HUMBOLDT PARK: STAKING OUR CLAIM
THE NEXT FIVE YEARS: RAISING THE STAKES

When Dreams...

Become Reality...
Humboldt Park NCP Planning Area
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Community Context

Humboldt Park is a large community that spans from Western on the east to Cicero on the west, and from Kinzie on the south to the Bloomingdale rail corridor on the north, anchored by the 207-acre newly revitalized Humboldt Park. Our community has historically been an entry point for immigrant populations, and over the last 30 years has had a strong Puerto Rican heritage to the east, a sizable African-American community to the west, and a growing Mexican population which has most recently enriched our mix. We are roughly an even mix of Latinos (50.5%) and African Americans (46.4%).

We are a neighborhood of workers, and the factories and railroads that surround our community are part of our history. We came to Humboldt Park in search of jobs, decent affordable housing, good schools, convenient shopping, and the sense of community. We are well-organized, have a healthy sense of pride and a fighting spirit. Our largely low to moderate income community has faced and overcome many challenges. But we see new challenges ahead:

- The pressures of over a decade of gentrification to the east;
- Escalating housing costs and property taxes;
- Declining household incomes;
- High housing cost burdens with more than 60% of local renters and homeowners paying more than one-third of their income on housing;
- Growing home foreclosures at a rate much higher than the city average; and
- The danger that community residents will be forced from the community they call home.

Our community also faces other pressures, such as high educational dropout rates and gang boundaries that restrict the movement of our youth across the larger geographic area and our neighborhoods, which limits opportunities and threatens personal and community safety.

Fortunately, our community has a history of constructive resident involvement and a legacy of neighborhood planning that has provided opportunities for discussion and helped define our visions for the future. We have proven that we can work together to create a brighter future for our community.

The Humboldt Park community has worked during the five years since our quality-of-life plan was first adopted to successfully bring to fruition the vast majority of the more than 50 project areas in the plan, build trust among diverse constituencies, engineer greater coordination, and transcend “turf” issues among various segments of the community. We have made significant progress in building cultural bridges and even more progress in developing the organizational capacity needed to effectively address the issues and challenges in our neighborhoods. We are now ready to raise the stakes and step up our efforts to meet those needs.
Our Vision:
A Prosperous and Inclusive Community

Our neighborhood will be a prosperous, inclusive community in which children are well educated and cared for, adults can find adequate jobs or start their own businesses, and all enjoy safe streets, dependable public transportation, affordable health care, attractive open space and excellent city services.

We envision a Humboldt Park where:

- Residents feel empowered to improve the quality of life and the physical environment, working hand-in-hand with city officials;
- Adults can find living-wage employment working for or starting positive, indigenous businesses that provide needed products and services;
- Children enjoy state-of-the-art schools as well as after-school and summer programs that prepare them for a future as responsible adults;
- The elderly have easy access to senior services and people with disabilities have opportunities for independent living;
- Families of all incomes can afford decent, safe housing;
- Family members are healthy in body, mind and spirit, with adults responsible for themselves and their children;
- Everyone can access culturally sensitive and affordable health care, attractive and safe open space, and dependable public transportation;
- No one is threatened by gangs or crime – or has public safety used against them because of class or racial fears; diversity is celebrated; and,
- Private and public properties are improved through beautification efforts.

Our Continuing Vision for Humboldt Park
This vision was collectively developed by the Humboldt Park NCP Task Force and presented in the first Humboldt Park Quality-of-Life Plan. It is as relevant today as it was then and continues to encompass and represent our vision for our community.
Bickerdike has developed 1,063 quality affordable housing units across 223 sites, of which 145 homes are owner-occupied, 749 are rental and 169 are cooperative housing. The organization provides property management services to the 918 rental and co-op units through its Bickerdike Apartments, LLC. Developments in progress include the 94-unit Rosa Parks Apartments, 32 single-family homes and condominiums that form the 26th Ward New Homes, and the Zapata Apartments mixed-use affordable rental-retail project. Bickerdike also provides free minor home repairs for seniors, and technical assistance, information and referral to neighborhood homeowners, renters and landlords.

With a 15 member board of directors comprised of local residents and a local hiring preference, the organization employs approximately 100 staff, including those who work for its wholly owned subsidiary Humboldt Construction Co., which employs 20 to 30 area residents to provide carpentry and general contracting services. Leadership development, local decision making and organizing are woven throughout all of Bickerdike’s work through a broad body of volunteer committees including its: Residents Council, Youth Council, Rental Housing Steering Committee, and Affordable Housing Committee.

Formed in 2003, the Humboldt Park NCP Task Force enjoys the participation of about 60 neighborhood organizations, institutions and residents representing block clubs, community-based organizations, housing and economic development agencies, settlement houses, healthcare providers, police district representatives, City agencies and aldermen. The organizational structure has evolved into a combination of the existing subcommittee structures of community partners, as possible, and the new creation of NCP committees as needed.
WHERE WE’VE BEEN

In 2003, Bickerdike Redevelopment Corp. was selected by LISC/Chicago to serve as the lead agency for the Humboldt Park NCP. The goal of the NCP planning process was to integrate existing community plans and add new projects to create a Quality-of-Life Plan for the Humboldt Park community. The official Humboldt Park Quality-of-Life planning process kicked off in December 2003, when a Task Force of about 45 organizations and residents representing block clubs, community-based organizations, housing and economic development agencies, settlement houses, healthcare providers, police district representatives and aldermen was convened and actively engaged. The planning process was completed in October 2004, followed six months later by the citywide NCP rollout.

Our original 2003 plan began with a foundation of existing community plans and integrated priorities from those plans, which had been spearheaded by community partners like the Near Northwest Neighborhood Network (NNNN)/Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership (HPEP) and the West Humboldt Park Family and Community Development Council (WHPDC). And, rather than duplicating community resources, the Humboldt Park NCP has piggybacked on subcommittee structures of community partners, principally the NNNN/HPEP Action Team structure, and created NCP committees only on an as needed basis for issue areas where there was no appropriate existing structure.

As we have worked to address the challenges prioritized in our first plan, we are building on our best practices and learning to address today’s challenges such as engaging the youth in our community so that they grow into productive adults, preventing violence, addressing the health issues that continue to disproportionately impact our residents, and integrating large numbers of ex-offenders back into our community. We must address these challenges while continuing to promote economic stability, address employment needs, support business development, improve local schools, market our community, ensure the availability of affordable housing, and enhance our retail corridors, community facilities and open space.

With the MacArthur Foundation’s recent extension of new funding for the New Communities Program for a second five-year period, we have developed this addendum to our original plan to carry our momentum forward, checking off projects completed, updating those that have moved on to another phase, removing projects that are no longer priorities or relevant ideas, adding those that reflect newly recognized or evolved needs, and reaffirming and bringing in additional community partners. We must raise the stakes in Humboldt Park and step up our efforts to meet the needs of our community.
A growing number of local organizations have been actively engaged in lead and/or partner roles in project implementation. We have received more than $2.4 million in LISC/NCP grants and $3.25 million in LISC/NCP loans for projects and programs included in our plan, and we have successfully leveraged an additional $40.7 million to support the implementation of these projects. Highlights of our accomplishments include:

- The opening of the Center for Working Families, which helps families achieve self-sufficiency and long-term financial security through job training and support, financial education and other services.
- The creation of a Community of Wellness coordination entity with multiple subcommittees, which evolved from our Community Healthcare Task Force Work Group to address an expansive range of health-related issues facing our community.
- The establishment of The First Community Land Trust of Chicago, which is building new affordable housing on the vacant lots in our community.
- The successful development and opening of several new affordable and special needs housing projects throughout the community including the Harold Washington Unity Cooperative and La Estancia (Bickerdike), North Avenue Senior Housing (HHDC) and the Solid Ground Supportive Housing Program for Homeless Male Youth (La Casa Norte).
- The launching of the Humboldt Park Safe Schools Network, creating a coordinated elementary school response to youth violence while building school leadership and programming to create safer schools.
- The expansion of our strategic initiatives to include the incorporation of Building Community through the Arts, initially established through another LISC/Chicago program.

**Our New Journey**

During the last five years, we have expanded the membership of our Humboldt Park NCP Task Force as new lead organizations for projects came aboard, and officially incorporated the Building Community through the Arts Initiative into our strategic action agenda.

Development of this plan began in October 2007 with an overview and reaffirmation of our strategies to achieve our vision, an initial discussion of emerging issues and needs, and preliminary development of new initiatives to address them. During the next four months, NCP subcommittees, HPEP Action Teams and the task force as a whole hashed through rough ideas to develop new projects and programs. At our April 2008 NCP Task Force meeting, Task Force members voted for what would become the “Top 50” projects to include in our plan, in addition to carryover projects from the first plan which are included in the Strategies outlined in this plan.

Carry-over projects from our original NCP plan are those that continue to be important priorities for our community. Some projects, such as the development of affordable housing, are long-term initiatives and new projects will continue to be developed to address
this need. Other projects and programs, while already implemented, continue with evolved focus and have also been carried over into this plan. And, as with the first plan, we have continued our emphasis on doing while planning. Moving forward, our Humboldt Park Quality-of-Life Plan now includes 57 projects that will be undertaken by the more than 60 neighborhood organizations and institutions that make up the Humboldt Park NCP Task Force and other local partners over the next five years.

While our strategies remain the same, we have reorganized some of our priorities based on the results of the voting process conducted with “Humboldt Park Dollars.” Youth engagement has moved up to our first strategy, and employment have moved up the priority list.

**Raising the Stakes**

The new committee structures that have been established, such as the Community of Wellness, Humboldt Park Safety Committee, Building Community through the Arts, and the Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Committee will continue to serve as the bodies that coordinate and oversee those aspects of the plan. The Humboldt Park NCP will continue to work closely with all of these partners and committee structures on the implementation of this Humboldt Park NCP Quality-of-Life Plan.

We believe this plan will continue positive collaborative and coordinated efforts for the ongoing improvement of our neighborhood, as has successfully occurred over the past five years. This planning process has had broad engagement, and it builds on our strengths as a community as well as our successes to address the important work and priorities outlined in this plan that lies ahead.

As our local economy, issues and priorities raise the stakes, the Humboldt Park NCP with its taskforce of 90 participants representing local organizations, institutions and community residents must continue to be a vehicle for positive continuous community improvement. The Humboldt Park NCP Task Force, with all of its collaborating partners, commits to continuing to pursue the same seven intertwined strategies and implementing the updated set of projects during the next five years and to attracting, at minimum, an additional $45 million to match the dollars invested into our community over the past five years.

As with our previous plan, the strategies address both improvements, such as high-quality affordable housing, business development, land use and beautification, as well as human needs including education and job training, employment, health care and public safety. This plan remains a living document with the flexibility to respond to changing community needs, such as shifts in the job market, economy and/or the real estate sector.
Strategies & Projects Summary

By pursuing these seven strategies through the specific projects in our plan, we will achieve the vision set out for Humboldt Park by the NCP Task Force. Upholding a doing while planning model, a number of these projects are already underway.

**Strategy 1 Engage youth in the community in productive ways**

1.1 Youth Leadership Program. Expand opportunities for youth to give back to their community and become leaders.

1.2 After-School & Summer Programs. Increase the availability of after-school and summer programs.

1.3 Skill Exploration Programming. Create programs for youth that develop new skills.

1.4 Youth Employment. Expand job opportunities for youth.

**Strategy 2 Create a community of wellness where health is a dimension of community improvement**

2.1 Active Lifestyle Program. Promote active lifestyles for adults and youth.

2.2 Asthma Reduction and Control. Address the deep rooted problem of asthma within our community.

2.3 Health Education and Outreach. Spread the word about new and existing health care services.

2.4 Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention. Increase access to drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

2.5 Improved Access and Availability of Services. Improve the availability of community health services.

2.6 Diabetes Intervention and Prevention. Work to reduce the incidence of diabetes in the community.

2.7 Cultural Sensitivity Training. Work with hospitals and other service providers so that they are more culturally relevant.

**Strategy 3 Provide resources to sustain healthy individuals and families**

3.1 Foreclosure Prevention and Intervention. Create and strengthen initiatives and services to address home foreclosures.

3.2 Credit Repair and Financial Literacy. Support a broad array of financial literacy and credit repair initiatives.

3.3 Homeownership Counseling. Continue coordination among existing homeownership counseling programs.

3.4 Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Program. Develop a coordinated and comprehensive response to residents reentering the Humboldt Park community from the prison system.

3.5 Ex-Offender Support Services. Identify and establish support services to address the priority needs of ex-offenders.

3.6 Senior Citizen Programs. Develop and promote a variety of programs for seniors.

3.7 Targeted Needs Programming. Develop programming tailored to the needs of targeted interest groups.

3.8 Puerto Rican Cultural Center Library. Provide an accessible, diverse and alternative collection of literary resources to the community.

3.9 Community Arts Programming. Refine, expand and support the arts programming and initiatives.

**Strategy 4 Provide jobs through training and local business development**

4.1 Healthcare Careers. Create bridge programs that lead to career advancement.

4.2 Career Preparation and Bridges. Prepare local residents for jobs with growth potential.

4.3 Ex-Offender Employment Project. Create and support projects designed to achieve career path employment opportunities for ex-offenders.

4.4 Job Fairs. Hold job fairs for adults, youth and targeted populations.

4.5 Mentoring Project. Mentor youth, adults, women and ex-offenders to help ensure success in the workplace.

4.6 Job Readiness and Basic Skills Training. Prepare youth and adults to successfully secure employment and enter the workforce.

4.7 Business Development. Support new business development through marketing and support services.

4.8 Chambers of Commerce. Develop and support chamber of commerce organizations.

3.10 McCormick Tribune YMCA. Expand the community’s access to a broader array of recreational activities.

3.11 Green Initiatives. Create and support community programs that are focused on “green” technology and energy efficiency.

**Strategy 5 Build community wealth and reduce poverty**

5.1 Foreclosure Prevention and Intervention. Create and strengthen initiatives and services to address home foreclosures.

5.2 Credit Repair and Financial Literacy. Support a broad array of financial literacy and credit repair initiatives.

5.3 Homeownership Counseling. Continue coordination among existing homeownership counseling programs.

5.4 Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Program. Develop a coordinated and comprehensive response to residents reentering the Humboldt Park community from the prison system.

5.5 Ex-Offender Support Services. Identify and establish support services to address the priority needs of ex-offenders.

5.6 Senior Citizen Programs. Develop and promote a variety of programs for seniors.

5.7 Targeted Needs Programming. Develop programming tailored to the needs of targeted interest groups.

5.8 Puerto Rican Cultural Center Library. Provide an accessible, diverse and alternative collection of literary resources to the community.

5.9 Community Arts Programming. Refine, expand and support the arts programming and initiatives.

5.10 McCormick Tribune YMCA. Expand the community’s access to a broader array of recreational activities.

5.11 Green Initiatives. Create and support community programs that are focused on “green” technology and energy efficiency.
**Strategy 5 Improve local schools using a community-based and culturally sensitive approach**

5.1 **Student Retention.** Develop and promote programs focused on preventing school dropouts and motivating students to remain in school.

5.2 **Enhanced Educational Programming.** Encourage collaboration with schools to incorporate a variety of curriculum tracks that build upon initiatives being undertaken in the community.

5.3 **GED Programming and Achievement.** Establish additional GED preparation classes and testing sites as well as enhancing their availability.

5.4 **Parental Involvement and Rethinking Educational Models.** Work with parents to increase awareness of various educational models and options for children and parental involvement in schools.

5.5 **Community Schools.** Explore the creation of an additional community school and enhancement of activities and programming at existing schools.

**Strategy 6 Improve physical, economic and social infrastructure through marketing, communications, beautification and safety**

6.1 **Community Web-Based Resource Guide.** Continue development of a sustainable and living Humboldt Park web-based resource guide.

6.2 **Focus On The Park.** Promote Humboldt Park itself as the center of the neighborhood for residents and visitors.

6.3 **Gateway Development.** Implement streetscape and community gateway projects.

6.4 **Paseo Boricua.** Enhance and expand the “between the flags” Paseo Boricua Restaurant and Cultural District.

6.5 **Cultural Bridge Program.** Continue to work creatively to enhance and strengthen racial and cultural relations between the east and west portions of Humboldt Park.

6.6 **Community Branding.** Use creative marketing tools to enhance community identity and market our community.

6.7 **Community Arts and Murals.** Build upon and showcase our cultural identity by preserving and developing murals and other community arts projects.

6.8 **Public Arts Intervention.** Support and promote public arts projects to bridge cultural divisions within Humboldt Park.

6.9 **CAPS Promotion.** Encourage regular resident attendance at CAPS meetings and expand involvement of local businesses.

6.10 **Community Safety Initiative.** Encourage block clubs and smaller organizations to implement localized safety projects.

6.11 **Violence Prevention.** Actively engage in and support initiatives that prevent violence in our neighborhoods.

6.12 **“Call Me by My Name” Safety Campaign.** Identify creative and effective strategies and initiatives to improve relationships between youth and the Chicago Police Department.

**Strategy 7 Increase community control over use of physical resources**

7.1 **Community Land Trust.** Continue to promote the housing development efforts of the “First Community Land Trust of Chicago.”

7.2 **Development Monitoring.** Aggressively monitor land use and negotiate with developers to ensure projects address and meet local needs.

7.3 **Affordable Rental Housing.** Develop and preserve affordable rental housing.

7.4 **Affordable Homeownership.** Develop affordable homeownership projects.

7.5 **Special Needs Housing.** Develop supportive housing for special needs groups such as the homeless, ex-offenders, seniors, people with disabilities, and multigenerational families.

7.6 **Fair Housing.** Promote and create fair housing programming and local capacity to address fair housing violations.

7.7 **Retail Corridor Development.** Strengthen existing retail corridors to ensure that the conditions exist for local businesses to thrive.

7.8 **Open Space Coalition.** Enhance the efforts and coordination among open space advocacy groups active in our community.

7.9 **Community Facilities Development.** Develop new and re-use existing facilities to serve community needs.

7.10 **Community Gardens.** Enhance existing community gardens and transform vacant lots into new gardens or other types of community open space.
The seven strategies in our new Humboldt Park Quality-of-Life Plan include 57 projects that will be undertaken by the Humboldt Park NCP Task Force member organizations and other neighborhood partners over the next five years. Some of the key projects of our plan are illustrated above.
Strategies:
Seven Approaches to Community Development

These strategies and projects, while individually articulated, are interconnected with other strategies and projects in the plan, representing a comprehensive community development approach. Additionally, there are a variety of carry-over projects from our original NCP plan which are woven in and continue to be important priorities for our community.

Youth represent our future and, to become motivated members of the community, our youth need to be more broadly engaged in their educational future and civic life. This strategy aims to provide youth with out-of-school time activities that develop leadership and other skills needed for educational and career success. As we enhance the youth programming developed during the first five years of our plan, we will particularly work to enhance job readiness programming and expand activities for youth in the western portions of Humboldt Park.

We will expand opportunities for youth to give back to their community and become leaders through peer mentoring and other leadership initiatives.

We will increase the availability of after-school and summer programs that emphasize art, music, sports, gardening and service projects, and enhance cultural identity and awareness. Some examples include the West African Drum and Dance Program, B’Ball on the Block, BickerBikes, the tumbling program, and the “Humboldt Hearts” girls’ softball team.

Our vision is to create a community in which youth enjoy after-school and summer programs that prepare them for a future as responsible adults.

STRATEGY 1
Engage youth in the community in productive ways

Our vision is to create a community in which youth enjoy after-school and summer programs that prepare them for a future as responsible adults.

Successful Project Highlights from our 1st Plan

- **BickerBikes**: A popular youth earn and build a bike program that keeps youth productively engaged while building skills and developing leadership.
- **Bandera a Bandera**: An established community-based theater program whose productions have traveled outside of Illinois.
- **Radio Batey**: Our community’s first radio station built and led by youth, featuring youth and cultural programming.
- **Youth Employment Initiative**: This community youth employment initiative collaborative has provided employment opportunities to over 325 youth.

Raising the Stakes:
PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

1.1 **Youth Leadership Project**
We will expand opportunities for youth to give back to their community and become leaders through peer mentoring and other leadership initiatives.

1.2 **After-School & Summer Programs**
We will increase the availability of after-school and summer programs that emphasize art, music, sports, gardening and service projects, and enhance cultural identity and awareness. Some examples include the West African Drum and Dance Program, B’Ball on the Block, BickerBikes, the tumbling program, and the “Humboldt Hearts” girls’ softball team.

1.3 **Skill Exploration Programming**
We will create programs for youth that encourage development of new skills through activities like the internet-based Radio Batey, the West Side Writing Project, webcasting classes, interactive programming among youth and artists, and the Open Mic Project, which features the spoken word of program participants and community members as well as guest artists with live music.

1.4 **Youth Employment**
We will expand opportunities for youth employment through summer jobs and internships programs such as the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) and Careers for Youth. Activities under this project include youth job readiness programs, youth-employer networking events, summer career clubs, and training initiatives targeted toward gang-involved youth, such as green technology training for entry into the growing industry of green collar jobs.
To improve the health of Humboldt Park residents, we have taken a multi-pronged approach that spans from prevention to treatment, and which covers health screenings, dental programs, services and education around asthma, diabetes, obesity and stress management, substance abuse, and increased mental health services.

We have made substantial progress during the last five years through the creation of the Greater Humboldt Park Community of Wellness, which continues to grow in the western portions of Humboldt Park, where facilities should be expanded. We are also working with local hospitals to encourage their staff to become more culturally competent and sensitive to the needs of our residents.

We will promote active lifestyles for adults and youth to combat obesity and related health problems. This will be done, in part, through citywide programs such as Sunday Parkways, and local activities such as “Humboldt Park in Motion/Humboldt Park en Movimiento” that encourage participation in fun physical activities, such as dance and performing arts programming, that also promote local culture.

2.2 Asthma Reduction and Control
We will establish and expand programs that address the deep rooted problem of asthma, such as a voluntary apartment inspection program that works with landlords to reduce asthma-producing conditions. We will assess what educational resources exist and are needed, hold community forums to seek perspectives, ideas and identify barriers to care, and deploy community health educators to assist families.

2.3 Health Education and Outreach
We will spread the word about new and existing health care services through a multi-pronged approach with initiatives such as: using the media to increase awareness of HIV/AIDS in Latino and African American communities, convening domestic violence town hall meetings, organizing health awareness weeks around key behavioral health topics, and developing Wellness Councils in local schools and enhanced educational programming around issues of school health, obesity, asthma, diabetes and autism.
2.4 Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention
We will expand the education, availability and access to drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs. Prevention of substance abuse among our youth at the elementary school age levels can be an effective tool for reducing future incidence.

2.5 Improved Access and Availability of Services
We will improve the availability of health services, including mental health services, for youth and families with children. We will focus on a broad range of needs such as: behavioral issues, post-partum depression, services for autistic children within the educational and social service systems, treatment facilities and services that address other community health issues, dental services and the expansion of HIV testing and counseling services to include testing for gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis.

2.6 Diabetes Intervention and Prevention
We will work to reduce the incidence of diabetes in the community through projects such as the 20-Block Campaign of the Greater Humboldt Park Community of Wellness (CoW) Diabetes Task Force, which encompasses outreach and education, screenings, prevention and improved medical care, increasing the quality of life for people with diabetes. We also will provide information to at-risk populations about healthy eating and community resources to help improve health and promote wellness.

2.7 Cultural Sensitivity Training
We will work with hospitals and other health service providers to provide staff cultural awareness training so that these facilities can become more relevant to their host neighborhoods.
STRATEGY 3

**Provide resources to sustain healthy individuals and families**

Our vision is to create a community in which families of all incomes can afford decent housing and are healthy in body, mind and spirit, with adults responsible for themselves and their children.

Families and individuals must have access to a variety of resources to help them achieve a healthy life. This strategy addresses a range of needs often experienced by families including financial literacy, parenting skills, mental health treatment and social services.

We will provide residents with education and tools they need to help them achieve financial stability and economic self-sufficiency such as financial literacy and financial management strategies, access to employment opportunities, prevention and early intervention when financial troubles occur, and access to additional income supports. Programming will be focused on “helping families help themselves,” building indigenous leadership in our community and expanding opportunities for targeted groups such as ex-offenders. Social service initiatives will include programming ranging from mental health services for seniors, to programs serving gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and trans-gendered residents.

We will proactively work to create and strengthen opportunities for residents and families to connect to community life, as well as recreational, community enhancement and self-enrichment resources to promote healthier lifestyles. A variety of environmentally friendly “green” initiatives, such as rooftop gardening, local recycling and green technology training can help to promote opportunities, improve health, create a more attractive neighborhood and create jobs.

Raising the Stakes: PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

**Economic Stability Initiatives**

3.1 Foreclosure Prevention and Intervention

To address the high foreclosure rates in our community, we will create and strengthen initiatives and services to prevent and intervene in home foreclosures through individual counseling, advocacy, seminars, and workshops related to foreclosure prevention and intervention, as well as sub-prime lending.

3.2 Financial Stability, Credit Repair and Financial Literacy

We will expand and create a broad array of financial stability, financial literacy and credit repair initiatives, such as those made available through the Center for Working Families and others, designed to achieve financial stability, provide information on personal financial management and budgeting, how to avoid risky loans such as payday, internet solicitation, etc., how to understand a credit report and credit score and how others use them, child support awareness, strategies on how to repair personal credit, and helping residents overcome barriers to employment, housing, insurance and other opportunities. These initiatives will be targeted and made available to all interested neighborhood residents.

**Successful Project Highlights from our 1st Plan**

- **Center for Working Families**: This holistic center has provided financial & family sustainability opportunities for over 825 families since its establishment 3 years ago.
- **Homeownership Counseling**: This collaborative effort has worked to provide opportunities for low to middle income families in an effort to sustain affordable homeownership while empowering families.
- **Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Committee**: A recently established working group that is engaged in the oversight and implementation of a community-based reentry model.
3.3 Homeownership Counseling
We will continue coordination among existing homeownership counseling programs to ensure strong programming and to better prepare prospective homeowners with knowledge and resources. We will ensure that prospective homeowners have the tools they need to make good decisions through pre-purchase assessment and counseling, post-purchase counseling and condominium ownership training, as well as informational workshops and seminars for first-time homebuyers.

3.4 Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Program
We will establish a coordinating body of service providers to develop a comprehensive response to the large numbers of Humboldt Park residents who will be reentering the community from the prison system, focused on establishing programming based on the unique needs of this population such as housing, education, job training and placement, economic development, family well-being, and advocacy around issues that are barriers to employment.

3.5 Ex-Offender Support Services
We will identify and establish support services to address the priority needs of ex-offenders reentering the community which will include, mentoring programs, family reengagement, parenting initiatives, transitional employment initiatives, training and employment, access to housing, mental health services, substance abuse services and prevention, record expungement services, faith/spiritual engagement and healthy living.

3.6 Senior Citizen Programs
We will develop and promote a variety of programs to ensure that the emerging and special needs of seniors are addressed so that they remain active, get the supports they need and have opportunities to engage in community life, including programming such as senior daycare, senior activity engagement opportunities, initiatives enabling independent living, and grandparents raising grandchildren supportive services.

3.7 Targeted Needs Programming
We will develop programming tailored to the needs of targeted interest groups such as families impacted by autism, persons with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and trans-gendered residents, and parents in need of day care.

3.8 Puerto Rican Cultural Center Library
We will make more accessible and provide a diverse and alternative collection of literary resources to the community through the expansion of the center’s facility and its collections, as well as the enhanced cataloguing of the library’s collection of materials related to history, culture and politics.

3.9 Community Arts Programming
We will continue to refine, expand and support the arts programming and initiatives that have been identified through the Humboldt Park Building Community through the Arts collaboration and its partner institutions and others, including such initiatives such as the Mural Arts Program, arts-related initiatives that strategically address issues of community development, artist discussions and workshops, and technical assistance workshops for local artists and small arts organizations.

3.10 McCormick Tribune YMCA
We will expand the community’s access to a broader array of recreational activities by supporting efforts to expand the facilities and programming of the McCormick Tribune YMCA, which could include an exercise space with youth-appropriate equipment, a mini-soccer field, a pool, a green outdoor classroom, and/or a batting cage.

3.11 Green Initiatives
We will create and support community programs that are focused on the promotion of environmentally friendly “green” technology and practices as well as energy efficiency in the Humboldt Park community, such as the Humboldt Park recycling program, composting, and providing linkage to job training and employment creation as well as entrepreneurial opportunities, such as a green incubator, in the emerging green technology field.
STRATEGY 4

Provide jobs through training and local business development

Our vision is to create a community in which adults can find living-wage employment working for, or starting, indigenous businesses that provide needed products and services.

Residents must be able to find—and keep—living-wage jobs to move up the economic ladder. This strategy focuses on job readiness, education and job placement in a variety of fields—helping youth and adults develop job and mentoring networks, and developing local businesses that can employ local residents, provide goods and services, and address unmet market demand. We will link entrepreneurs to business development resources and training, and assist them in accessing financial incentives available through tax-increment financing and other programs that support economic development. We will promote and support advocacy and policy change needed to ensure that ex-offenders can access jobs and other support services, as well as enhance the availability of transitional employment for this and other at-risk populations.

Successful Project Highlights from our 1st Plan

- **Carreras en Salud**: This bilingual CNA to LPN healthcare bridge partnership provides the foundation for a customized career pathway in nursing occupations.
- **Pipeline to Heath Careers**: This youth health careers program was created to address education and employment within the health field using a unique cultural and educational bridge.
- **CIMA**: Is a wireless technology business accelerator and workforce development program located within the Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center that encourages the growth of small high-tech businesses and trains individuals within the community.

We will create “bridge” programs that lead to advancement up the healthcare and health policy career ladder, particularly in light of the employment opportunities and shortage of workers in some of these professions, through such programs as the Carreras en Salud. In addition, we will implement programming that attracts high school youth into health educational tracks that lead to employment in the health professions such as the Pipeline to Health Careers Project.

4.2 Career Preparation & Bridges

We will prepare local residents for job opportunities by building on our successes with the Center for Working Families and expanding the development and support of career-track training in industries with growth potential. This community-wide system of career bridges—in fields such as construction, food service, healthcare, green technology and the arts—will move people into higher-paying jobs as skills develop. Career training may include apprentice programs in the trades, culinary arts and green technology, as well as advanced training offered through colleges and universities.

4.3 Ex-Offender Employment Project

To help achieve economic self-sufficiency and reduce recidivism we will create and support projects designed to achieve career path employment for ex-offenders in such areas as landscaping, green collar jobs, and entrepreneurial opportunities, and expanding local access to commercial driver's license (CDL) training and certification, recognizing the need for transitional employment initiatives as well as identifying and supporting advocacy initiatives around issues that are barriers to ex-offender employment, such as state licensing and certification.
4.4 **Job Fairs**
We will hold job fairs targeted to adults, youth and targeted populations such as ex-offenders designed to help link workers with employers and meaningful jobs.

4.5 **Mentoring Project**
We will develop mentoring programs for youth, adults, women and ex-offenders to help ensure success in the workplace, advance their careers, achieve economic success, and engage in self-enrichment.

4.6 **Job Readiness and Basic Skills Training**
We will work to ensure that youth and adults in need of certain basic skills are prepared to successfully secure employment and enter the workforce. We will coordinate and enhance existing basic-skills and attainment programs in areas like GED preparation and ESL classes, and create and promote programming to ensure readiness to interview for and obtain jobs, including providing access to professional attire.

**Business Support Initiatives**

4.7 **Business Development**
We will support development of new businesses within the community by undertaking studies of retail market potential, such as MetroEdge, for various types of businesses. We will encourage the development of businesses and incubators to support new start-ups, such as in culinary arts, a restaurant incubator and other business types identified in the MetroEdge study. Additional initiatives envisioned under this project include the creation of a Humboldt Park Small Business Development Center and business start up/venture capital initiatives.

4.8 **Chambers of Commerce**
We will develop and support chamber of commerce organizations to bolster business development and marketing initiatives for business districts, particularly along Chicago Avenue, North Avenue, and Division Street, as well as other business clusters.
Improve local schools using a community-based and culturally sensitive approach

While having made some gains and achieved a number of successes, Humboldt Park continues to be challenged by the performance of its local schools. We know that if the approximately 13,800 students at local schools do not succeed academically, they are less likely to be prepared for the jobs of tomorrow — and more likely to become stuck in dead-end employment, under-employment or illegal trades such as drug dealing and gang membership. Establishing ladders of educational opportunity, which will ultimately lead to access to living-wage jobs will require a variety of approaches, including programs to connect schools to the broader community, and provide a variety of educational paths for students. We will build upon our efforts over the last five years to address the dropout rate and discourage so-called “push-outs,” by which students are forced to drop out because their performance brings down the school’s standardized test scores.

We will work to advocate for additional resources and adequate school facilities as well as full and early disclosure by Chicago Public Schools regarding school closures and reorganizations/turnaround schools through Renaissance 2010. We will work with parents to get them more involved in their children’s schools and to help them to identify and expand their knowledge and access educational choices. Active engagement in breaking down segregation among the student body while increasing multicultural sensitivity among students and teachers remains a priority. We will enhance the educational programming offered in our schools to include nutrition and urban agriculture, wellness, the arts, writing, and other topics directed toward growth and success.

Raising the Stakes: PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

5.1 Student Retention
We will develop and promote programs focused on preventing school dropouts and motivating students to remain in school and plan for their futures through college preparation and/or career training. We will increase efforts to educate parents and youth about income disparities between those who graduate high school vs. those who drop out as a tool to motivate students to stay in school.

5.2 Enhanced Educational Programming
We will encourage collaboration and work with schools to incorporate a variety of curriculum tracks that build upon the arts and culture, health and nutrition, writing skills, college preparation, career and vocational programming, and youth leadership initiatives being undertaken in the community. We will encourage good nutrition and healthy eating and provide health education to reduce obesity, asthma and diabetes through such programs as the Grow,
Teach, Feed Initiative of the Organic School Project along with other programs. We will work collaboratively to integrate arts in the schools, and develop or enhance satellite programs such as the Batey radio station linkage with Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School. We will also promote expansion of programming like the Orr Campus evening high school credit accrual program.

**5.3 GED Programming and Achievement**

To address the high numbers of residents who lack a high school degree or equivalent and the insufficient availability of GED preparation programs in the community, we will establish additional GED preparation classes and the availability of testing sites. This will help to ensure that individuals who did not finish high school can be reconnected to educational resources and achieve high school equivalency attainment to expand their workforce opportunities and facilitate their advancement.

**5.4 Parental Involvement and Rethinking Educational Models**

We will work with parents at local schools to increase awareness and engagement in rethinking school educational models and options, and to increase parent involvement in their children’s schools.

**5.5 Community Schools**

To increase educational options, we will consider the creation of additional community schools, as well as the expansion of activities and programming at our existing community schools such as Polaris Charter Academy and Von Humboldt Elementary.
Healthy, functional individuals and families flourish in a community with strong physical, economic and social infrastructure. Marketing and communications will highlight the community's business and entrepreneurial potential, while preventing violence helps increase public safety and create an increasingly attractive visual and economic environment. Partnerships among businesses, community-based organizations, residents and the Chicago Police Department will enable us to express our positive energy, culture and willingness to work together to create a cohesive community fabric. An important component of this strategy is preserving the racial and ethnic mix of our community, including the continued development of a Puerto Rican cultural district and Chicago Avenue as a diverse cultural enclave. Expanding the cultural bridges among the ethnic groups that make our community so rich in its diversity is a significant focus of the projects that will be carried out under this strategy.

Our vision is to create a community in which residents feel empowered to help improve their quality of life and physical environment, no one is threatened by gangs or crime, and property is improved through beautification efforts.

Successful Project Highlights from our 1st Plan

- **Mural Arts Program**: This program was developed and is being implemented through the Building Community through the Arts (BCA) Committee and is focused on incorporating arts into new and existing buildings and developments within the community.

- **Humboldt Park Safety Committee**: This community-based safety collaborative provides coordination and is involved in the implementation of a range of grassroots safety initiatives to create a safe community environment.

- **Don Pedro Mural**: The Don Pedro Mural brought together a broad community effort to claim space, recognize a long standing body of art representing cultural identity, and galvanize a shared fight for the preservation of the oldest mural in Humboldt Park. The restoration is underway.

**6.3 Gateway Development**

We will implement targeted streetscape and community gateway projects along major streets including Division Street, North Avenue, Chicago Avenue and Western Avenue to provide an inviting “front door” that welcomes visitors and residents to our community.

**6.4 Paseo Boricua**

We will continue to enhance and expand the “between the flags” Paseo Boricua Restaurant and Cultural District along Division Street to further underscore the neighborhood’s Puerto Rican heritage.

**6.5 Cultural Bridge Program**

We will continue to work creatively to enhance and strengthen racial and cultural relations between the east and west portions of Humboldt Park through specific initiatives, and by weaving it throughout our programming in other areas, eroding those perceived divides, creating greater unity and community cohesion, and facilitating our broader community development efforts.

**6.6 Community Branding**

We will “brand” our community with business banners along our commercial corridors using arts and culture to enhance our community identity. We will also use marketing tools such as a free trolley system that links key neighborhood destinations.
**Community Arts Initiatives**

6.7 **Community Arts and Murals**

We will build upon and showcase our cultural identity by preserving and developing murals through initiatives such as the “Mural Arts Program” of Building Community through the Arts (BCA) as well as other community arts projects.

6.8 **Public Arts Intervention**

To build on our strengths and the rich fabric of our cultures, we will support and promote public arts projects to bridge cultural divisions within Humboldt Park.

**Violence Prevention and Safety Initiatives**

6.9 **CAPS Promotion**

To build and strengthen community relations, interaction and accountability with the police as well as promote public safety, we will encourage regular resident attendance at CAPS meetings and expand the involvement of local businesses.

6.10 **Community Safety Initiative**

We will encourage block clubs and other smaller organizations to implement localized safety initiatives through Safety Mini-Grants. We will implement other programming that increases community safety, such as B-Ball on the Block, and we will enhance and expand Safe School Routes initiatives such as the “Walking School Bus” program within our community to create safe passage for our children to and from school. We will work with block clubs and other local entities, such as Building Community through the Arts, to increase and improve neighborhood lighting as a means to discourage criminal behavior and increase safety on our streets.

6.11 **Violence Prevention**

We will actively engage in and support initiatives that prevent violence in our neighborhoods—such as CeaseFire, the “Safe from the Start” health project and the IDHS Safety Net Works Program—as well as exploring the use of other violence prevention initiatives like the Weed & Seed program. In order to ensure the availability of these and other important violence prevention programs, we will advocate for the core funding resources which support them as appropriate.

6.12 **“Call Me by My Name” Safety Campaign**

To improve and increase relationships between community residents, particularly youth and the Chicago Police Department, we will work to identify creative and effective strategies and initiatives to accomplish this goal.

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**Building Community through the Arts (BCA)**

Building Community through the Arts-Humboldt Park (BCA-HP) Task Force is the arts and culture subcommittee of the New Communities Program. It was initially formed through a parallel citywide NCP initiative, and the Humboldt Park BCA was subsequently incorporated into the Humboldt Park NCP Task Force and plan. The BCA Task Force meets monthly and is comprised of community and arts based-organizations in the greater Humboldt Park community.

The BCA-HP task force works with artists, leaders of schools, social service organizations, businesses, and other institutions to bridge racial, cultural and economic differences, increase dialogue, knowledge and appreciation of our community’s diverse cultures and history, raise the quality of education in our schools, maintain affordable housing, foster public safety, and spur social and economic opportunities for all through the arts.

BCA-HP uses art initiatives that strategically address issues of community development as well as artists’ discussions and workshops, technical assistance workshops for local artists and small arts organizations, and open community discussion focusing on collaborative opportunities and information sharing. One of its centerpiece initiatives is its Mural Arts Program, which will portray the cultural and economic realities of the Humboldt Park community through local mural paintings.

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Humboldt Park murals reflect our community's history
STRATEGY 7

Increase community control over use of physical resources

Our vision is to create a community in which families of all incomes can afford decent housing, adults can find living-wage employment and everyone can access attractive and safe open space.

Although we have made strides, our low to moderate income residents still face development pressures as land prices rise, the industrial jobs they need to earn a living wage move elsewhere, and the community facilities they use for recreation or social services are displaced. We will continue to address land control, housing, commercial and industrial development, and community facilities. We will work to identify commercial, job producing development opportunities in the industrial corridors in and around Humboldt Park and increase our knowledge of how we can access TIF funds to support community improvement projects. We will work to ensure that community-building arts opportunities are incorporated into the early stages of project development for significant new construction projects.

Successful Project Highlights from our 1st Plan

■ First Community Land Trust of Chicago: This initiative encompasses 10 individual lots within the 27th Ward, and the development of long term affordable home ownership opportunities for families.

■ Harold Washington Community Coop: This 18 building, 87 unit affordable cooperative development transformed blighted vacant land into attractive newly constructed homes for local families.

■ La Estancia: This mixed use development includes 57 units of affordable rental housing and over 13,000 sq. ft. of commercial space for local business in three buildings, including the cornerstone building located at the west entryway of the Paseo Boriqua.

■ Solid Ground: This 16-bed supportive housing facility for young men 16-21 years old built by La Casa Norte has received several awards for youth housing and overall building design.

■ Monticello Park: This small park was created to address the growing needs for community green and recreational space for our many children and families.

We will continue to aggressively monitor land use and negotiate with developers through such efforts as the Chicago Avenue Task Force, NNNN/HPEP, Bickerdike’s Affordable Housing Committee and ongoing work with the City on the development of City-owned Request-for-Proposal (RFP) sites to ensure community priorities and needs are addressed.

Housing Initiatives

7.2 Development Monitoring

7.3 Affordable Rental Housing

7.4 Affordable Homeownership
7.5 Special Needs Housing
We will develop supportive housing for special needs populations such as seniors, homeless, people with disabilities, ex-offenders, and multigenerational families, as well as artists through work-live housing that incorporates gallery space.

7.6 Fair Housing
To ensure that no one is discriminated against and everyone has a place to live in our community, we will promote and create fair housing programming and the development of local capacity to address fair housing violations.

Commercial/Industrial Initiatives
7.7 Retail Corridor Development
We will strengthen existing retail corridors to ensure that the conditions exist for local businesses to thrive. We will build on our work with MetroEdge to develop retail business attraction and marketing strategies for the North Avenue, Division Street and Chicago Avenue retail corridors as well as other prime locations.

Community Facilities Initiatives
7.8 Open Space Coalition
We will work to enhance the efforts and coordination among open space advocacy groups active in our community to encourage and support park facility creation and programming improvements, including the redesign of Kells Park. We continue to work to convert the unused Bloomingdale rail line into a bicycle and pedestrian trail while addressing the community’s concerns about safety associated with this project. Also a priority is the creation and maintenance of facilities such as baseball diamonds, soccer fields, basketball courts, the Polaris Play Lot and the Orr Campus NFL grassroots program, which encourage youth engagement and physical activity, as well as the use of park facilities for cultural arts programming.

7.9 Community Facilities Development
We will develop new or re-use existing facilities to serve community needs, including the new development of the West Humboldt Park library branch and the reuse of the Wright School, Kelly Hall and Hartgrove Hospital buildings. Emerging community facility needs that have been identified include an accessible youth center and community space for senior programs.

7.10 Community Gardens
To encourage and promote community beautification and resident involvement, we will enhance existing community gardens and transform vacant lots into new community gardens or other types of community open space, including projects such as the development of the Humboldt Park Library garden and parking lot. We will pursue additional innovative types of community gardening such as hydroponic gardens and urban rooftop gardening. Emphasis also will be placed on community garden projects that address the need to grow vegetables to promote healthy eating and provide access to locally grown produce.
Work Program

What follows is the detailed Work Program that shows the 57 projects along with their expected time frame and the agency or agencies that will be, or are considering, taking the lead role and/or partner role.

Key to Participating Organizations
The Humboldt Park planning process drew input from many community-based organizations and institutions, public sector entities and representatives, businesses and residents. An equally broad array of resources will be necessary to put the plan into action. Those who might lead or partner in these efforts include:

- AHC Association House of Chicago
- ALSO Alliance of Local Service Organizations
- ARCH architectures
- ASP Aspira
- BCA Building Community through the Arts
- BCF Block Club Federation
- BCN Block Club Network
- BEEP Building Employment and Entrepreneurial Partnerships
- BRC Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation
- BT Blocks Together
- BU Batey Urbano
- BUILD Broader Urban Involvement & Leadership Development
- CALOR Comprension y Agoyo Latinos Oposicion al Retrovirus, or Understanding and Support of Latinos Opposed to HIV
- CAN-TV Chicago Access Network Television
- CARTF Chicago Avenue Revitalization Task Force
- CASA Casa Central
- CBF Chicagoland Bike Federation
- CC Chicago Commons
- CCC Community Counseling Centers of Chicago
- CCGT Chicago Center for Green Technology
- CCM Chicago Children’s Museum
- CDOE Chicago Department of Environment
- CDPH Chicago Department of Public Health
- CES Cameron Elementary School
- CFW CeaseFire West
- CFY Careers for Youth
- CHASI Children’s Home and Aid Society
- CHES Chase Elementary School
- CLEMHS Clemente High School
- CLOCC Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children
- COB Cub Connection
- COOPHP Co-op Humboldt Park
- CoW Greater Humboldt Park Community of Wellness
- CoW-ALTF Community of Wellness Active Lifestyles Task Force
- CoW-ASMTF Community of Wellness Asthma Task Force
- CoW-BEHFT Community of Wellness Behavioral Health Task Force
- CoW-DIBFT Community of Wellness Diabetes Task Force
- CPD Chicago Police Department
- CPKD Chicago Park District
- CPL Chicago Public Library
- CPS Chicago Public Schools
- CSB Centro San Bonifacio
- CUFAH Citizens United for Affordable Housing
- DCEO Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
- DOH Chicago Department of Housing
- DPD Chicago Department of Planning & Development
- DSIBDA Division Street Business Development Association
- EFHC Erie Family Health Center
- FBT Friends of the Bloomingdale Trail
- FCLTC First Community Land Trust of Chicago
- FHPL Friends of the Humboldt Park Library
- GNCDC Greater Northwest Chicago Development Corporation
- GPGC Growing Pride Garden Club
- HAS Health Alternative System
- HCC Humboldt Construction Company
- HCHS Hispanic Community Health Study
- HHDG Hispanic Housing Development Corporation
- HRAC Humboldt Park Local Advisory Council
- HPCF Humboldt Park CeaseFire
- HPEP Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership, the organizing initiative of NNNN
- HPEP-EDAT Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership-Economic Development Action Team
- HPEP-ESAT Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership-Employment Skills Action Team
- HPEP-YAT Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership-Youth Action Team
- HPPRC Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Committee
- HPSC Humboldt Park Safety Committee
- HPSS Humboldt Park Social Services
- HPVEC Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center, a branch of Wright College
- HPYEI Humboldt Park Youth Employment Initiative
- IDCC Illinois Department of Corrections
- IPRAC Institute for Puerto Rican Arts and Culture
- JCFYDF John C. Reeser Youth Development Foundation
- KAPT4U Kezdre, Albany, Franklin, & Troy Unity Block Club Association
- KHY Kelly Hall YMCA
- KPAC Kells Park Advisory Council
- LC LEED Council
- LCAPB La Capilla Del Barrio
- LCEC Latino Cultural Exchange Coalition
- LCN La Casa Norte
- LES Lowell Elementary School
- LSNA Logan Square Neighborhood Association
- LUCHA Latin United Community Housing Association
- MCB McCormick Tribune YMCA
- MEBOP Men’s Employment & Business Ownership Program
- METROEDGE LISC MetroEdge
- METROY Metropolitan YMCA
- NHS Neighborhood Housing Services
- NNDC Near North Development Corporation
- NNNN Near Northwest Neighborhood Network
- OLP Openlands
- ORR Orr High School Campus
- OSC Open Space Coalition
- OSP Organic School Project
- PCS Polaris Charter School
- PRCC Puerto Rican Cultural Center
- RHAMA Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago
- SCH Spanish Coalition for Housing
- SH Sacred Heart Hospital
- SIP Street Intervention Program
- SSC Safe from the Start Coalition
- SWAC Spoken Word Academy of Chicago
- TASC Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities
- TDB To Be Determined
- TFS Tumbling for Success
- TRIO Trio
- UIC University of Illinois - Chicago
- VIDA/SIDA VIDA/SIDA
- WADD West African Drum & Dance
- WHPDC West Humboldt Park Family & Community Development Council
- WHPHC West Humboldt Park Healthy Community Initiatives
- WSHA West Side Health Authority
- WSWP West Side Writing Project
- WTB West Town Bikes
- WTLU West Town Leadership United
- YG Youth Guidance
- YSP Youth Service Project
## Schedule and Priorities

### STRATEGY

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### 1. ENGAGE YOUTH IN PRODUCTIVE WAYS

1.1 Youth Leadership Project

1.2 After-School & Summer Programs

1.3 Skill Exploration Programming

1.4 Youth Employment

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### 2. CREATE A COMMUNITY OF WELLNESS WHERE HEALTH IS A DIMENSION OF COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

2.1 Active Lifestyle Program

2.2 Asthma Reduction and Control

2.3 Health Education and Outreach

2.4 Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention

2.5 Improved Access and Availability of Services

2.6 Diabetes Intervention and Prevention

2.7 Cultural Sensitivity Training

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### 3. PROVIDE RESOURCES TO SUSTAIN HEALTHY INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

#### Economic Stability Initiatives

3.1 Foreclosure Prevention and Intervention

3.2 Financial Stability, Credit Repair and Financial Literacy

3.3 Homeownership Counseling

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#### Ex-offender Initiatives

3.4 Humboldt Park Prisoner Reentry Program

3.5 Ex-Offender Support Services

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Participants & Acknowledgements

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The New Communities Program

NCP is a long-term initiative of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation/Chicago to support comprehensive community development in 16 Chicago neighborhoods. It seeks to rejuvenate communities that have lost population and jobs, bolster those in danger of sliding downward and preserve the diversity of areas in the path of gentrification. Each effort is led by a neighborhood-based lead agency that coordinates programs among other local organizations and citywide partners.

The lead agencies are provided an NCP director and organizer; loan and grant funds to mount projects (which are also available to partner agencies); and technical support including planning expertise, trainings and peer-learning opportunities. All NCP neighborhoods undertake a “quality-of-life” planning process and then spend the next five years implementing their plan.

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www.newcommunities.org

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