

# Ward One Summer Time Initiative

Presented by Councilwoman Ruth Gray- April 1, 2011

2011



**Problem/Need**

Research demonstrates that where and how youth spend their time outside of school has critical implications for their development. Youth experience benefits from participation in structured activities that offer constructive interaction with adults and peers, service and leadership opportunities, and challenging, engaging tasks (American Youth Policy Forum, 2006; Carnegie Corporation, 1992; Larson & Verma, 1999; National Research Council & Institute of Medicine, 2002).

The need for Out-of School Time opportunities is vividly illustrated by the following facts, gathered by the Afterschool Alliance regarding the 358,269 youth between the ages of 5-19 in Ohio's Service Delivery Area (SDA) 3, which includes Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, and Lake Counties. Afterschool and Out-of-School (OST) are used interchangeably to refer to activities that take place before or after the regularly school day, as well as programming that occurs during holiday and summer vacation time.

**South Euclid Ward 1-Demographics and Data**

Approximately 5,500 residents live in Ward 1; 2,100 households. Using 2000 data, 25% of the population is under the age of 18. Ward 1 is one of the most ethnically diverse neighborhoods in South Euclid, with over 70% of the residents being African-Americans. In June of 2007, Lowden Elementary School (the only school in Ward 1) was razed, due to consolidation and converted into green space. During the 2006-2007 school year, Lowden had the highest percentage of minority students at 98%. In 2010, St Margaret Mary Catholic Church closed its doors, consolidating with St. Gregory, the Great Catholic Church and renamed-Sacred Heart of Jesus. All services were relocated to Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church on Green Road & Mayfield. Noteworthy, the St. Margaret Mary Rectory and Hofer Hall is the only location within walking distance to most of Ward One neighborhoods. Hofer Hall is used by the Positive Education Program

during the school year and the Rectory is closed. Both facilities are perfect for meeting the needs of children in the community.

While Ward One has a number of residents with moderate to high incomes, there are many families that have lost their jobs and now find themselves struggling financially. In some parts of Ward 1, there have been over 200 foreclosures since the crisis began in 2006; representing a 12% foreclosure rate. According to the CWRU Poverty Center CANDO Database, there are hundreds, of families at-risk of losing their home to foreclosure.

According to the South Euclid School District, there are 1,050 students who live in Ward One: which is represented by 300 students in grades K-3, 185 students in grades 4-6, 185 students in grades 7-8, and 320 students in grades 9-12. This school year (2010-2011), 56.97% of Adrian Elementary students receive free or reduce meals while in school. This percentage has risen significantly over the past few years. Children living in the northern end of Ward One (which is the most densely populated) lost access to a playground when Lowden Elementary was torn down. Serendipitously that same year, the City closed Quarry pool due to growing expenditures. In 2009, South Euclid replaced the pool with a spray park suitable for children of pre-school age. In 2009, the City installed a new tot lot at Quarry Park-North; however the 6-12 play structure is very old and insufficient for meeting the play needs for children in this community.

Consequently during the summer months, the lack of accessible facilities and/or structured affordable programs for children living in this community often result in children playing and walking in the streets with nowhere to socialize.

According to the South Euclid Police Department, behind Cleveland, the City of South Euclid is the 8<sup>th</sup> highest filer of juvenile complaints. The three busiest on calls for service are from 3pm-6pm and the busiest months are May-September. Unsupervised and unstructured time after school and during periods when school is out of session puts young people at risk for negative outcomes, including academic failure, delinquency or victimization, drug use, and teen pregnancy (Weisman & Gottfredson, 2011). Afterschool/Summertime programs ensure that the streets are safer and young people are not left under supervised.

Concerned for the health and well-being of the community's children, families, and seniors, in Ward One, Councilwoman Ruth Gray began meeting with neighborhood residents to develop plans to address the problems. The committee has formalized a plan to offer recreation, fitness, nutrition education and a healthy breakfast and lunch for children in the community. Committed to addressing this problem, the committee has partnered with the Church of the Master, the Extended Family and the Catholic Diocese of Greater Cleveland. The committee is also seeking support and assistance from the City of South Euclid, Cuyahoga County, the YMCA of Greater Cleveland, and the NAACP.

In discussions with Father Ireland, we identified St. Margaret Mary Church Rectory basement and Hofer Hall as potential sites for the project pending approval from the Catholic Diocese.

Under the sponsorship of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese Nutrition Services, the Ward One Initiative is planning to serve breakfast and lunch to children living in the community.

Reverend Rena Hunter of the Church of the Master has offered to recruit volunteers from among her parishioners who are current and retired school teachers.

Pat McMillan, of the Extended Family organization has agreed to serve as the site administrator/supervisor responsible for implementing the Summer Food Service program at the meal site.

Kimberly Renee' Hall-Chambers, PhD, will administrate the Summer Time Initiative. Dr. Hall-Chambers is a seventeen year veteran teacher for grades 1-8 for the Cleveland Municipal School District. She is also an Adjunct Professor at Cleveland State University. She received her PhD from Cleveland State University, with her dissertation on Giving "Voice" to Middle-Class, African-American Single Mothers: Understanding How They Believe They Influence Their Children's Academic Outcomes.

### Ward I Summer Time Initiative

1. Teach and promote skills that will help youth make healthy eating and physical activity choices.
2. Reduce chances of youth engaging in sedentary activities and teach skills that will empower youth to reach their fullest potential as capable, competent, caring, and contributing citizens.
3. Ensure that youth receive a nutritious breakfast and/or lunch during the summer time.
4. The community will provide youth living in the area with safe, structured, and age-appropriate, fun activities during the summer time.
5. The youth will learn that regular physical activity is important and can be fun as well.
6. Youth will realize that their own neighborhood is a habitat for various living things.
7. Participants will expand their information on public service and technical careers which are needed to “keep a city going”

#### The Summer Food Service Lunch

The Cleveland Catholic Diocese will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program, which includes supplying the meals daily. The Summer Food Service Program will

take place at St. Margaret Mary Church Rectory basement from June 20-August 5, 2010.

It is projected that up to 50-100 youth living in the Ward One area will receive a meal. The program will be staffed by (1) site supervisor and (1) worker. The staff will be responsible for implementing the program in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth by the Cleveland Catholic Diocese, the State Board of Education and the USDA. The staff will be trained by the Cleveland Catholic Diocese prior to implementing the meal site. Based on the free and reduced meal data for Adrian Elementary School, the site will be an open site, allowing all children to eat at free without registration. Flyers will be distributed throughout the community to notify residents of the program.

By April 13, 2011, the Summer Time Initiative must provide proof of liability insurance and W-9 -Taxpayer ID and Certification. The Catholic Diocese will provide the site with a per meal served subsidy as indicated below:

**Breakfast**

\$.15/breakfast

**Lunch**

\$.55/lunch first 25 lunches

\$.45/lunch 26<sup>th</sup> through 50<sup>th</sup> lunches

\$.35/lunch 51<sup>st</sup> through 75<sup>th</sup> lunches

\$.30/lunches all lunches greater than 75

It is projected that the site will receive between \$875-\$1,413 from the Cleveland Catholic Diocese for lunches served and between \$131 - \$262 for breakfast served. Resulting in the Cleveland Catholic Diocese maintaining approximately \$1,006-\$1,675 for meals served at the facility.

This revenue will provide the income for utility usage and maintenance of the facility.

**Eight (8) weeks**

9am-10am

Breakfast

12noon-1pm

Lunch

**Structured Enrichment Activities for youth ages 8-11 (Upper Elementary)**

**Where:** St. Margaret Mary Rectory Basement & South Euclid Soccer Field Fields

**Time 10am-12pm Summer Tutoring****Time: 1pm-3pm Themed Activities**

A variety of developmentally appropriate activities such as arts and crafts, games, small group activities, and sports will be provided. The youth will be grouped primarily by age and grade level: The youth will be exposed to a range of basic skills needed to be a leader in school, community, and career through a series of interactive activities. Skills include: appreciating personal abilities; communicating effectively; getting along with others; making good decisions for problem-solving; seeking needed information and resources needed to solve problems; managing resources effectively according to plan; and working together as a team. Activities and themes have been designed to help reinforce development of academic, social, decision-making, and leadership skills of the youth.

While all of the services provided are structured and supervised, it not a daycare program. Youth participating in the program must receive permission from the parents. Parents are solely responsible for making sure that youth are in attendance at scheduled dates and times. All parents/guardians must sign a Release of Liability Agreement in order for their children to participate in the activities.

**Weekly Curriculum Outline and Themes are as follows:**

1. **Let's Get Growing**-By use of plant cuttings or transplants, interactive games, seeds, and basic art supplies, children will learn basic principles of plant structure, plant growth, and the role of plants in the environment and in the food chain for living things. Youth will be assigned a plot in the Quarry Park Community Garden.

**Typical Activities:** Instant, Self Watering Plants, Games on the Grow, Build a Plant Poster Activity, Bugs to Hug, Bugs to Mugs Posters, Invite the South Euclid garden Club and the Cleveland Botanical Gardens

2. **Fun with Food-** Identify that being healthy involves eating a variety of healthy foods and being physically active.

**Typical Activities-**Fitness Background basics, MyActivity Pyramid, Nutrition Background Basics, and Pyramid Picks Game

3. **Career Quest-** Each youth will identify a career goals; identify at least a few steps that can help him or her move towards that goals; explore the range of careers in the community around them; explore working models of solar and wind energy units and water purification units to highlight emerging: green careers” and begin to build peer support to encourage them to work towards success. The local library branch will be encouraged to share books and other resources on careers of interest with participants through a display of “bookmobile: type visit to the site.

**Typical Activites:** What I Want to Be, Book Mobile Visit, Careers in Our Community, “Green Careers” for the Future Posters

4. **Exploring Our City/Scavenger Hunt-** Participants will expand their information on public service and technical careers which are needed to “keep a city going” through visits by staff members from various city department who will bring a “hands on” activity to demonstrate (e.g. fingerprinting by Police, “stop, drop & roll & home fire hazard hunt instruction by Fire Department; road sign i.e. quiz by Service Department) City staff will design a schedule so that participants are visited by three different departments.

**Typical Activities:** City Department Presentations, Historical Society Presentation, Honoring Helpers

5. **Learning to Lead-** Youth will be exposed to a range of basic skills needed to be a leader in school, community, and career through a series of interactive activities. Skills include: appreciating personal abilities, communicating effectively, getting along with others; making good decisions for problem-solving, seeking needed information and resources working together as a team. Participants will be challenged to choose from among several quick service project ideas and find a way to carry out that project in the community by the end of the week.

**Typical Activities:** I'm Already a Leader, Service Project Planning, What's My Bag? Team Building Games and Me for Others-Project Implementation

6. **Nature in the Neighborhood-** Youth will be involved in a series of activities to help them realize that their own neighborhood and Summer Program site is a habitat for many kinds of living things. Activities will include doing a "nature map" of the area around the site: doing leaf rubbing and collecting seeds and flowers from the plants in the areas; exploring biodiversity of birds and mammals using various "hands on" activities.

**Typical Activities:** Nature Maps, Plants & Trees, Birds, Mammals, Posters

7. **Me, You & Others-** This series of activities helps young people explore themselves and the world around them. They will look at what makes a special person, and at their connection with others. They will celebrate their personal achievements; learn how to compliment others to build relationships; examine the roles each young person already plays (child, sibling, friend, student, citizen, etc) and the responsibilities and experiences each one creates; and identify role models and subjects of interest in the "global village" and set some small-scale personal goals and activities that help them achieve success.

**Typical Activities:** "What is Life All About?", "A Very Special Alphabet", "Will the REAL Me Please Stand Up?" Looking Ahead" and Expanding My World"

8. **Youth on the Move-** This week's theme is designed to help young people realize that regular physical activity is important, and can be fun as well. It combines use of the President's Physical Fitness Challenge Program with some traditional or simple games and exercises that are easy for all ages to try. Each young person will be assessed according to an age-appropriate scale for several basic activities that are part of the President's Physical Fitness Challenge (curl-ups, v sit, pull ups, shuttle run) on the first day, and after a week of and "field day" type games, will be given the same

assessment on the last day to see if the week's emphasis on physical activity has led to any initial improvements.

**Typical Activities:** President's Fitness Challenge Base Line, Kickball Games, Fun on the Go, Get Fit While You Sit, and Fitness Challenge-Did You Improve?

### **Out-Door Physical Activities/Team Sports**

- Volleyball
- Softball
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Kickball
- Cheerleading

### **Youth Ages 12-14 (Middle School)**

**Where:** St. Margaret Mary Church Hofer Hall and South Euclid Soccer Field and Softball Field

**Time: 3pm-4pm** Summer Tutoring

**Time: 4pm-8pm** Canteen

Recreational Canteen for teens to gather, socialize and engage in supervised activities. The implementation of the Canteen for teens is a critical strategy for providing youth with a healthy, safe and socially acceptable option to hanging out on the streets, which increases the chances that teens have for engaging in risky behaviors.

### **In-Door and Out-Door Activities**

- Indoor Basketball
- Capture the Flag
- Kick Ball
- In-Door Soccer
- Tables Games
- Obstacle Course/Team Building

- Arts & Crafts
- Video Production and Games

**Budget** **\$15,000**

Contracted Staff

- (1)Administrator \$2,000
- (1)Meal Site Supervisor \$ 875
- (1)Meal Site Worker \$ 700
- (4)Recreation Workers \$3,500

Contracted Organization \$2,000

- Young Audiences

Supplies \$3,500

Equipment \$2,000

Marketing/Misc \$ 425

**Ward One Support Our Youth Committee**

Sonya Pryor-Jones

Pat McMillian

Keesha McMillian

Helen McManus

Felicia Davis

Kim Chambers

Kevin Wynne

Alfreda Wynne

Rev. Rena Hunter

James Gray

Ruth Gray

Denise Thornton

Keesha McMillian

Ben Pasquale

Kathy Pasquale

Janis Wirt

Constance Smith

Darlene Rogers