

Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

EXTENDING HEALING AND HOPE



Bishop Leonard Dow
OCCCDA Board
President

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Letter from our Board President

If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.
- Martin Luther King, Jr.

By God's grace, 2012 was a year in which OCCCDA has kept moving forward! Inside this 2012 Annual Report is a snapshot of how, with the help of a committed staff and board, various community, civic, church partners and friends, and the Oxford Circle Mennonite Church family have enabled us to keep moving forward with our God-given mission "to extend healing and hope" in the Oxford Circle community.

I also want to briefly share that, the foundation of OCCCDA from its inception that has enabled us to keep moving forward is our unique relationship with OCMC. We recognize that the vitality and relevance of OCCCDA to our community is interwoven into the very fabric of OCMC's praying community. In other words, as OCCCDA moves forward, so will OCMC—and vice versa.

So to foster this interdependence, the Oxford Circle Mennonite Church community and OCCCDA gathered on consecutive Sunday mornings this fall for "community conversations" in lieu of sermons. Why? It had been about ten years since we had held "community conversations," and we recognize that the world we live in continues to rapidly change, providing our community both pressures and opportunities for OCMC/OCCCDA to minister in a more faithful way to our OC neighborhood and beyond.

At our two Sunday "community conversations" (a mix of members, regular attendees, first time visitors from OC, etc.), we leaned on the same hope of the early church in Acts and the promise of our Lord Jesus that where two or three gather in His name, He is with them. As both an observer and participant in the "community conversations," I am excited to report that Jesus was indeed present with us as we shared, listened, cried, laughed, reflected, dreamed, prayed, and discerned our mission in relation to the question, "How do we do this (mission/vision) now?"

In the 2012 Annual Report, you will see the "data," and indeed it is exciting! But I also want you to recognize how our on-going "community conversations" and partnerships have shaped us and will guide board, staff, and volunteers as we continue to move forward together!

OUR IMPACT

Our mission:

To extend healing and hope in the Oxford Circle community, believing that God's purpose of reconciling all people to Jesus leads us to minister on spiritual, physical, social and economic levels.

Our ministries address the urgent needs of our community. We combine prayer and action, spiritual and material help. We know that real help that transforms for a lifetime and eternity comes from Jesus Christ who loves the whole person, body and soul.

Our programs fall under three major categories: youth development, family support, and employment and economic development. We desire our community to continue to be a place of spiritual growth, hope and development.

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, to preach good news to the poor...to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners...to renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations." Isaiah 61:4

Youth Development: Our purpose in ministering to youth is to develop young leaders in our community.

Out-of-school Enrichment Program – Our out of school program (after school and summer enrichment) provided literacy, math, and art programs to elementary age students in 2012. The strategies used to successfully address the needs of our target population included mentoring, tutoring, literacy and math instruction that engaged students as they learned new concepts and reinforced others. The integration of the arts was used as a tool to explore creativity as well as an avenue to learn critical thinking skills. **Thanks to funding from 21st CCLC through the PA Department of Education, we were able to hire needed staff and double our enrollment beginning in Summer 2012.** Additionally, we implemented an Advisory Youth Coalition to plan for a middle school program to begin Summer 2013.

2012	Number of students
Winter/Spring	15
Summer (6 weeks)	54
Fall	31
Total	100

EDGE (Excellence Drives Growth Everyday) – Our EDGE program took place at Carnell Elementary and in our out of school program in partnership with **Philadelphia Mennonite High School**. Team building exercises, reflection and mentoring relationships were used to build a strong sense of self-worth, awareness of others as God's creation, and peacemaking skills.

2012	Number of students
Elementary	26
High School Coaches	10
Total	36

Family Support: Our purpose in ministering to families is to develop support networks that enhance family stability and teach reconciliation.

Bridge of Hope program (BOH) – Mobilizes persons to exemplify Christ's love by bringing together professional staff and trained church mentor groups to empower homeless and at-risk single mothers and children. This year, our Temple MSW Intern has been actively recruiting and training church mentor groups in preparation for enrolling our first family in March 2013.

Christmas Toy Store – 2012 was our first Toy Store in partnership with **Common Grace, Calvary Church Souderton, and Teen Haven**. In all, **75 families and 240 children were referred (by local congregations and community partners) and benefited from the store!** In addition, the remaining toys were donated through **Solidarity and Harmony Church** (Mennonite Haitian congregation) to a ministry partner in Haiti and local congregants.

Back to School Day – In 2012, we changed the format of our Community Festival to take a bit of a sabbatical after having held it for 10 years! In spite of the "scaled down" version, we still had **500 attendees and distributed 200 grocery bags (per household) and 500 school kits (per child)** provided by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Material Resource Center. We also had nutrition demonstrations, children's activities, and recruited for our fall programs.

Food Trust Farmer's Market – The Farmers Market was on site weekly from June – October in 2012. Seasonal produce was sold by an Amish Lancaster County farmer and food vouchers were provided to community seniors and low income families.

OUR IMPACT



Family Support continued:

Emergency and Holiday Food Assistance – We were able to provide emergency food bags and other assistance thanks to our partnership with the [MCC Material Resource Center](#). In addition to ongoing distributions of food bags, we also were able to distribute the following items in coordination with our community and faith-based partners: 100 comforters, 50 grocery bags, 138 children's Christmas bundles, 25 blankets, and 5 boxes of knitted hats and scarves.

Second Space Arts – Thanks to the efforts of a local artist and OCMC member, we have an art gallery located on our second floor which showcases work from various artists on a quarterly basis. Check out their Facebook page for updates on showings, Second Space Arts at OCMC.

Employment and Economic Development: Our purpose in ministering to adults is to develop character and employment skills.

GED/ABE Prep Classes – GED prep courses were offered for students who did not have a high school diploma and were working to take the exams to gain their GED, a high school degree equivalency. Volunteer instructors led classes weekly on Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00-8:00pm. The focus was on improving basic academic skills in Math, Reading, Writing, Social Studies, and Science.

In 2012, 23 students attended GED classes. Of those students, 4 were under 21 years of age, 9 were between 22-40, 8 between 41-59, and 2 were 60 and over. 16 students were in the program less than a year, 3 one-two years, and 4 two years and over. **One student successfully passed his GED and several others have passed 2-3 of the 5 tests!**

ESL Classes – ESL (English as a Second Language) classes were provided for persons wanting to improve their English speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Participants learned English for U.S. citizenship, government and history, learning styles, food, community resources, consumer finances, resume and job interview preparation. Classes were held weekly on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-8:00pm.

Five students participated in the ESL class in 2012. All were female and between the ages of 30-50. **Two of the students are currently preparing to take their U.S. citizenship test.**

Job Preparedness Training – Instruction was offered from 4:30-5:30pm on Thursdays. The instructor provided an individualized plan to assist in basic job readiness and skill building. Two students were successful in finding employment with their new skills.

Adult Education Workshops – In addition to the above courses, the following workshops were provided in 2012: *Computer Lab & Intro to Computers* and *Nutrition and Cooking*.

Organization stability: Our goal is to help ensure the long-term health of our community by making wise decisions regarding our organization.

Real Change Campaign: Our Real Change campaign total December 2012 was \$260,000 which is over halfway to our goal of \$500,000! A big impetus of the campaign is to pay off a short term loan which in turn frees up income for our community ministries. We have already seen tremendous progress. The original loan was \$355,000. In Jan. 1, 2012, the loan was refinanced at a lower interest rate (8 to 6%) and the principal paid down to \$271,646. **With 2012 donations, the loan principal will be decreased to \$76,000!** If you would like more information about the **Real Change** campaign, please contact us. We welcome your participation!

Volunteers: Our work would not have been possible in 2012 without many amazing volunteers. We had a total of 15 adults and 14 high school students who volunteered with our programs on a weekly basis. We also had 22 persons who provided leadership through our board and committees. Finally, we had over 100 volunteers who helped out with a variety of events. **We especially need to acknowledge our Adult Education instructors and our Real Change Campaign Committee, both of whom have provided countless hours of service in the past year!**

OUR LEADERSHIP AND FINANCIALS

Staff 2012

Anita Lyndaker-Studer – Executive Director
Chantelle Todman Moore – Program Director
Brooke Natalie Blough – Property Manager
Bridget Justice – Youth Outreach/EDGE
Dr. Raquel Estevez-Joyce – 21st CCLC Coordinator
Naida Montes – 21st CCLC Youth Worker
Joshua Burgos – 21st CCLC Group Leader
Lauren Moyer – 21st CCLC Math Instructor
Bianca Lani Prunes – Summer Camp Director
YuShan Jiang – IVEP Intern (2011-12)
Tandzisile Mokoena – IVEP Intern (2012-13)
Raquel Smith – Temple MSW Intern
Jennifer Ankomah – Temple MSW Intern
Joe Beech – Adult Education Coordinator (Volunteer)
Bill Lauzus – GED Instructor (Volunteer)
Melissa Rice – ESL Instructor (Volunteer)
Tim Gierschick – 2nd Space Arts (Volunteer)

Board of Directors 2012

Bishop Leonard Dow – President
Dr. Hong Tran – Vice President
Randy Kratz – Treasurer (in-coming)
Carlos Rodriguez – Treasurer (out-going)
Dr. Karen Jantzi – Secretary
Bethannie Parks – Youth Member
Mary Dallasta – Member
Jennifer Leaman – Member
Ken Rush – Member
Dr. Ron Sider – Member
Krista Yoder-LaTortue – Member
George Young – Member

Contact Information

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Financial Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

	2011	2012
Revenue:	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Program Fees	4,086	6,733
Grants	23,139	114,137
Program Donations	52,822	38,379
Capital Donations	145,506	161,705
Interest	872	556.19
Rental Income	463,714	441,461
Common Area Maintenance Reimbursement	134,870	107,330
Total Revenue	825,009	870,301
Expenses:		
Program Services	589,578	260,713
General and Administrative	32,484	250,416
Fund Raising	21,382	46,533
Total Expenses	643,444	557,662
Change in Net Assets	181,565	312,639
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	469,746	651,311
Net Assets at the End of Year	\$651,311	\$963,950
Assets:		
Cash and Cash equivalents	319,436	280,285
Property	3,871,770	3,928,989
Total Assets	4,191,206	4,209,274
Liabilities & Capital		
Liabilities	91,044	7,637
Long-term Liabilities	3,444,759	3,272,472
Capital	655,404	929,165
Total Capital & Liabilities	4,191,206	4,209,274

* 2012 figures are provided prior to audit completion

