



CSBG ARRA 2009-2010 Final Report

December 2010

Social Development Commission, Milwaukee, WI
Prepared by Brittany Rosales, Policy Analyst



About the Social Development Commission

For over forty-seven years, the Social Development Commission (SDC) has served as a planner, coordinator, and implementer of human service programs for low-income individuals and families in Milwaukee County. The SDC was established in 1963 as an intergovernmental Public Commission under Wisconsin State Statute SS66.433. In 1964, the SDC was designated as the Community Action Agency (CAA) for Milwaukee County.

The mission of the SDC is “Empowering Milwaukee County residents with the resources to move beyond poverty.” As such, the SDC’s goal is to provide comprehensive holistic services to Milwaukee County residents in poverty, assisting them as they move from poverty to self-sufficiency. Through its 30 programs, the SDC provides services to approximately 70,000 individuals annually.

The Social Development Commission is led by Deborah Blanks, Chief Executive Officer. Administrative headquarters are located at 4041 N. Richards Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Acknowledgments

The Social Development Commission is responsible for the preparation of this report, which was written by the staff of the SDC. Many other persons contributed to this work through data collection, report preparation, comments, and interviews with SDC staff. Those contributing individuals include representatives from community partners, SDC programs, the Wisconsin Community Action Partnership, and the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. While we cannot individually acknowledge all such individuals, this report greatly benefitted from their contributions.

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Introduction

On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The Act, often referred to simply as ‘the Recovery Act’, was a direct response to the dismal health of the American economy. There were three primary goals of ARRA¹:

01. Create new jobs and save existing ones;
02. Spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth;
03. Foster unprecedented levels of accountability and transparency in government spending.

The Recovery Act, which included tax cuts and spending provisions, was nominally valued at approximately \$787 billion. Funds were allocated between different issue areas and bureaus, including a \$978.3 million allocation for state entities eligible to receive and distribute Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds to Community Action Agencies². The Social Development Commission (SDC), Milwaukee County’s Community Action Agency since 1964, received a CSBG ARRA award of \$3,384,260 from the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families through a formula-based award.

Summary

The SDC began spending CSBG ARRA funds in the early fall of 2009. In 12 months, CSBG ARRA funds created 26.64 FTE jobs, retained another 9.7FTE, supported the planning for 9 neighborhood and economic development projects, and provided much needed services to approximately 10,600 low-income Milwaukee County residents. Between 14 community partners and 5 internal SDC programs, the SDC expended \$3,384,260 or 100%, of the total grant award. A total of \$170,667, or 5% of the total grant, was used for SDC’s administrative costs.

CSBG ARRA service programs include adult job training programs in construction/deconstruction, foreclosure counseling, workforce readiness and skills enhancement trainings, assessments and referrals to keep low-income seniors homebound, family involvement activities, youth job training, free tax assistance, life skills training, and health assessments and referrals.

CSBG ARRA development projects include the planning for a 52-unit apartment building for veterans, the renovation of the LaVarnway Boys and Girls Club, the renovation planning for the land surrounding a neighborhood school, the expansion of a free health clinic, the development of a business corridor, the redevelopment of a public school for senior housing, and the development of a community facility that will house supportive services.

This comprehensive report is intended to provide a thorough description of activities funded by CSBG ARRA and to provide initial outcomes achieved.

¹ www.recovery.gov

² The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides formula based funds to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities to eligible entities authorized by the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981.

Key Concepts and Reporting Indicators

Jobs Created and Retained

For the purposes of this report, jobs created and retained were standardized and reported in terms of Full-Time Equivalents. To minimize subjectivity and over-counting due to temporary positions, the following guidelines were used to calculate jobs created and jobs retained:

01. Jobs Created – A job created is a new position created and filled, or an existing unfilled position that is filled, that is funded by the Recovery Act.
02. Jobs Retained – A job retained is a position that existed prior to the Recovery Act and was funded by Recovery Act funds.
03. Job estimate totals are a ratio of the hours worked in a reporting quarter by the hours in a full-time schedule.
04. A job can only be counted exclusively as a job created or a job retained, not both.
05. Jobs funded partially with Recovery Act funds are only counted based on the proportion funded by the Recovery Act.
06. Jobs funded wholly or partially with Recovery Act funds will only be counted if supporting a project or program funded with Recovery Act funds.

The following formula was used to calculate and report Full-Time Equivalents:

$$\frac{\text{ARRA Funded Weekly Hours} * \text{Number of weeks on payroll}}{\text{Hours in Standard Work Year}} = \text{Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)}$$

The maximum number of ARRA funded weekly hours could not exceed 40 hours. The number of weeks on payroll could not exceed 52 weeks and was for a period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010. The maximum hours in standard work year could not exceed 2080 hours.

Number of Participants

A large percentage of SDC's CSBG ARRA funds were used to provide services to low-income residents in Milwaukee County³. To minimize the potential for over-reporting, the number of participants served per each program is an unduplicated count unless specified.

Planning vs. Service Grants

The SDC categorizes the programs and projects funded in whole or in part by CSBG ARRA as either a planning project or a service program. Planning projects are targeted towards development projects and are not intended to directly provide low-income residents service provisions, but rather aid and assist in long-term development projects in high poverty areas or for projects that will be used to provide services to low-income residents after completion. Service programs are programs that directly provide low-income residents with a documented service provision.

³ Low-income for the purposes of CSBG ARRA is counted at 200% at or below the Federal Poverty Line and is dependent on household size.

Creating an Agency Plan: Priority Spending Areas

One of the restrictions on CSBG ARRA funds was that Recovery Acts funds could not be used to supplant existing funding streams, thereby creating the opportunity to develop new and innovative programming and projects. Heavy consideration for funding was given to service and project areas that not only achieved the legislative goals of the Recovery Act, but also provided an opportunity for the SDC to increase levels of service and investment in areas of Milwaukee that were disproportionately underfunded as a result of the economic downturn. The SDC created the following agency plan that identified funding priorities for CSBG ARRA funds:

- ❖ Foreclosure Counseling
- ❖ Asset Development
- ❖ Small Business Training & Assistance
- ❖ Economic Development
- ❖ Health Education and Referral Services
- ❖ Neighborhood Development
- ❖ Youth Job Training
- ❖ Adult Job Training
- ❖ Soft Skills Training

Agency ARRA Goals

In line with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, the Community Action network has used the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) framework for measuring effectiveness. ROMA consists of 6 broad anti-poverty goals:

Goal 1: Low-income people become more self-sufficient.

Goal 2: The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.

Goal 3: Low-income people own a stake in their community.

Goal 4: Partnerships among supporters and providers of service to low-income people are achieved.

Goal 5: Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.

Goal 6: Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems.

Program Area	Established Goals	Goal	Actual
Foreclosure Counseling	<i>Goal 2.1:</i> Increase in access to community services and resources by low-income people [individuals]	100	151
	<i>Goal 4.1:</i> Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved [partnerships]	5	5
Asset Development	<i>Goal 1.3:</i> Number of participants in tax preparation programs who identify any type of Federal or State tax credit [individuals]	250	1,940
Small Business Assistance	<i>Goal 3.1B:</i> Number of low-income people acquiring businesses in their community as a result of community action assistance [individuals]	10	19
Economic Development Projects	<i>Goal 4.1:</i> Partnerships among supporters and providers of service to low-income people are achieved [partnerships]	4	16

	<i>Goal 5.1</i> The number of dollars mobilized by community action [unit = U.S. dollar]	\$300,000	\$4,000,000+
Health Education & Referral Center	<i>Goal 2.1D:</i> Accessible and affordable health care/facilities for low-income people created or saved from reduction or elimination [unit = facility]	1	1
Neighborhood Development Projects	<i>Goal 1.1A:</i> Unemployed and obtained a job [unit = individuals]	75	19
	<i>Goal 1.2A:</i> Obtained pre-employment skills [unit = individuals]	75	150
	<i>Goal 2.1A:</i> Safe and affordable housing units preserved or improved through construction, weatherization or rehabilitation* [family household unit]	20	0
	<i>Goal 4.1:</i> Partnerships among supporters and providers of service to low-income people are achieved [unit = partnership]	10	15
	<i>Goal 5.1:</i> Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results [organization]	2	7
Youth Job Training	<i>Goal 1.1A:</i> Unemployed and obtained a job [individuals]	25-30	55**
	<i>Goal 1.2A:</i> Obtained pre-employment skills [individuals]	25-30	70
Adult Job Training	<i>Goal 1.1A:</i> Unemployed and obtained a job [individuals]	50-75	19
	<i>Goal 1.2A:</i> Obtained pre-employment skills [individuals]	50-75	58
Soft Skills Workshops	<i>Goal 1.2A:</i> Obtained pre-employment skills [individuals]	20-25	50

* The SDC submitted a modification to the agency plan in the fall of 2009 for the Neighborhood Development Projects that changed emphasis from rehabilitation of neighborhood homes to supporting long-term development projects in the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood.

**Youth were employed during the duration of the program. Total does not reflect permanent employment placements.

Establishing Community Partners: Competitive Bids Process

In order to spend CSBG ARRA funds efficiently and effectively, the SDC used a competitive bids process to select community partners to execute programs and determine which projects to support. Request for Proposals were released for 6 funding areas:

RFP #	ARRA Program Area	Release Date	Closing Date	# of applications	
				received	funded
0904-09A	Adult Job Training	09/04/2009	10/05/2009	8	2
0904-09B	Foreclosure Counseling	09/04/2009	10/05/2009	2	1
0904-09C	Neighborhood Development	09/04/2009	10/05/2009	1	1
0904-09D	Economic Development	09/04/2009	10/05/2009	6	2
0930-09A	Neighborhood Development	09/30/2009	10/30/2009	23	8
0930-09B	Neighborhood Development	09/30/2009	10/26/2009	2	1
1009-09	Small Business Training	10/09/2009	11/06/2009	8	1

Notices of Request for Proposals were published in the Milwaukee Business Journal, Community Journal, and the SDC's website. Score sheets for all submitted proposals are made available for public viewing at: Social Development Commission, 4041 N. Richards Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212, ATTN: Purchasing Manager. Advance notice is requested for preparation of materials.

Spending Summary

The following chart provides a final summary of spending based on program area.

Program Area	Amount Expended	Percentage of Total
Health Education	\$105,160.99	3.1
Neighborhood Development	\$1,125,677.74	33.3
Foreclosure Counseling	\$53,416.63	1.6
Asset Development	\$106,312.06	3.1
Soft Skills	\$14,005.85	0.4
Job Training Programs	\$721,778.38	21.3
Energy Call Center	\$297,948.36	8.8
Small Business Training	\$438,396.62	13.0
Economic Development	\$350,896.63	10.4
Administration	\$170,666.74	5.0
TOTAL	\$3,384,260.00	100%

Community Partner Profiles

The SDC partnered with 14 organizations in the Greater Milwaukee area to efficiently spend CSBG ARRA funds in the timeframe required by the grant. The following section will provide information on the activities and outcomes of each partner organization and the CSBG ARRA funded program or project.

Foreclosure Counseling

Housing Resources, Inc

Trena Bond, Executive Director
8532 W. Capitol Drive, Suite 201
Milwaukee, WI 53222
hri-wi.org



About Housing Resources, Inc

Founded in 1991, Housing Resources Incorporated (HRI) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals and families purchase their own homes in Milwaukee and Racine. HRI empowers people to live their dreams of successful homeownership through education, advocacy, and supportive services.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$52,520	0.0 FTE	1.0 FTE	150

Project Description:

Housing Resources, Inc (HRI) used funds to retain a full-time foreclosure counselor that reached low-income homeowners and provided them with information and access to resources to better their housing situation. In addition to providing free one-on-one counseling to homeowners that were facing foreclosure, HRI participated in a series of foreclosure prevention outreach activities in the community that educated large groups on their options. Monthly foreclosure workshops were also held at various sites in the county.

Additional Program Outcomes

# of households which obtain and/or maintain home ownership	150
Increase in access to community services and resources by low-income people	101
# of households owning or actively participating in the management of their housing	150
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	10
# of vulnerable individuals that maintain an independent living situation	52

Small Business Training & Assistance

Multicultural Entrepreneurial Institute

Nelson Soler, Chief Solutions Officer
612 W. National Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53204
multiculturalinstitute.com



About Multicultural Entrepreneurial Institute

The Multicultural Entrepreneurial Institute was founded in 2006 by Nelson Soler with the mission of assisting entrepreneurs to reach their business dream through education, consulting and technical assistance. MEI's vision is to foster economic wealth creation practices among all individuals wishing to realize their entrepreneurial dreams. MEI, Inc. is a certified Minority-Owned Business Enterprise-State (MBE), Disadvantaged Business Enterprise(DBE)-National Minority Council, Emerging Business Enterprise (EBE).

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$437,500	1.0FTE	3.0FTE	28

Project Description:

Multicultural Entrepreneurial Institute (MEI) designed an intensive cohort-style education program for low-income residents interested in becoming or sustaining themselves as small business owners in Milwaukee County. After extensive interviewing and assessment, program participants were placed in one of two cohorts: (a) Basic: Entrepreneurs or (b) Advanced: Established Business. In addition to weekly classes held in the evening, participants were assigned a coach/mentor to assist with the development of polished business plans that were used to access capital for business costs. The model also included ample opportunities for networking, mentoring, and sharing best practices between existing business owners and budding entrepreneurs.

A unique feature of the MEI program compared to other similar programs, besides being free of charge to participants, was that access to capital was built into the program for participants. Approximately \$96,000, or 22% of the grant award, was allocated for individual business grants for participants. Participants could earn up to an \$8,000 grant to be used for expenses related to their business. Final grant amounts were based on a competitive scoring process that included performance in the classroom portion of the program, scores from a panel of local lenders that graded each business plan, the needs of each business, and allowable expenses from the funding source. Final grant awards ranged from \$500 to \$6,000.

Additional Program Outcomes

# of participants who became self-employed as a result of business created	19
Increase in low-income businesses owned [business unit]	19
Increase in access to capital by minorities [individual unit]	9
# of participants that created access plans to establish financial wealth	28
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	17
# of families having their situation improved as a result of comprehensive services	28

Economic Development Projects

Center for Veterans Issues

Robert Cocroft, Chief Executive Officer
3312 W. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
cvivet.org



About Center for Veterans Issues

The Center for Veterans Issues, Ltd (CVI) is a nonprofit veteran’s administration and management organization. CVI supports the concerns of all veterans by providing information, resources, identification of funding, technical assistance and organizational development to veteran service organizations. CVI also provides transitional housing to homeless veterans, while offering many services to help veterans transition back into the community.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning	\$175,000	0.5 FTE	1.8 FTE

Project Description:

The Center for Veterans Issues, Ltd in partnership with Cardinal Capital Management, is currently constructing a 52-unit apartment building for veterans, the Thomas H. Wynn Memorial Apartments: Veterans Manor (Vets Manor). Vets Manor, a low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) development, will be located at the corner of the previously blighted 35th Street and Wisconsin Avenue intersection in the City of Milwaukee. The project will provide permanent, stable housing in addition to wrap-around services for low-income residents. Apartment units will be approximately 650 square feet and will have initial monthly rents of \$600 to \$650. Many of the units will be full handicapped accessible. Vets Manor is scheduled to be completed by Summer 2011.

The \$11.3 million development project is funded by federal low-income housing tax credits, federal Tax Credit Assistance Program funds from WHEDA, federal CDBG funds from the City and County of Milwaukee, City of Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund grants, and a CSBG ARRA grant administered by the SDC.

Veterans Manor will also include a full-service café and hospitality training program on the first floor of Vets Manor. CSBG ARRA funds were used to develop the training curricula and design a fully accessible café that will be open to the public as well as provide healthy food options to local schools. CVI partnered with the Milwaukee Center for Independence as well as Boelter Design, both of which provided pro bono services to the project, to design a fully accessible kitchen.

Veterans Manor will provide homeless and low-income veterans the opportunity to receive supportive services while achieving independence in a safe, secure, and permanent housing unit. It is anticipated that Veterans Manor will become a national model for affordable and permanent housing for veterans.

Rebuilding Together Greater Milwaukee

Lynnea Katz-Petted, Executive Director
700 W. Virginia Street, Suite 221
Milwaukee, WI 53204
rtmilwaukee.org



About Rebuilding Together Greater Milwaukee

Rebuilding Together Greater Milwaukee's (RTGM) mission is to provide free, professional quality home repairs for low-income homeowners who are senior citizens and/or persons with disabilities who live in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$175,000	1.4FTE	0.7FTE	120

Program Description:

The Housing Plus Program is a city-wide expansion of the Senior Home Accessibility and Repair Program (SHARP), a collaborative pilot program to provide home accessibility modifications and home repairs that increases safety and ensures that long-time homeowners maintain self-sufficiency. Accessibility modifications are identified by an Occupational Therapy team through observations and interviews with senior homeowners. In addition to minor home repairs, participants are also connected to a network of resources to ensure that all physical, health, and social needs are addressed.

Program Collaborators

Rebuilding Together Greater Milwaukee manages and administers the Housing Plus Program and is made successful with the collaborative efforts of:

The Milwaukee County Department on Aging
City of Milwaukee's Neighborhood Improvement and Development Corporation
University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee School of Occupational Therapy R2D2 Center
Interfaith for Older Adults
Aurora Health and Family Services
Milwaukee Christian Center's Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP)
Community Care Organization (CCO)
Healthy Neighborhoods as represented by neighborhood agencies.

Additional Program Outcomes

Increase in access to community services and resources by low-income people [individuals]	81
# of households owning or actively participating in management of housing	63
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	20+
# of vulnerable individuals receiving services that maintain an independent living situation	81

Neighborhood Development Projects

The Zilber Neighborhood Initiative (ZNI) is a 10-year initiative in Milwaukee, WI that aims to revitalize 10 of Milwaukee’s low-income neighborhoods. In 2008, real estate developer and philanthropist Joseph Zilber, made a \$50 million commitment to the initiative and selected two neighborhoods, Lindsay Heights on Milwaukee’s north side and Clarke Square on Milwaukee’s near south side, to be the first neighborhoods to benefit from the initiative. The ZNI is a bottom-up approach to neighborhood revitalization and has drawn the support of a wide coalition of community stakeholders, including the Social Development Commission. For more information on the Zilber Neighborhood Initiative, please visit znimilwaukee.org.

Journey House

Dr. Michele Bria, Executive Director
 1900 W. Washington Street
 Milwaukee, WI 53204
journeyhouse.org



About Journey House

Since 1969, Journey House has provided workforce development and job training to low income residents of the Clarke Square neighborhood. Journey House’s mission is to “work with the community using a self-help philosophy.” Their mantra is: Education, education, education. Relationships, relationships, relationships. Exposure, exposure, exposure.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	Total Served
Service	\$370,300	1.96FTE	2.89FTE	164

Project Description:

The Urban Careers Institute [UCI] at Journey House is an innovative, intensive workforce development program that builds multi-layered connections between under-skilled, low-income job seekers and the community in which they live by developing multiple job skills programs in high demand and/or high growth sectors of industry. UCI educates, trains, and prepares low-income, unemployed and transitional individuals from the Clarke Square Neighborhood and beyond in diverse job skill sets to engage them in (1) preparation for the workforce with new job skill sets, (2) immediate employment placement, (3) long-term career pathways, and (4) development of a financial wealth building plan.

CSBG ARRA funds were used to pay wages for a variety of positions to support the mission of UCI. This includes a part-time bilingual GED instructor, job readiness coaches, technology instructor, customer service instructor, community liaison, and administrative support positions.

Additional Program Outcomes

# of participants seeking employment who obtain a job	39
# of households in which adult members obtain employment for at least 90 days	17
# of participants progressing toward literacy and/or GED	7
# of participants making progress toward degree or vocational training	24
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	3
# of families having their situation improved as a result of comprehensive services	157

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee

James Clark, Chief Executive Officer
1558 N. 6th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212
boysgirlsclubs.org



About Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee is non-profit 501(c)(3) organization formed in 1887. Its mission is “to inspire and empower all young people, especially those who need us the most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens”. Programs revolve around six core areas that emphasize character, leadership development, arts and culture, formal education, career development, health/fitness, life skills, and environmental education.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning	\$181,250	0.0FTE	0.0FTE

Project Description

The LaVarnway Boys & Girls Club (2739 N. 15th Street) in the Lindsay Heights neighborhood is the most established club in the City of Milwaukee and as such, requires substantial capital improvements and upgrades. CSBG ARRA funds were used to develop the architectural plans that will advance a community vision to a “shovel ready” construction project. The LaVarnway Club will be transformed into a state-of-the-art facility and have an additional 9,000 square feet added to the building. The \$3.78 million project had secured \$3.1 million in financial commitments for the project costs and an additional \$425,000 to furnish and equip the building.

In addition to the CSBG ARRA funds, the project has attracted additional support from the Zilber Family Foundation, Focus on Energy, City of Milwaukee – Milwaukee Shines, WE Energies and Johnson Controls. The Zilber Family Foundation provided a \$1.5 million commitment to LaVarnway - \$500,000 will go toward capital improvements and support a Zilber Health & Life Skill Center onsite. One million dollars will go to support new and existing programming in the areas of youth employment, career readiness, and community leadership services. Focus on Energy, City of Milwaukee – Milwaukee Shines, WE Energies, and Johnson Controls have provided funds for the installation of a solar hot water system on the roof of the building.

Maures Development Group, LLC

Melissa Goins, President
1915 N. Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 240
Milwaukee, WI 53212
mauresllc.com



About Maures Development Group, LLC

Maures Development Group is a real estate service firm with core competencies in development as an owner and development manager for firms. Maures is a minority and woman owned firm, adding in-depth knowledge to the field of urban development. Maures' integrated approach to development is favorable to the environment, exhibits excellent craftsmanship, inclusive of community needs, and sustainability. The Maures' philosophy is built on collaboration with organizations who serve the low-income population within the neighborhoods where the firm undertakes projects.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning (LEE)	\$90,625	0.0FTE	2.64FTE
Planning (CENTER)	\$90,625	0.0FTE	1.86FTE

Project Description – Lee School

Maures Development Group, LLC in partnership with Vanguard Group, LLC, used CSBG ARRA funds to conduct the necessary due diligence for the reuse of the Lee School property, located at 921 W. Meinecke Avenue. Pre-development activities included engaging an architect, obtaining construction estimates, conducting a market analysis, and meeting with stakeholders to discuss best options for the site. Additionally, Maures and Vanguard established a Speakers Series for Lindsay Heights neighborhood schools that exposed youth to commercial real estate.

Project Description – Center Street

In response to the priorities of the Lindsay Heights Quality of Life plan, Maures Development Group in partnership with Vanguard Group, LLC, identified a vacant parcel located at 1330 W. Center Street that could become a critical development site for the Teutonia Avenue Togetherness commercial corridor. CSBG ARRA funds were used to engage an architect to design several site options for the parcel, obtain a construction estimate, complete a market analysis for the site, and create a marketing strategy to attract retailers to the neighborhood. The final design will include green space, green materials and energy efficient elements.

Neu-Life Community Resource Center

Joann Commodore-Harris, Executive Director
2014 W. North Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53205



Neu-Life
Community Resource Center
"Building Strong Foundations"

About Neu-Life Community Resource Center

Neu-Life Community Resource Center is non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to empower low-income youth by equipping them with necessary information, strategies and support systems to have stronger self-images, develop better life management skills and to cope with their environment by refraining from crime, drugs and other deviant behavior. Neu-Life is a division of Residential Living Services, an organization that provides supportive and assisted living options for the elderly and developmentally disabled.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$90,625	4.0FTE	3.5FTE	1105

Project Description:

Neu-Life Community Resource Center expanded their traditional creative art opportunities and provided several alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse (ATODA) programming options for youth and their families. Several evidence-based prevention education programs were supported with CSBG ARRA funds: TRAILS Character Education, Men Opposing Violence Early (MOVE), Too Good for Drugs and Violence (TGFD), Life Skills and Lead to Succeed.

Neu-Life also incorporated creative arts opportunities with the ATODA prevention education. Activities such as photography, painting, drumming, world dance, theater, poetry, and music making were introduced to the youth. Specialized two week camps were also offered during the summer to provide youth a more intensive educational experience.

Additional Program Outcomes

# of vulnerable individuals receiving services that maintain an independent living situation	1105
# of youth that improve physical health and development	992
# of youth that improve social and/or emotional development	992
# of youth that increase academic, athletic or social skills in after school programs	992
# of parents and other adults that learn and exhibit improved family functioning skills	113
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	12

Milwaukee Public Schools

Dr. Gregory Thornton, Superintendent
5225 W. Vliet Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
milwaukee.k12.wi.us

About Milwaukee Public Schools

Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) is the principal school district for the City of Milwaukee. There are 213 schools in the district, serving approximately 82,400 students. MPS is governed by a nine-member elected Board of School Directors.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning	\$86,325	0.0FTE	0.0FTE

Project Description

North Division High School in the Milwaukee Public Schools district was built in 1978 and has a capacity of roughly 1,600 students. The North Division Campus includes a field house as well as an indoor swimming pool and tennis courts. The facility covers more than 394,000 square feet. The 2003-2004 academic year was the last year that North Division High School operated as a traditional high school. Prior to 2003, North Division saw declining attendance rates, graduation rates, and an increase in other school-related problems. In March 2009, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors decided to re-open North Division High School as a comprehensive high school and formed the North Division Advisory Council to provide a community connection to the process.

The Milwaukee Public Schools in partnership with the North Division Advisory Council used CSBG ARRA funds to hire Quorum Architects in March 2010 to reconfigure the space surrounding the North Division High School Campus. The North Division Campus is defined as Center Street to the north, Clarke Street to the south, 10th Street to the east, and Teutonia Avenue to the west and covers just under 13 acres in the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood. The Quorum team proposed ways to enhance the façade and surrounding context of the campus by holding several stakeholder planning sessions and interviews.

A North Division Campus Master Plan was prepared and delivered to the Milwaukee Public Schools in August 2010. The presented plan included an analysis of existing conditions, community outreach and engagement options, site plan alternatives, a final campus plan, and suggested project strategies for implementation.

For more information and access to the full North Division Campus Master Plan, please visit www.friendsofnorthdivision.weebly.com.

Center for Neighborhood Innovation, LLC

Sharon Adams, Program Director
2240 N. 17th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53205

About Center for Neighborhood Innovation

The Center for Neighborhood Innovation (CNI) is a partnership between Walnut Way Conservation Corporation and Neu Life Community Resource Center. CNI will lead the renovation and management of the facility that will ultimately house the Wellness Commons.

About Walnut Way Conservation Corporation

Organized in 2000, Walnut Way Conservation Corp (Walnut Way) has a mission to sustain economically diverse and neighborly communities through civic engagement, environmental stewardship and creating venues for community prosperity. For more information, please visit walnutway.org

About Neu-Life Community Resource Center

Neu-Life Community Resource Center is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower low-income youth by equipping them with the necessary information, strategies and support systems to have stronger self-images, develop better life management skills and to cope with their environment by refraining from crime, drugs and other deviant behavior. Neu-Life is a division of Residential Living Services, an organization that provides supportive and assisted living options for the elderly and developmentally disabled.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning	\$90,625	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Project Description:

During the Zilber Neighborhood Initiative Quality of Life planning, neighborhood stakeholders prioritized health and wellness as one of the eight planning areas. The Center for Neighborhood Innovation: Wellness Commons is a project that seeks to catalyze health, wellness, and economic prosperity in the Lindsay Heights neighborhood. The Commons will provide an opportunity to grow programs in youth development and health access, training and employment, and quality of life for area residents. The collaboration will strengthen Lindsay Heights neighborhood principles of promoting community-anchored leadership and activities that:

- Build on neighborhood assets;
- Provide pathways for a continuum of health care and access;
- Engage low-income residents to change health determinants, e.g. diabetics, hypertension, infant mortality rates;
- Develop self-sufficiency through health careers and supply-business relationships.

CSBG ARRA funds were used to begin the planning of the Wellness Commons. Several consultants were engaged to navigate through the process. Phase I of the project will create a 16,000 sq ft mixed use building on 16th and North Ave in the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood. Phase II will add 9,600 square feet for additional tenants. Constructed on a block, which previously housing a public natatorium, the Commons will be designed to celebrate neighborhood history and the rebirth of neighbor health and wellness.

Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Kenneth Wheeler, Pastor
1821 N. 16th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53205
crosslutheranmilwaukee.org



About Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Cross Lutheran Church is a diverse community of believers. The church welcomes and celebrates all people of every age, race, economic background, sexual orientation, and gender. Their mission is to share the Good News of God's Love in Jesus Christ. Their goal is to represent Christ by serving our community and the world, and by advocating for justice.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning	\$90,625	0.19 FTE	0.00 FTE

Project Description:

The Bread of Healing Clinic began as a ministry of Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood. Beginning with one room, one resident physician volunteer, one nurse volunteer, and one half day each week, the clinic opened and saw 150 patients in 2000. Since that time, the clinic has expanded to four half days each week, where over 350 clients are seen each month. Two other Bread of Healing Clinic sites have also opened that serve inner city Milwaukee neighborhoods, one at the Eastbrook Church and the other at Agape Community Center.

To better serve and meet the needs of the community's residents, the Bread of Healing Clinic located on 1821 N. 16th Street needed to expand the clinic and reconfigure existing space. CSBG ARRA funds were used to provide design and planning support for the project as well pay for a staff member to coordinate a capital campaign. Schematics and the design for the additional space have been completed. The project is currently in the fundraising stage.

WGS Planning and Development

Welford Sanders, Consultant

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained
Planning	\$31,961.93	0.0FTE	0.0FTE

Project Description

Mr. Welford Sanders was selected as the consultant to assist with the implementation of the Lindsay Heights Zilber Neighborhood Initiative Quality of Life Plan. The primary duties and goals for this position were to:

- Organize a Lindsay Heights Business Association
- Establish a working relationship with the North Avenue Marketplace Business Improvement District (32)
- Work to implement a Main Street approach to accomplish the objectives of the Lindsay Heights Quality of Life Plan
- Develop projects that implement provisions of the Quality of Life Plan
- Work with existing businesses to improve their productivity and overall ability to deliver quality goods and services to the immediate community

In addition to the above duties, Mr. Sanders organized and commissioned a Property Inventory and Market Study for the neighborhood in partnership with LISC MetroEdge (Chicago, IL) and Vierbicher Associates (Madison, WI). The final product will be useful for further stages of development as described in the Lindsay Heights Quality of Life Plan. CSBG ARRA funds were used to support the initial \$8,000 of costs for this project.

Adult Job Training

Wisconsin Community Services, Inc.

Holly Patzer, Executive Director
 3732 W. Wisconsin Avenue
 Milwaukee, WI 53208
 wiscs.org



About Wisconsin Community Services, Inc

WCS has successfully provided job placement services to formerly incarcerated individuals for nearly 30 years, placing approximately 2,000 persons into jobs within the past five years. WCS has provided literacy classes and high-quality, hands-on training in the following areas: welding, material handling, concrete/asphalt laborer, printing, lead abatement, roofing, and industrial/construction preparation. WCS advocates for justice and community safety, providing innovative opportunities for individuals to overcome adversity.

About Home Builders Institute

Home Builders Institute (HBI), the workforce development arm of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), is dedicated to the advancement and enrichment of education and training programs serving the needs of the housing industry. For more than 35 years, HBI has trained and placed thousands of youth and adults for careers in residential construction. HBI offers a range of education, training, job placement and curriculum development programs.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$184,253.06	1.0 FTE	0.25 FTE	51

Project Description:

The Construction/Deconstruction Employability Project, the result of a partnership between the Wisconsin Community Services Development Division and the Home Builders Institute, provides economically disadvantaged individuals with hands-on training and job placement in the residential construction trades. Participants in the training come from the most economically challenged areas of the city and are referred to the training by local, state, and federal agencies, as well as the Taskforce on Work Reform for Men of Color. Participants receive hands-on construction and deconstruction experience and are provided opportunities to earn meaningful certification in the industry.

Additional Program Outcomes

# of participants seeking employment who obtain a job	20
# of households in which adult members obtain employment for at least 90 days	8
# of participants progressing toward literacy and/or GED	14
# of participants making progress toward degree or vocational training	51
Increase in access to community services and resources by low-income people [individuals]	51
Increase in access to capital by minorities [individuals]	20
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	2
# of families having their situation improved as a result of comprehensive services	41
# of vulnerable individuals that maintain an independent living situation	8

Pragmatic Construction, LLC

255 W. Bruce Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
pragmaticconstruction.com



MGA Construction, LLC

Melissa Goins, Founder
1915 N. Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 240
Milwaukee, WI 53212

About Pragmatic Construction, LLC

Pragmatic Construction is dedicated to advancing the principles of sustainable development within the urban environment. Primary activities include general contracting for new home and small-scale commercial construction, residential remodeling, and residential deconstruction. In addition to a portfolio of completed new green construction projects, the company experience includes successful resident deconstruction projects in Milwaukee, Kenosha, Racine and Ozaukee Counties in collaboration with construction trainees, local workforce organizations, and several nonprofit partners.

About MGA Construction, LLC

MGA is a general construction company founded by Melissa Goins. Ms. Goins is the founder and president of Maures Development Group, a commercial and residential development firm focused on urban revitalization. The construction division is unique in that they offer a genuine community-minded perspective coupled with honoring four key criteria for success: cost, quality, time, and safety.

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$218,750	4.0	0.0	7

Project Description:

Pragmatic Construction, LLC and MGA Construction, LLC partnered to provide an on-the-job training program in deconstruction for un- and under-employed individuals. Individuals were recruited from the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood and other organizations that serve hard-to employ populations. Participants received a prevailing training stipend for their time spent learning the trades.

Community revitalization was attained by returning the majority of the building materials embodied in five buildings to the community in the form of affordable building materials. Over the last year, over 30,000 board feet of lumber, 4,000 feet of flooring, 35,000 bricks and dozens of built-ins, plumbing fixtures, lights, windows, doors and cabinets were all reclaimed, prepped and provided to organizations such as the Community Warehouse and the Milwaukee ReStore.

Additional Program Outcomes

# of participants seeking employment who obtain a job	7
# of households in which adult members obtain employment for at least 90 days	4
# of households which obtain and/or maintain home ownership	1
# of participants making progress toward degree or vocational training	1
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	2



Agency Programs

The SDC used CSBG ARRA funds to create programs that would a) meet increased client needs and b) enhance SDC's portfolio of services. The following section will provide information on the activities and outcomes of each partner organization and the CSBG ARRA funded program or project.

Youth Job Training

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$301,879.00	1.5 FTE	0.5 FTE	70

Program Description:

The SDC created N.A.I.L.S – Neighborhood Adolescents Investing Laboring & Serving – in November 2009 in the Youth and Family Development Program. The cohort style program is designed to serve at risk youth ages 18 – 24 and incorporates vocational training, basic education, alcohol and drug abuse counseling, and case management services. While many of the initial participants were referred by the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, the program attracts interest from existing SDC clients and the community at large.

Participants received case management services from a Family Advocate that addressed additional needs beyond vocational and connected them to other community resources. Vocational training was provided two times a week and allowed participants to get hands-on exposure to several trades, including carpentry, plumbing, and masonry. Participants had direct opportunity to earn their GED and the program provided individual classroom support to supplement existing program options.

Additional Program Outcomes

Increase in access to community services and resources by low-income people	70
# of participants progressing toward literacy and/or GED	19
# of participants making progress toward degree or vocational training	70
# of participants improve social and/or emotional development	70
# of partnerships established and/or maintained	2

Energy Hotline

Energy Assistance Program

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	Calls handled
Service	\$297,948.00	7.0 FTE	0.3 FTE	91,945*

For the 2009 – 2010 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Season, the Energy Assistance Program screened 52,382 individuals for service eligibility and provided 49,491 individuals with LIHEAP assistance. In order to improve service delivery for the largest program at the agency, the SDC instituted an Energy Hotline – a one-stop shop for SDC’s three energy assistance service sites in Milwaukee County. Milwaukee County residents interested in learning more about these services or inquire about eligibility are able to call one number and speak to a knowledgeable representative. The goals of the Energy Hotline are to a) improve overall service delivery and b) increase client satisfaction with service provisions overall.

Oct 09 – Sep 10	Calls Handled	Avg Talk Time	Longest Wait	Avg Wait
Total	91,945*	00:02:51	00:10:07	00:01:34

** This includes incoming and outgoing calls. This may include duplicated individual counts and multiple calls made for one service inquiry.*

Health Education Referral Center

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$105,161	0.0FTE	0.0FTE	683**

The Health Education Referral Center (HERC) was a pilot program made possible with CSBG ARRA funds that operated from January 2010 through May 2010. In partnership with the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee College of Nursing, HERC provided clients opportunities for health education and one-on-one health screenings. Individuals receiving assistance with other agency programs were informally solicited to receive free screenings and attend topical health seminars, often times in the waiting rooms of other programs. The idea is to “bring health to where people are” as clients often wait until serious health conditions escalate before seeking medical attention. While HERC did not provide on-site medical care, clients did receive basic screenings, health information, and the appropriate referrals for further medical care. The goal of the pilot program was to evaluate the best ways to provide potential clients health information without the formality of visiting a clinic.

***This number represents the total number of individuals that interacted with representatives from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee’s College of Nursing. Activities include Health Education Programming, Individual Screenings, and Informal Outreach Activities.*

Soft Skills Training

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$14,006	0.10 FTE	0.0FTE	55

The Family Support Center, the SDC's family homeless shelter, provided a series of workshops for the adult residents that addressed a variety of soft skill needs. Individuals and families come into the shelter needing assistance in more than one core area. To better meet the emotional, mental, and life needs of residents, workshops were created to provide opportunities for structured education and small group assistance. CSBG ARRA funds were used to pay wages for a part-time workshop facilitator and supplies for participant use. Topics of workshops ranged from anger management and conflict resolution to parenting skills and were held three times a week from February 2010 through July 2010. Participants received a journal to document their reflections on topics. While the number of workshops attended by participants varied because of the temporary nature of living at a shelter, an overwhelming majority of shelter residents benefitted from attending multiple workshops.

Late Night Tax Assistance

Grant Type	Amount Expensed	Jobs Created	Jobs Retained	# served
Service	\$106,312	3.2 FTE	0.0FTE	1,940

The SDC has provided the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program for 5 years. For the 2009 tax season, the SDC filed 12,878 tax returns free of charge to low-income residents. Client feedback over the years has indicated a dire need for more evening and weekend service hours to better accommodate working adults and full-time students. CSBG ARRA funds were used to pay wages for tax preparers to create a "Late-Nite" program to serve first-shift workers and full-time students at three service sites throughout Milwaukee County. The program ran through the 2009 tax season, January 2010 through April 15, 2010.

For More Information

The information presented in this report is accurate at the time of publication. If changes are made to this report, they will be posted at www.cr-sdc.org/ARRA.htm. For more information or additional clarification on items found in this report, please contact Brittany Rosales: brosales@cr-sdc.org or (414) 906 – 2700.