

Waco Community Development

We're putting more neighbors into neighborhoods

July 2007



254-235-7358

1624 Colcord Ave.

www.WacoCDC.org

STREET OF DREAMS # 2

As summer draws to an end, children head back to school, Waco Community Development will begin construction on Street of Dreams II.

On the corner of 15th Street and Morrow we will begin construction on five houses that will be either 1400 sq. ft 3bed/2bath or 1200 sq. ft. 3bed/1.5 bath houses.

These houses will include all of our standard amenities: Central heat



and air, master bedroom suite, separate utility area, security system as well as beautiful



flooring. Buyers who purchase the houses before construction begins will also be involved in the selection of paint colors, countertops, carpet and tile.

As the month of September approaches you will begin to see a lot of activity on the corner of 15th and Morrow.

STREET OF DREAMS II will be coming soon...keep watching!



Calendar

Ways to Get Involved

*August 9th 6- 8PM for 6WKS

Homebuyer Education I .

Thursdays beginning August 9th.

To register call (254) 235-7358.

Classes are free!

*August 9th

Waco Community Development

Board of Directors meeting.

*August 27th

Volunteer to help get our Newsletter ready for mailing. 9:30am at the office.

*Sept. 15th 1- 6PM

Homebuyer Education II. Call the office to register. Classes are free!



CONGRATULATIONS

TO

Mr. & Mrs. Walker Moore

who were married

June 16, 2007.

The newlyweds will

reside and work in Waco.

Walker is the Community Organizer for Waco Community Development

Moving On Up!

It always warms my heart when I see families that most people would have written off succeed. One of these families that I recently had the privilege to watch was Shirley and Eugene. They have lived in a low income apartment complex for 20 years. They didn't have much but each other and, tremendous tenacity. Shirley and Eugene approached us about purchasing a home of their own because they had heard about us and they believed that they could become homeowners as well.

They wanted it and nothing was going to get in their way. They came to our office and started talking to Darrell, one of our housing counselors. He took a look at their finances and credit and gave them guidance on what they should be able to purchase. Then he turned them loose to find themselves a home. They searched high and low and found a remodeled house that fit their budget.

Shirley and Eugene started the long road of getting a loan. They met several hurdles of paperwork and things that they had to do to get their loan, but they

didn't let that stop them. I know this because I get to the office really early and several times they came in and waited for our counselors to come to work to help. They pushed and they pushed and finally they were approved for a loan.

So much for being down and out. Now they were "moving on up." They have since moved into their home and are all settled in.

Way to go Shirley and Eugene!

By Mike Stone

Executive Director



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Newsletter of Waco Community Development, a Christian-based organization committed to promoting housing, economic, and community development throughout Waco.

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SUMMER = VOLUNTEER SERVICE GROUPS

Starting in the spring, Waco Community Development's volunteer coordinator Adrain Moore starts receiving a lot of phone calls.

These phone calls come from many organizations such as church youth groups, MHMR of Waco, and other types of service groups both local to Texas and out of state.

Schedules for service groups are entered on our calendar and the planning begins. We would not be able to do all that we do without the generous grant from **The Home Depot**. **The Home Depot** grant helps supply tools, materials and paint we use when working on the various service projects.

We are always amazed by the generosity and hard work that is put forth by the service groups that come during the summer months. How to thank them can be difficult at times because, mere words fail at expressing our sincere appreciation.



Grace Community Church of Bartlesville, Oklahoma painting on N. 16th St.



Chris with a group from MHMR of Waco working at 906 N. 13th St.

Many times we assign more than just one service group to a particular property. For a house we were painting on N. 16th St., we had two separate work groups from two different churches. We received a beautiful card from the Davis family of N.16th St. thanking all of the workers who worked so hard painting their home. The card was signed, "May God Richly Bless You in all that you do!"



More painting on N. 16th by Grace Community Church of Bartlesville, Oklahoma

BUT SERVICE DOESN'T STOP THERE!

Waco Community Development offers Homebuyer Classes during the year to those who are interested in buying a home.

Homebuyer classes are held at our office and there are many times we have volunteers that step in to teach one the sessions.

Classes are offered as a six week 2 hour course that meets each Thursday evening, or a class held for 5 hours on a scheduled Saturday.



New Heights Church Fayetteville, Arkansas



Central United Methodist of Waco clearing a lot on N. 15th St.



First United Methodist of Waco on N. 16th St.



First Baptist Church of Wooway, Texas at the corner of West and 11th St.



First United Methodist of Waco on N. 16th St.



Nora, one of our dedicated volunteers, teaching a Homebuyer class at Waco Community Development

Full-time AmeriCorps position open for 2007-2008 program year. To serve with MCYC/Waco CD from August 13, 2007 to June 30, 2008. AmeriCorps is an opportunity for individuals to serve their communities and make a difference in areas of need. Through the term of service, an individual will not only give back to the community through service, but will also receive professional training and life changing experiences. Members receive a monthly living stipend, health insurance, and almost \$5000 towards college (upon the successful completion of the program year). If you are interested in serving with us as an AmeriCorps member, you can pick up an application and more information at our office or contact Carrie Arroyo, MCYC AmeriCorps Program Coordinator at americorps@mcycwaco.org or 753-6002 ext. 224. You may also look at www.americorps.gov for more information about AmeriCorps in general.

A LEAP OF FAITH

by Darrell Abercrombie

I'm not sure that I remember exactly what I was doing the day that Karine came into my office with several of her friends in tow. All that I do know is that within an hour of her introducing me to Reuben's family, I was committed to finding a solution to the dilemma facing them.

You see, this family had just purchased a home in our neighborhood and were living there without electricity for a month. A month!

Reuben, his wife, their infant son and his wife's sister, who by the way was expecting a baby, had been living in their "new" home in the month of June with no electricity.

At this point I am "in deep" and my heart is aching for this family. "How do I help them, Lord?" I silently prayed.

Karine is one of our new homeowners. Karine knew that she could bring them to Waco Community Development for guidance. You see, sometimes others have confidence in you when you're not quite sure what you're doing.

We went over to their house to look over and discuss just exactly what the problem was. At some point between the closing on the sale of their new home and moving into their new home, all of the electrical wiring had been removed from their home.

What? Someone has actually removed all of the

electrical wiring that connects the house to the pole. No power! No lights! No way to prepare a meal! No way to cool the house! It's June 2007!

At that very moment it was apparent that this family needed help and they needed it pretty soon. "How do I help them, Lord?" I silently prayed.

Well, it was brought to my attention that there was a certain entity that would be an awesome resource for helping this family, "The Carpenter's Hammer."

We could fill out the The Carpenter's Hammer Request Form, fax it in and then stand on faith that our request would be granted.

I remember exactly what I was doing when the call came in from The Carpenter's Hammer. Elizabeth Goins with the Paul & Jane Meyer Family Foundation, called me to tell me that our request had been accepted and they would be presenting us with a check within a few days.

On Monday, July 9th, The Carpenter's Hammer presented Reuben's family a check for the repair and installation of new electrical wiring for their new home.

How do we find words to express our humble appreciation of the generous donation given to us from The Carpenter's Hammer?

Mere words fail me but, I am going to say thank you with a humble heart.

"THANK YOU" to The Carpenter's Hammer, The Paul & Jane Meyer Family Foundation and Elizabeth Goins for granting our request.

"THANK YOU" to Burnett Electric for all of your hard work.

"THANK YOU" Lord for hearing my prayer!

Do not ever hesitate to take a LEAP OF FAITH!



Reuben



*Elizabeth Goins from The Carpenter's Hammer presenting a check for Reuben's family.



North 15th Street



Waco Community Development Street of Dreams 2007

Our Neighborhood Yesterday & Today

When you take a look back at our neighborhood, a lot has changed.

From the first new homeowner to the present, the neighborhood has taken on a new look.



2003 / 714 N. 16th St.



2004 / 1510 Homan



2005 / 1234 N. 16th St.



2006 / 805 N. 15th St.

Construction Update

We're working hard here at Waco Community Development. Here is an update on our current construction projects.



Indiana & 4th Street



Sullivan # 3 underway!

906 N. 13th is near completion. This house will be ready for occupancy around the end of August. Interested? Call us!



Remodel 1007 N. 14th St.



1104 N 13th will be bricked by the time you receive this newsletter. Construction is moving along as planned.



DID YOU KNOW?

1850: McLennan County was organized and The Waco Era, the town's newspaper was published.
1871: The Waco and Northwestern railroad was built.

By the Numbers

Housing:	
New Homeowners	56
New Homes:	20
Renovated:	9
Opportunities:	
Counseled:	583
Active:	113
Maintenance:	
Volunteers:	2,690
Vol. Hours:	16,399
Lots Mowed:	856

Waco Community Development thanks the WalMart Foundation for the generous grant received in July. Tim Sargent from the WalMart Distribution Center volunteered 36 hours for the Volunteerism Always Pays Program.



1624 Colcord Ave.
Waco, TX 76707

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