

City of Milwaukee Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative Project Summary Sheet for Participating Neighborhoods

Agape Community Center (Thurston Woods Neighborhood)

The Block Buddies Bonus Bucks/Spirit of Thurston Woods Project brought neighbors together on several blocks to implement residential property improvement projects. In the Block Buddies project, groups of 3 or more homeowners were encouraged to "buddy together" to create an impact on their block, as well as encourage other neighbors to do the same. 5 blocks within the neighborhood participated in the program. By banding together, residents were able to bring additional resources to their blocks and as a result, stronger neighborhood bonds between residents were developed.

In the "Spirit of Thurston Woods" project, eligible residents will install Thurston Woods flags and American flags on their properties, enhancing neighborhood image and building neighborhood pride.

Enderis Park Neighborhood Association (Enderis Park Neighborhood)

Enderis Park's *The Best Dam Exterior Improvement Contest* and *Neighborhood Entrance Markers* are major neighborhood improvement achievements.

The exterior improvement contest encouraged residents to improve their homes and the curb appeal of their blocks by offering prizes for the best improvement projects. Over 50 homeowners, as well as landlords, participated. Enderis Park resident landscape architects volunteered their services, offering two hour consults to all participants and discounts for materials were obtained from two local garden centers and two home improvement shops.

The Entrance Marker Project was designed to build neighborhood identity. Entrance markers for the neighborhood were designed by residents and the associated landscaping is being maintained by neighborhood residents. Both the Helen Bader Foundation and the Godfried Foundation contributed to the effort.

The projects are strong indicators of resident pride and commitment.

Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (Silver City Neighborhood)

Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (LBWN) sponsored two neighborhood initiatives – the *Most Improved House Contest* and the *Small Block Improvement Projects Program*.

The Most Improved House Contest encouraged residents to improve their homes and the curb appeal of their blocks by offering prizes for the best improvement projects. 37 homeowners participated. Participants received personal assistance from Community Designs Solutions and Hawks Nursery.

LBWN also initiated a small block improvement program to address neighborhood curb appeal and neighborhood safety. Projects included new alley lighting, lawn and garden improvements, and an exterior painting project for a disabled homeowner. 277 households participated in the projects.

LBWN's efforts have improved the physical appearance of the neighborhood, increased safety and encouraged residents to participate in creating and maintaining a strong and viable neighborhood.

Martin Drive Neighborhood Association (Martin Drive Neighborhood)

The Martin Drive *Clean and Green Project* has three components – the *Mosaic Art Project*, the *Community Green Market* and the *Neighborhood Landscaping Project*.

In the Mosaic Art Project, 30 neighborhood residents and youth recycled planters and used donated pottery shards to create mosaic entry markers for the neighborhood under the guidance of a local artist at the Washington Park Senior Center.

A Community Green Market was developed that promoted local entrepreneurs, artists and neighborhood partners. 95% of the vendors for the market came from the surrounding neighborhood. The market is open every Sunday through October.

In the Neighborhood Landscaping Project, several landscaping projects were developed throughout the neighborhood.

The Clean and Green Project increased neighborhood pride and identity, encouraged residents to work together, and created new social networks that have increased resident involvement in the neighborhood.

Sherman Park Community Association (Sherman Park Neighborhood)

Sherman Park's *Restore and Show Grants Project* and the *End of Summer Community Event Home Tour Project* have resulted in significant contributions of volunteer hours and sweat equity from residents.

The Restore and Show Grants Project encouraged property owners to make exterior and landscape improvements to their homes to enhance neighborhood image. Block clubs, homeowners, landlords, and tenants worked together to undertake small projects that yielded big results for the neighborhood.

Sherman Park's Home Tour will feature several homes for sale within the neighborhood, highlighting the work of residents, and feature the benefits of purchasing a home in the neighborhood.

The projects enhanced the image of the neighborhood and demonstrated the strong connection Sherman Park property owners have to their neighborhood.

Participating Neighborhoods Outside the CDBG Boundary

Cambridge Woods Neighborhood Association (Cambridge Heights Neighborhood, vicinity of Bartlett/Locust)

This neighborhood identification project will distinguish the neighborhood as an attractive place to live. Cambridge Woods residential neighborhood signs, some of the first for the East side, will be designed by a local artist and hung throughout the neighborhood. The residents will hold an unveiling event, with food provided by in-kind donations from local businesses.

Garden District Neighborhood Association (Clayton Crest Neighborhood, vicinity of 20th/Edgerton)

The project at Cooper Elementary School placed a signature entryway and butterfly garden on the school grounds. The circular entryway contains stars acknowledging a State award, and red, white, and blue flowers surrounding a pole flying the American flag. The butterfly garden allows students at the school to be involved in plant selection, planting, and maintenance of the garden. The project helped build a strong, vibrant school community.

Millwood Park Neighborhood Association (Granville Station Neighborhood, vicinity of 107th/Bradley)

Millwood Park residents secured a vacant City lot and created a community garden. Residents volunteered to work on the garden and maintain the garden's park like setting. When residents are working in the garden, they are typically joined by kids from the neighborhood. The project has increased communication between residents of various ages.

Kopps Park Neighborhood Association with Milwaukee School of Languages (Kopps Park Neighborhood, vicinity of 84th/Burleigh)

The *Outdoor Learning Garden* saw a vacant City lot transformed into an urban green space utilized to educate students and neighbors alike. Residents contributed native plants and also maintain the garden. Students from the school will design signage for the garden. The project enhanced the relationships between neighborhood residents and students attending the school.

River Ridge Homeowners Association (Riverton Heights Neighborhood, vicinity of Granville/Bradley)

Members of the Association worked together to improve the existing landscape frontage facing Granville Road. Stumps and debris were removed, allowing grass to be planted and easily maintained. "We felt it would improve the condition in order to put forth a good image for our development, maintain property values, and attract future growth" reported the Association.

Two monument signs identifying River Ridge will be installed at key entry points for River Ridge. The Association will design the signs. The sign project will foster a sense of pride and neighborhood ownership for residents.

Sustainable Story Hill (Story Hill Neighborhood, vicinity of 51st/Bluemound))

Story Hill residents want to improve and weed Mitchell Blvd. Park, a center piece of their neighborhood. Millwood Park Neighborhood Association was organized with this project in mind, a project that will increase resident participation and instill neighborhood pride. The Hawley Environmental Enrichment Camp will incorporate the park into their outdoor curriculum, and assist residents with reducing invasive plant species and planting native, sustainable plants.