

ACDC NEWS

JANUARY 2007

There will be no January ACDC Meeting. We will meet again on February 22 at 7pm at a location TBD.

URGENT!

One of our neighbors needs our help. A single mother and three children lost practically all of their possessions in a house fire on Manton Way on Monday, January 8. The older two children attend Grandview Elementary School. The Hilltop Health Ministries Consortium is working with a social worker at the school, Bonnie Beswick, and a caseworker at the Brashear Association, Tara Olexi-Madoni, to make sure the needs of this family are met.

HHMC is **seeking cash donations** to help meet the needs of this family. This will enable the family to buy groceries, furniture, clothing, and other goods once they get settled into a new home. The monies will be collected by Joanna Deming, Project and Grants Administrator for HHMC. *Hilltop Health Ministries Consortium is located at 823 Climax Street Pittsburgh, PA 15210.*

Checks should be made out to: Allentown Senior Center (they are acting as the fiscal agent). Please notify Joanna Deming 412.381.4710 to make arrangement for receiving your donation.

In November we submitted an application to **CTAC** (Community Technical Assistance Center) for a program they were offering to nonprofit organizations. *Our proposal was one of four selected!* CTAC will assist us in organizing a **National Night Out/Community Day** that will take place on **August 7, 2007**. Though it takes place later this year, our planning will be starting soon and CTAC will be providing us with a Community Connections Specialist for five hours every week. The CTAC specialist will be assisting us with volunteer recruitment and retention, fundraising strategies as well as evaluating the event upon its completion. Their input will be sure to make this upcoming National Night Out/Community Day a great event and a great success. National Night Out is a nationwide program that promotes neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in an effort to make the community in which we live safer. This is a great opportunity for our community and organization to join together and work for greater community safety and awareness.

The Allentown CDC is in the process of forming the **Committees for 2007**. Any Allentown CDC member is eligible to join any of the following committees:

- Fund Raising
- Main Street
- Membership
- Public Safety
- Residential

Appointment to a committee must be approved of by the Committee Chair. Anyone interested should contact either Mike or Maureen at 412.325.3371 or send an email to allentownalive@allentownalive.org.

The **December Bingo & Raffle** was attended by approximately **40** people. ACDC President **Judy Hackel** led the Bingo and Raffle. Several other ACDC members contributed time and effort into helping the evening run smoothly. Thanks to all who joined us for the Bingo & Raffle. Special thanks to the Allentown businesses who donated prizes for the Bingo & Raffle. Their generosity is appreciated.



January 11 marked our **2nd Block Watch** meeting. We are making incremental progress in participation and getting more ideas into the mix. **Jo Ann Herman** from the 29th Ward Block Watch in Carrick attended the meeting and gave us instruction on how to organize and operate a Block Watch in our community. Everyone, from residents to businesses, is welcome to become involved. If you contact the ACDC office we will let you know when the next meeting will take place and more about how to keep yourself and the community safe.

A current issue we are dealing with is the graffiti. **Harry Wolfe** has been hard at work learning about the different tags and helping business owners get them removed from their property. We have information from the City's Graffiti Task Force which has been invaluable, but it's the concerned residents and businesses owners who are the critical part of making the effort a success. If you wish to report graffiti you can call the ACDC office or to speak with the Graffiti Task Force directly you can call 412.255.2872.

Hilltop Heath Ministries Consortium is seeking women who are interested in mentoring teen girls. **Teen Girl Squad** is a program for teen girls that utilizes service-learning projects and mentoring to develop altruism, confidence, leadership, their ability to make good choices and set goals. The purpose of this program is to launch at risk females into an adulthood that is happy, healthy, and productive. It takes place every other Tuesday from 4:30-6:30. Also taking place is **Teen Girl Squad Walks**, an exercise program for teen girls and their families. It takes place every other Tuesday from 4:30-5:30. Both programs take place at Bethlehem Lutheran Church - 731 Excelsior Street Pittsburgh, PA 15210. Please contact **Joanna Deming** 412.381.4710 if interested.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Allentown CDC Meetings for 2007

7pm on the **last Thursday** of every month, except January and August when there is no meeting, and December when the meeting is the Thursday before the holidays.

February 22
March 29
April 26
May 31
June 28
July 26
September 27
October 25
November 29
December 20

Every meeting location is TBD.

Allentown Community Development Corporation
813 E Warrington Ave Pittsburgh PA 15210
412.325.3371

The Allentown CDC is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization.

The Allentown CDC's mission is to improve Pittsburgh's Allentown neighborhood with better housing, public safety, community awareness and community connectedness in order to make the neighborhood a more vibrant place for people to live, work, and play.



Allentown CDC • 813 E Warrington Ave • Pittsburgh, PA 15210