

Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

EXTENDING HEALING AND HOPE



Bishop Leonard Dow
OCCDA Board
President

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Letter from Our Board President

When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it. (New KJV) Luke 2:43

In this passage, Jesus *lingered* behind in Jerusalem; more specifically, our Lord Jesus *lingered* in the Temple courts for three days, engaging the teachers of the Law. The word *linger* is important because people choose to *linger* where they feel safe, encouraged, loved, and welcomed. So when Jesus *lingers* in the Temple courts, it wasn't because he had "nowhere else to go"; it was because he too felt safe, encouraged, loved, and assured that his *heavenly* Father welcomed him in his "house"!

As I reflected on this passage, I was encouraged that we are blessed at OCMC and OCCDA that our children desire to *linger* at the "Plaza at Oxford Circle":

- In our sanctuary, to sing and dance
- In the lobby, to laugh and extend good-byes
- In our parking lot and playground, to play energetic games
- In the pastor and OCCDA offices, to talk about life, school, family, and faith

By God's grace, our children and parents, guardians, grandparents, mentors, and neighbors have come to see our space as a place where one can *linger* and experience safety, encouragement, love, and the spirit of welcome that was graciously given to us by Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

I want to thank you for your support in 2013 and invite you to *linger* as you read the rest of this report. I am confident that you will share our excitement at creating a healthy environment in which we can measure growth both numerically and spiritually. Lastly, I want to extend a personal invitation for each of you to come and *linger* with us at the "Plaza at Oxford Circle" in 2014, and I guarantee it will be time well spent in our community!

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 - Our out-of-school program (after school and summer camp) provided literacy, math, and art programs to elementary and middle school students. The strategies used to successfully address the needs of our students included mentoring, tutoring, and the integration of arts as a tool to explore creativity and 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 increase our enrollment to include middle school students this past year!** Additional partnerships included Clay Studio (arts), BuildABridge International (arts), Push the Rock (sports), Mennonite Central Committee (interns), and the Philadelphia Youth Network (HS interns).

	Elementary students	MS students
Winter/Spring	36	2
Summer (6 weeks)	65	27
Fall	45	9
Total	146	38

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 and Fels 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.

	Number of students
Elementary/MS	143
High School Coaches	21
Total	164

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) - Bridge of Hope 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. In Fall 2013, we enrolled our first two families and trained our first two mentor groups from New Life Presbyterian and Oxford Circle Mennonite Church.

Christmas Toy Store - In 2013, we held our 2nd Toy Store in partnership with Calvary Church Souderton, Common Grace, and Teen Haven. In all, **149 families and 430 children participated (referred by partnering congregations and community organizations)!** This was double the number of families from last year. In addition, the remaining toys were donated to children and families who spent the holidays at St. Christopher's Children's Hospital.

Back to School Day - Our 13th Annual Community Festival was held in partnership with Calvary Church of Souderton and the Christian Women's Project. Calvary provided dentists who did onsite screening and cleaning for 96 school-age children. The Christian Women's Project focused on providing healthy living information and screenings for adults attending the event. In all, we had over **1000 attendees and distributed 150 grocery bags and 750 school kits** provided by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Material Resource Center and Calvary Church of Souderton.

OUR IMPACT



Family Support continued:

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

Emergency and Holiday Food Assistance – We were able to provide emergency food bags and other assistance this year thanks to our partnership with the MCC Material Resource Center. We distributed the following items in coordination with our community and faith-based partners: 200 grocery bags, 100 comforters, and 100 children's Christmas bundles.

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 equivalency degree. Volunteer instructors led weekly classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00pm. The focus was on improving basic skills in math, reading, writing, social studies, and science. This year, we were excited to begin a partnership with Temple University's Center for Social Policy and Community Development WELL program and TU Tutors. They have partnered to provide trained college students to act as tutors in our Adult Education programs. Additionally this fall, they began providing case management and training support.

In 2013, 23 students attended GED classes. **During the past year, four students successfully passed their GED!**

ESL Classes – English as a Second Language classes were provided for persons to improve English speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Participants learned English for U.S. citizenship, government and history, food, community resources, finances, resumes, and job interviews. Weekly

classes were held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00pm. Fifteen students participated in the ESL class in 2013.

Adult Education Workshops – In addition to the other mentioned courses, a partnership was developed with Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia to provide a series of workshops in 2013. Workshops included: Wills & Estates, Expungements, Housing, and Custody/Child support.

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 – A big impetus of this campaign was to pay off a short-term loan of \$355,000, which in turn would free up income for our community ministries. **The loan was paid off in November, and we ended the campaign in December with a total of \$400,000 pledged!** The remainder of the funds will be used to pay down our mortgages. We praise God for all of you who helped make this possible!

Property – In addition to providing space for our congregation and community ministries, we rent 75% of the space to other organizations who complement the mission of OCCDA in their service to our shared community. This rental income covers our mortgage and maintenance costs. This year, we have two new tenants, **Maternity Care Coalition** and **Joni and Friends**. In addition, we partnered with **Kingdom Builders Construction** and **Interfaith Hospitality Network** to provide housing for volunteers and homeless families (respectively).

Volunteers – Our work would not have been possible in 2013 without many amazing volunteers. They included high school students from Fels and Philadelphia Mennonite along with after school parents and OCMC members. Our board members also put in countless hours. **We especially want to acknowledge Calvary Church of Souderton, our Adult Education instructors, and the Real Change Campaign Committee, who all provided countless hours of service.**

OUR LEADERSHIP AND FINANCIALS

Staff 2013

Executive Director – Anita Lyndaker-Studer
 Program Director – Chantelle Todman-Moore (Jan-June), Christopher Pender (June-Dec)
 Property Mgr – Brooke Blough (Jan-Sep)
 Finance/Property Manager – Richard Rohrer (Sep-Dec)
 EDGE/Acting Camp Director – Bridget Blair
 21st CCLC Coordinator/Advisor – Dr. Raquel Estevez-Joyce
 21st CCLC Coordinator – Joshua Burgos (Sep-Dec)
 21st CCLC Youth Worker – Naida Montes
 21st CCLC Instructor – Lauren Moyer, Carla Stuckey, Bianca Lani Prunes, and Anthony Johnson
 IVEP Intern – Tandzi Mokoena (2012-13), Tanja Sutalo (2013-14)
 Eastern University Intern – Lisa Weaver
 SSW Intern – Carlos Carmona
 Goshen Inquiry Intern – Emily Grimes, Quinn Brenneke
 Adult Education Coordinator – Joe Beech (Volunteer)
 GED Instructor and Adult Committee Chair – Bill Lauzus (Volunteer)
 ESL Instructors – Melissa Rice, Emily Silvestro (Volunteer)

Board of Directors 2013

President – Bishop Leonard Dow
 Vice President – Dr. Hong Tran
 Treasurer – Randy Kratz
 Secretary – Dr. Karen Jantzi (outgoing), Paul McCormick (incoming)
 Youth Member – Zahir Guess
 Members –
 Jennifer Leaman
 Ken Rush
 Krista Yoder-Latortue
 Pete Prunes (incoming)
 Mary Dallasta (incoming)
 Dr. Ron Sider (outgoing)
 George Young (outgoing)

Financial Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

	2012	2013
Revenue:	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Program Fees	6733	0
Grants	117,734	141,965
Fund-Raisers	1524	2615
Program Donations	36,661	37,607
Capital Donations	110,689	138,752
Interest	556	658
Rental Income	443,326	442,561
Common Area Maintenance Reimbursement	101,743	118,144
Total Revenue	818,966	882,302
Expenses:		
Program Services	470,594	487,719
General and Administrative	83,143	86,179
Fund-Raising	74,345	77,066
Total Expenses	628,082	650,899
Change in Net Assets	190,884	333,172
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	651,311	842,195
Net Assets at the End of Year	\$842,195	\$1,175,367
Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	327,025	340,943
Property	3,833,159	3,915,805
Total Assets	4,209,312	4,256,748
Liabilities & Capital:		
Liabilities	119,838	17,449
Long-Term Liabilities	3,247,279	3,063,931
Capital	842,195	1,175,367
Total Capital & Liabilities	4,209,312	4,256,747

* 2013 figures are provided prior to audit completion

Contact Information

Oxford Circle CCDA
 900 E. Howell Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19149
 Phone: (215) 288-8504
 Email: occcda@verizon.net
www.occcda.org

