



# • Volume VIII, Issue 1 • Fall 2010 Community Connections

We've been bringing dreams to life, One home, One family at a time for the last 25 years.

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Bonnie Blankenship

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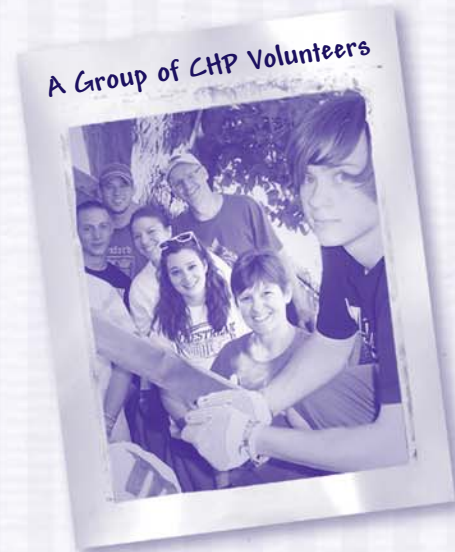
Wendell Norman

Angela Rivers

Pastor Donald Sorrells



## From The President...



- Taking the focus off of self and personal issues.
- Meeting new people.
- Breaking down barriers.
- Creating new contacts.

You may think, "The little bit that I can do will never help much!" or "What can I do?" If you've ever spent an hour serving a meal to someone in need, you know that even that small amount of time, compassion and interest can make a world of difference in someone else's life.

No single person can solve the world's problems, but YOU can make your own corner of the world a happier, better, safer place to live for those who need help. We all can do something, even something small, that is significant to someone else.

We here at Cincinnati Housing Partners are constantly reminded of the value of volunteering because of all the wonderful volunteers we have. This issue of our newsletter is dedicated to all these generous volunteers who help us to fulfill our mission.

*Bonnie Blankenship*

*Dear Friends,*

One is not born into the world to do everything, but to do something.

*Henry David Thoreau*

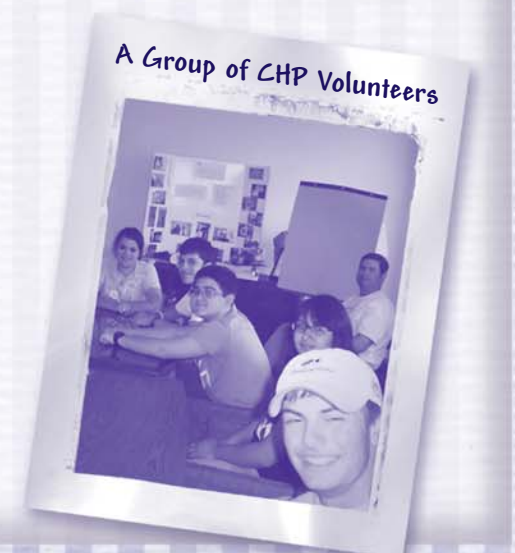
*It's What in the World You Can Do!*

The nonprofit field can't replace government programs, nor alone can it cure the problems and inequalities of society. However, each of us in a small way can make a difference by finding ways to help another that will make our efforts worth the time and trouble we invest in them.

A good reason to give your time is one you may not have considered, reasons that make it worth your time to go that extra step. People who have spent time volunteering for a cause say they get back in satisfaction and joy more than they ever expend in inconvenience or effort; what you get back is immeasurable.

*You also receive these benefits:*

- Feeling needed.
- Learning new skills.



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Cincinnati Housing Partners, Inc.  
7001 Vine Street, Suite 2  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45216  
Phone: 1-513-662-9729  
Fax: 1-513-821-1128



Sr. Lorraine Oswald  
Volunteer Extraordinaire



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Please feel free to call 1-513-662- 9729 for more information.

# CHP Award Winners

# Hats Off to CHP Volunteers

Pictured with Bonnie Blankenship are CHP's CDC Award Winners Chris Urti, Judy Mattingly, Susan Walsh and Chip Williamson



Judy has been CHP's bookkeeper for 13 years so she is an invaluable resource for the rest of the staff. Judy is very attentive to detail and has great concern for others and for the mission of Cincinnati Housing Partners.

- **Most Outstanding Lender – Chris Urti, Fifth Third Bank**

Chris has been instrumental in securing financing for families who purchase homes from CHP. He is careful with paperwork, and always good-natured when working with homeowners, realtors,

title companies, appraisers and CHP. He is especially effective with first-time homebuyers.

- **Most Outstanding Government Staff – Susan Walsh, Hamilton County**

Susan has worked with Cincinnati Housing Partners on the Lockland Revitalization Project, as well as in St. Bernard and North College Hill. She is easy to work with, and has a small but very resourceful staff that collaborates very effectively with their constituents.

CHP is glad to be a beneficiary of Susan's 30 years of experience in the Department of Community Development.

- **Most Outstanding Consultant – Chip Williamson, Chameleon Architecture**

Chip designs unique and special plans for CHP's homeowners. He researches ways to make the homes more energy efficient, and has helped locate grants and funding sources. He is a true collaborator in providing quality homes for working families.

CHP Volunteers Hard at Work



A Group of CHP Volunteers



skills and a willingness to learn. They leave feeling fulfilled and proud of the work they have accomplished."

Bill Katz, a CHP board member and frequent volunteer, said, "I like to volunteer with CHP knowing that I am helping a family have a new start. For families generations removed from homeownership, CHP makes it a reality. You will never work with a better group of people."

These are the 35 individuals and groups who volunteered at CHP during the past year:

- Sr. Lorraine Oswald (Cincinnati)
- Jenna Hippensteel (Cincinnati)
- Michelle & Adam Jellison (Cincinnati)
- Bill Katz, CHP board member (Cincinnati)
- Mt. Notre Dame High School (Cincinnati)
- St. Gertrude Parish (Cincinnati)
- St. Monica/St. George Newman Club (Cincinnati)
- Xavier University (Cincinnati)
- Ball State University (IN)
- Faith Lutheran Church (IL)
- First Lutheran Church (IL)
- Catholic Youth Outreach (WI)
- Oldenburg Academy (IN)
- Quad Parish Youth Outreach (WI)
- St. Martin University (WA)
- Notre Dame High School (TN)
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (GA)
- Chaminade-Julienne High School (Dayton)
- St. James Lutheran Church (Hilliard, OH)
- Ascension Youth Ministry (Kettering, OH)

Webster defines a volunteer as a person who undertakes a service in which he or she has no legal concern. That seems a very bland description for individuals as valuable to the fulfillment of a mission as CHP's volunteers are.

During the past fiscal year volunteers have contributed 2731 hours to CHP. Needless to say, such devotion and time greatly enhances CHP's ability to fulfill its mission.

Chris Lemmon is the director of the Franciscans for the Poor Volunteer Program. In this capacity she has been responsible for sending to CHP volunteers from all over the country who come to Cincinnati on a mission trip to serve in the community. When asked about the program, Chris said, "They come to Cincinnati with an array of

- Our Lord Christ the King Church (Cincinnati)
- University of Illinois (IL)
- St. John's Prep School (MN)
- Carroll College (MT)
- University of Detroit (MI)
- De Sales University (PA)
- Milford Jesuit Spiritual Center (OH)
- Nardin Academy (NY)
- Notre Dame Mission Americorps (Cincinnati)
- Holy Trinity Church (IA)
- Elder High School (Cincinnati)
- Easter Seals Work Resource Center (Cincinnati)
- Jessica Link (Bethel, OH)
- Budget Greeley (NJ)
- God in Cincinnati (Cincinnati)
- Church of Holy Angels (OH)

CHP has been very fortunate to work with so many volunteers who really care about the work that they do and the families that they serve.

A Group of CHP Volunteers



The Community Development Corporations Association of Greater Cincinnati held its 2010 Annual Award Celebration this past summer to honor the most outstanding community development employees and consultants.

Cincinnati Housing Partners was proud to claim the following award winners:

- **Most Outstanding CDC Staff – Judy Mattingly**

## You Are Invited!

CHP is sponsoring an Open House at 23 Escalon Street in Carthage on Saturday, October 2nd from noon to 2 PM. To date 549 volunteer hours have been donated to this house.



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