Annual Church Luncheon, moving to a Spring date. We will be including Church Youth Directors and Pastors at this luncheon and working on ways to involve our youth in partnership with each other.



#1 Way to End Homelessness: Buy a Building!

THESE WERE THE WORDS that summarized the feelings of churches involved in the Good News Partners Church Collaborative back in November 2009. The dream became a reality this month as we were able to put the down payment down on the building at 1546 Jonquil Terrace. The building will house 27 families at affordable rates. With the three current vacancies, we are able to quickly bring new families into the building who are waiting for more permanent housing. Praise God!

\$600,000 HAS BEEN RAISED through the efforts of our Church Collaborative, our partner foundations and many of our individual partners. We have placed a down payment and set up a bridge loan to carry us through to the end of the campaign. But our job is not finished yet. To reach our goal of \$1.3M, we need continued gifts. Please recruit others and send donations to Jan Hubbard at Good News Partners, marking your check "Building Fund".

WE BOUGHT A BUILDING!



1546 W. Jonquil Terrace now provides 27 units of affordable housing for GNP

How To Save \$160,000 On Home Repairs!

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (CEDA) has been working with Good News Partners to provide improvements in our buildings that make us more energy efficient – resulting in an in-kind gift of over \$160,000! This is a wonderful blessing to our residents as they now have more heat, less drafts, and lower utility bills. Thank you, CEDA!



Betty at The Jonquil received new refrigerator

CEDA IS A YEAR-ROUND PROGRAM using state-of-the-art technology to make homes more energy-efficient for qualifying low-income clients in Chicago and suburban Cook County. The Multi-Family Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWP) is for building owners who provide housing to income eligible residents in Chicago and suburban Cook County. The program is at no cost to the building owner, if 66% or more of the tenants are income eligible.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR GNP INCLUDED:

The Jonquil –

- Wrapped hot water and steam pipes
- 2 new high efficiency water heater tanks

- Tuned up 2 forced air furnaces
- Opening and shutting louver in boiler room to provide air for steam boiler
- Replaced (5) windows, weatherized each room and public areas of hotel
- 20 new refrigerators
- Installed temperature control vents on each radiator in every room

New Life Interim Housing –

- Provided new ceiling mounted forced air furnace
- Weather stripped doors
- Provided warm make-up air at stove hood
- The air that was going up the stove hood was causing draft of cold air.
- Ceiling fans installed
- 2nd Stage Housing (above New Life)
- New furnace
- Blew insulation into crawl space of roof as well as ceiling of car port in front of New Life



Jonquil windows were weatherize

Recycling for Good

And so much good has come from your responses! We recently furnished an apartment for a family in transition – thanks to you. A DVD player and surround sound speakers were donated for the Learning Center and now every Saturday night is Movie Night at The Jonquil – thanks to you. Many beds, a dining room set, stove, refrigerator, and dishwasher were given and have made some resident partner's lives easier – thanks to you. Our current requests include:

- **Refrigerators • Gas Stoves • Twin Beds • Sheets**
- **A Car** (Our Chaplain is still in need of transportation)

Please contact Brandon Lane, Donations Manager: Brandon@GoodNewsPartners.org or (773) 764-4998 if we can help you re-cycle any of these items.

Volunteer with Us — Upcoming Work Crew Days

“HOW CAN I HELP?” We hear these words often and they are music to our ears! Each person has gifts and skills to offer, which are needed for the Body of Christ to function fully and well.

Thank you to recent volunteers:

Tutoring students:

- First Presbyterian Church of Evanston every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
- Oasis of Northwestern University on Tuesday
- Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity of NU on Wednesdays

Saturday Morning Kid’s Time:

- 1st Saturday of every month – Church of the Holy Comforter
- 2nd Saturday of every month – Trinity United



- Methodist Church (Monthly Birthday Club)
- 3rd Saturday of every month – The Unitarian Church of Evanston
- 4th Saturday in February – Northwestern University Multicultural Greek Council
- April 6th – Park Ridge

Community Church Jr. High Group

Boys & Girls Clubs:

- Every Saturday Morning—1st Presbyterian Church Evanston and The Unitarian Church
- Monday evenings “Creative Hanging Out” at New Life—1st Presbyterian Church Evanston
- Wednesday Music at New Life – 1st Presbyterian Church Evanston

Youth Mission Trips:

- March 21st -24th - First Baptist Church of Clemson at The Jonquil Hotel
- August 1st -5th—Wil-low Creek Community Church



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP:

We have our scheduled “Work Crew Saturday” every month:

- This Saturday Work Crew helps the rehab crew in one of our 9 buildings by painting, scraping, sanding, cleaning, moving, nailing, cutting, measuring—various habitat fix-up activities.



- Workers should wear work clothes, boots, and bring work gloves. Any other supplies or equipment you may have for your project that you would like to bring along, please do so (brushes, scrapers, ladders, etc.)

UPCOMING DATES:

- Saturday, February 26th • Saturday, March 26th
- Saturday, April 16th • Saturday, May 21st

In addition to groups of volunteers providing largely unskilled labor, we are recognizing the need for specialized skills from our volunteers:



One skill we need a lot of is **organizing**. We need multiple organizers:

- Retired administrators
- Experienced household managers
- Cheerleaders and contact persons in each congregation, school, and neighborhood organization who can help us connect inside neighborhood partners with outside neighborhood partners.

- Coordinate the volunteer schedules. (see “transportation” below)

Another is **providing transportation**. We have resident partners who need to get to appointments outside the neighborhood.

- On a weekly basis, we have staff who need to shop for their locations and services. We need rides for our chaplain or family members to visit loved ones in the hospital. We have kids who



need to be picked up from school on short notice or get to appointments after school.

- Volunteers to be available one day a month to transport our partners here and there.
- Might there be a dozen partners who could do this?
- If we had thirty partners who were able to be available and use their vehicle to drive one day a

month, our resident and staff partners could depend upon their being able to get to where they need to go.

- All this would take a volunteer to coordinate schedules (see “organizing” above)



What are your gifts, skills, and what is your experience? How specifically would you like to partner with us to build bridges of reconciliation and foster justice, both for yourself and with others? We will continue to be seeking for specific ways volunteers can participate in God’s Good News plan to end homelessness and hopelessness.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peter Horth
Volunteer Coordinator
peter@goodnewspartners.org
(773) 764-4998



**GOOD NEWS PARTNERS
MISSION STATEMENT:**

**“To end homelessness
and hopelessness with
everyone God brings to us,
to foster justice, and
to build bridges
of reconciliation.”**

**Join us on Facebook!
Become a fan of Good
News Partners.**

Click to visit us on



QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS? COMMENTS?

Please contact:

Jan Hubbard, *Director of Major Gifts and
Church Development*

(773) 764-4998 • jan@goodnewspartners.org

Cell: (847) 361-9805

GOOD NEWS PARTNERS

1600 Jonquil Terrace • Chicago, IL 60626
(773) 764-4998 • www.goodnewspartner.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Brugh, <i>Chair</i>	Brenda Dunkins Jimi Hickman
Denis Pierce, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Gladys Hyde Arlene Jackson
Allan Howe <i>Secretary</i>	Jan Niemeyer Andrew Shaw
David Holly <i>Treasurer</i>	Dick Warnecke
Ronn Frantz <i>Executive Director</i>	

JOIN US AS A VOLUNTEER:

- Tutoring
- Youth Activities
- Administrative or tech support
- Coordinate a work crew
- Prayer Network

HELP US FURTHER OUR MISSION:

- Host a small gathering of friends to hear about GNP
- Schedule a site visit at GNP
- Donate on our website:

www.goodnewspartners.org



Good News from Good News Partners Newsletter • Winter 2011 • page 7

GOOD NEWS PARTNERS

1600 Jonquil Terrace
Chicago, IL 60626

