# JOURNEY HOUSE 2012 COMMUNITY REPORT



# LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends,

2012 was an amazing year of opportunity and achievement for Journey House. In June, we opened the doors of the Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics. This new facility, a collaborative effort with H.W. Longfellow K-8 of Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), was more than a dozen years in the making and serves as the hub of the community.

In October 2012, we broke ground for the Journey House Packers Field, located in Milwaukee County Mitchell Park. Installation of the artificial turf field, donated to Journey House by the Packers and formerly used as their Ray Nitschke Practice Field, was completed in December. The stadium will be ready for the start of the 2013 football season. We are excited about our partnership with Milwaukee County Parks.

These two catalytic projects in the city's near Southside Clarke Square neighborhood reenergized the community and allowed us to expand our programs and services. We accommodated more students in our adult education classes, introduced a Community Cultural Arts Program, grew our existing sports programs and added new ones, and started health and wellness activities for families.

In December 2012, Journey House expanded our partnership with MPS. Our Community Learning Centers increased from three (Longfellow, Humboldt Park, and Bay View High School) to five with the addition of Kagel Elementary and South Division High School.

For Journey House, Academics, Athletics and the Arts are vehicles used to promote education within the community. Through academics, we empower our participants and provide them with a detailed plan for success. Our athletics programs serve as an extension of the traditional classroom, reinforcing our educational mission. Visual and performing arts offer our participants the chance to enrich their lives emotionally and intellectually.

Involvement in our academic, athletic, and arts programs leads to self-sufficiency for our participants. Put simply: families come to Journey House to improve their lives.

Thank you for contributing to our success.

Together in the Journey, Michele Bria, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer Barbara Klein, Chairwoman, Board of Directors



# **BREAKING NEW GROUND**

On July 21, 2012, over 1,200 people gathered at the new Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics to celebrate the facility's community grand opening. Guests enjoyed live music, games, arts and crafts, and demonstrations of art and fitness programs.

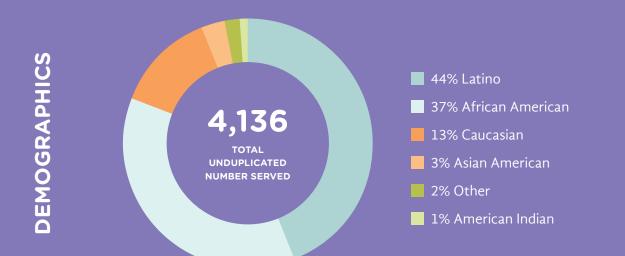
For twelve years, with great patience and persistence, Journey House, MPS Longfellow School, and Milwaukee Public Schools worked together to build

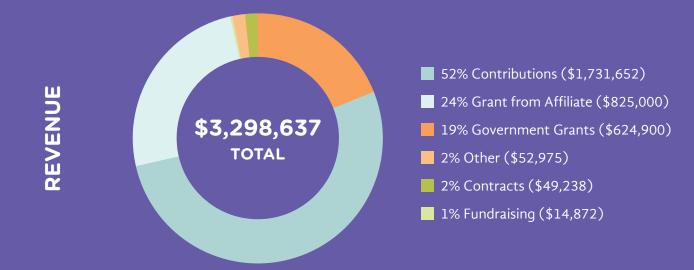
JOURNEY HOUSE MOVES FAMILIES OUT OF **GENERATIONAL POVERTY THROUGH ADULT EDUCATION,** WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT **USING A SELF-HELP PHILOSOPHY. ANNUALLY WE SERVE** OVER 4,100 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

this new facility, a national model for high quality education and neighborhood development. This 34,000 square foot addition onto Longfellow includes a shared gymnasium, cafeteria, adult education classrooms, and meeting and program space.

This private-public/community-school partnership between Journey House and MPS Longfellow directly embraces and engages the ENTIRE FAMILY. This place-based service is a catalyst for our community to flourish and prosper. This Center provides the infrastructure to change lives and offer hope.

# 2012 NUMBERS





\$2,273,244 TOTAL

- **30% Youth (\$672,899)**
- 29% Adult & Workforce Development (\$668,289)
- 19% Fundraising (\$436,090)
- **13%** Management & General (\$295,966)
- 9% Grants (\$200,000)



























# 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

- We opened the doors of the new Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics in June.
- Our unduplicated number of participants nearly tripled during the second half of the year, the time spent in our new facility.
- The new facility allowed us to introduce art and family wellness programs.
- We broke ground for the Journey House Packers Field, located in Milwaukee County Mitchell Park, on October 23rd with installation of the artificial turf field completed on December 14.
- On December 1st, Journey House opened MPS Kagel Elementary and South Division High School 21st Century Community Learning Centers.
- We celebrated the dedication of our new minilibrary, Sarah's Corner, in November. The library is located in our teen lounge and is sponsored by Sam's Hope Literacy Foundation and the Milwaukee Bucks. Use of the library encourages children in the inner city to read at home each day and to improve their academic achievement in school.
- We distributed over 3,000 books to Clarke Square youth at various events over the course of the year.
- During the 2012-13 academic year, 45 of our students earned their GED.
- Thirty-nine of our students earned their United States Citizenship thanks to a generous grant by the Charles E. Benidt Foundation.
- Eleven students participated in our inaugural Lego League, made possible by a UWM Cultures and Communities Grant.
- One hundred twenty-three federal and 133 state FY2012 income tax returns were filed through our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, returning \$331,000 to the local economy.
- Two hundred thirteen volunteers donated a total of 7,209 hours to Journey House over the year with an estimated value of \$144,000.

# ACADEMICS

Academics provide our participants with opportunities and possibilities. Our Lifelong Learning programs focus on early childhood development, youth academic enrichment, adult education (GED), English language learners, and citizenship.



### OUR ACADEMIC OFFERINGS INCLUDE:

#### English Language Learners

The goal of our English Language Learners (ELL) program is to increase our adult students' speaking, listening, reading and writing skills to provide greater access to employment opportunities and post-secondary education. We had 384 ELL students in 2012.

#### Basic Skills/GED

Offered in both English and Spanish, our Basic Skills/GED classes provide student-centered instruction that prepares participants to complete the GED tests by building their reading, writing, communication, and math skills. In 2012 we served 371 Adult Basic Education/GED students. Forty-five earned their GEDs in the 2012-13 academic year.

#### Childcare

Our On-site Childcare, free of charge to our adult learners, is a bilingual environment rich in social, physical, and intellectual stimulation preparing its participants to become ready for Head Start and K4. We welcomed 353 kids into the program over the course of the year.

#### Citizenship

The Citizenship Preparation Class for Adult Learners assists immigrants through the citizenship process that includes the application for naturalization, passing the U.S. Immigrant and Naturalization (INS) exam, and preparing for the interview portion of the N-400 Naturalization process. Thirty-nine of our students became new US citizens in the 2012-13 academic year.

#### Community Learning Centers

Journey House serves as the lead agency for five Community Learning Centers (CLCs): Albert E. Kagel Elementary, Bay View High School, H.W. Longfellow K-8 School, Humboldt Park K-8 Charter School, and South Division High School. Each day after school, nearly 600 students gather to learn, share, and have fun.

#### Urban Careers Institute (UCI)

The UCI helps clients evaluate both their employment and financial needs. Our staff works with participants on an individual basis to create positive work habits and ethics, to teach proper communication skills, and to increase financial literacy. Last year, 103 participants were placed in jobs and 55 residents received financial counseling. One hundred twenty-three federal and 133 state FY2012 tax returns were filed through our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program with \$331K returning to our local Clarke Square economy.

#### Youth Leadership Programs

These programs develop the personal, professional, and social skills participants need to overcome adversity and achieve success. Our gender specific programs, Girls in the House and Esquires, focus on academic and employment readiness and generate social awareness. Sixty-two teens were involved in these programs in 2012. Two hundred thirteen youth participated in our new iMac Lab digital literacy program. Our College Careers program prepares participants for high academic achievement and the workforce. Eighteen of our core youth alumni were enrolled and succeeding in college at the start of the 2012-13 school year.

#### Urban Gardens

In partnership with Dr. Pepper/Snapple, Journey House participants planted urban gardens over the summer. By caring for the gardens, 13 youth ages eleven to fifteen learned about agriculture, entrepreneurship, and nutrition.

#### Lego League

In partnership with University of Wisconsin Milwaukee through a Cultures and Communities grant, Journey House had 11 participants, ages nine to fourteen, take part in our first Lego League Club. Led by UWM Professor Dr. Maria Hamlin, the students used math and science to solve real problems by designing, programming and building a robot. This hands-on activity promoted life skills such as teamwork, communication, confidence and leadership. We look forward to growing our Lego League Club.

# ATHLETICS

Our athletics programs go beyond teaching foundational skill sets; character development and education are central principles of these programs. Athletes are taught that academic achievement, self-discipline and commitment are invaluable tools in achieving their goals.



#### Youth Basketball

The Journey House Youth Basketball Program is designed to provide a safe, fun and competitive activity for participants. In 2012, Journey House had a boys' 5th/6th grade team. Twelve players participated in the program. In 2013, we will expand the program to have both 5th and 6th grade boys' teams and a 5th grade girls' team.

Baseball

## Volleyball

During the 2012 spring sports season, 28 Journey House/Longfellow CLC middle school youth (ages 11-14) participated in a co-ed volleyball league made up of teams from 10 Milwaukee Public Schools. Team members practiced four hours per week and competed in games on Saturdays. Their dedication paid off with the championship title.

#### Yoga

Yoga was introduced to Journey House participants in summer 2012. This form of fitness and exercise, not commonly practiced in the community served by Journey House, is a wonderful addition to our offerings because it requires a minimal amount of equipment, can be done at home on a daily or weekly basis, and is a great way to effectively reduce stress and improve balance and flexibility.

## **YES!** Training

The Youth Empowerment Seminar (YES!) is a breathing seminar designed to help our youth learn how to manage anger, release stress, increase focus, and raise self-awareness. All of this leads to increased productivity in daily life. In 2012, 36 youth benefited from this dynamic program.

# Family Health and Wellness Classes jazz, hip hop, stepping and African dance.

**Open Rec** Journey House offers open recreation in our gymnasium weekdays from 3-9 p.m. with a late night Thursday session reserved for participants 21 and over from 9-11 p.m. We offer the only no fee gym on the city's Southside and attract youth and young adults from several of the neighboring communities. Between 450 and 500 youth and young adults use our gym every day.

### **OUR ATHLETIC OFFERINGS INCLUDE:**

#### Football and Cheerleading

The Journey House Football and Cheerleading League serves the most ethnically diverse youth in the City of Milwaukee including African American, Latino, Hmong, Asian and Native Americans. In 2012, nearly 300 youth, ages 6-14, took part in the program.

Funding from the Milwaukee Brewers Charitable Foundation allowed Journey House to host a Youth Baseball Program in 2012. Under the guidance of an organization called Athletes for Youth, 63 girls and boys ages 7-14 learned the fundamentals of the sport and enjoyed competing in games.

A dance studio in our new facility allowed us to offer a variety of fitness classes to the community. These classes include Zumba, ballroom dance,

# THE ARTS

Through participation in the visual and performing arts, Journey House strives to improve our participants' self-discipline, self-esteem, methods of communication and learning. Our mission is to bring a love and understanding of the arts to all people while connecting them with the world outside our building.



### OUR ARTISTIC OFFERINGS INCLUDE:

Through a variety of dance classes, our participants learned the art of movement and the power of expression through styles including African, hip-hop, jazz, stepping, ballroom, Zumba, Tango, and Salsa. One hundred ninety people took part in these dance and fitness classes.

Not only is music fun, research shows that singing and playing an instrument have positive physical, emotional and social benefits. In 2012, we offered orchestra, drum line, band, electric guitar lessons, choir, and glee club.

While learning voice projection and use of the body, our theater and drama students were building confidence and developing presentation skills. Our goal is to put on one formal performance for the community in 2013.

With classes in drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpting, jewelry making and metalsmithing, we offered our students the chance to use different tools and materials to create and explore as they learned design principles.

Our new facility contains a state-of-the-art iMac lab, making it possible for us to introduce desktop publishing, graphic arts, and the computer programs needed to set our participants on new career paths. In 2012, we offered classes in Photoshop, Illustrator, & Dreamweaver.

In the future, we hope to incorporate public art onto our campus. We envision a Garden of Sculptures, a mosaic on the outside of our gym wall and an art gallery displaying the work of our students and visiting artists. By involving Journey House participants and community residents in the creation of these projects, we hope to build a strong sense of belonging and pride in the neighborhood.

#### **Current Arts Partners**

Helping us to make all of this possible is a wonderful group of community partners. Thank you to UNCOM/ Helen Bader Cultural Arts, Discovery World, UW-Milwaukee Peck School of the Arts, Above the Clouds, Milwaukee Public Theater, and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

# 2012 SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Journey House Gala & Auction

April 21, 2012 at Hilton Milwaukee City Center

- Auction Chair: Liz Kolb
- 368 guests attended
- Cash raffle, 164 silent and 11 live auction items
- Raised \$198,400 to support Journey House programs

#### **Golf Outing**

July 16, 2012 at Merrill Hills Country Club

- Golf Chairs: Chris Calvelli, Baird and Dr. Jim Williams, MATC
- 101 golfers
- \$20,450 raised to support Journey House programs

#### Community Grand Opening

July 21, 2012 at Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics

- Over 1,200 quest attended this event
- Demonstrations of performing arts programs and fitness offerings were highlights of the day

#### Halloween Spooktacular

October 31, 2012 at Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics

- 603 community residents attended our second annual Spooktacular
- Event festivities included a costume contest, haunted house and performance by Journey House's Bay View Middle and High School Community Learning Center dance team

#### Thanksgiving Dinner

November 20, 2012 at Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics

- 233 attendees
- 31 volunteers

#### Winter Wonderland

December 15, 2012 at Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics

- 467 attendees
- 103 Families were adopted
- 143 Individual kids were adopted by New World Montessori, Time Warner Cable, Travelers Insurance, South Shore High School, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.
- 75 gift cards were handed out













# SOURCES OF

**Brighter Futures** Community Advocates • College Careers Program

City of Milwaukee Community Development Block Grant Workforce

Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) **Financial Opportunity Center** NFL Grassroots Program

General Purpose Revenue • Adult Basic Skills **Pre-College** Division

Medical College of Wisconsin WBA Gardening Project

Milwaukee College Safe Alternatives for Youth

Summer Stars

Mount Mary College

United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc. W-2 Job Training and Education

Neighborhood Ambassadors

United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee Violence Prevention Initiative Helen Bader Cultural Arts Grant Milwaukee Area Workforce Development

Wisconsin Technical College System Board Adult Education and Family Literacy Program Civics/English Literacy







# **GRANTS & CONTRACTS**

Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)

#### Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS)

Community Learning Centers • Bay View Middle & High School Community Learning Center • Humboldt Park K-8 Charter School Community Learning Center • Kagel Elementary School Community Learning Center • Longfellow K-8 School Community Learning Center South Division High School Community Learning Center Summer Camp Enrichment Program

College in the Community

13

#### **2012 JOURNEY HOUSE** DONOR REPORT

#### CONTRIBUTIONS BY CONSTITUENT

#### \$50,000 or Greater

Charles E. Benidt Foundation, Inc. Burke Foundation Jeanne and Greo Herrle Walter L. & Grace M. Merten Charitable Trust Zilber Family Foundation, Inc.

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#### \$50,000 or Greater

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expertise to support the mission of Journey House.

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# JOURNEY HOUSE **LEARNING & LEADERSHIP CENTERS**

Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics

2110 West Scott Street Milwaukee, WI 53204 Ph: 414-647-0548 Fax: 414-647-0266

#### Journey House Packers Field

Milwaukee County Mitchell Park (eastern side) South 22nd Street and West Pierce Street Milwaukee, WI 53204

Community Learning Centers (CLC): Albert E. Kagel K-5 Elementary School 1210 West Mineral Street Milwaukee, WI 53204 Ph: 414-902-7437 Fax: 414-902-7415

Bay View Middle and High School CLC 2751 S. Lenox Street Milwaukee, WI 53207 Ph: 414-294-2535 Fax: 414-294-2415

Humboldt Park K-8 School CLC 3230 S. Adams Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53207 Ph: 414-294-1725 Fax: 414-294-1715

H.W. Longfellow K-8 School CLC 1021 S. 21st Street Milwaukee, WI 53204 Ph: 414-902-9807 Fax: 414-902-9815

South Division High School CLC 1515 West Lapham Boulevard Milwaukee, WI 53204 Ph: 414-902-8300 Fax: 414-902-8315

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Kathryn Buono, Vice-President Quarles & Brady

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# A CAMPAIGN FOR OUR CHILDREN

Ground was broken for the Journey House Packers Field on October 23, 2012 in the southeast end of Milwaukee County's Mitchell Park. City officials, representatives from Journey House and Milwaukee County Parks, and community residents gathered to celebrate the start of this much anticipated project.

This new development, a partnership between Journey House and the Milwaukee County Parks, will serve as another anchor and catalyst for change in the city's near Southside Clarke Square neighborhood.

The synthetic turf football field, donated to Journey House by the Green Packers and previously located

Carmen Ventura

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S & S Home Solution

Carl Zaar, Treasurer

Green Bay Packers James Williams, Ed.D. Milwaukee Area Technical College

Secure Fire & Safety, LLC



at their Ray Nitschke Practice Field, will serve as the home field for the Journey House Youth Football and Cheerleading Program and League. Over 300 youth ages 6 to 14 are involved in this league. Beyond teaching the foundational skill sets of football, character development and education are central tenets of the program.

In addition to youth development, the project will bring about positive outcomes in the community that include economic development and job creation. Workforce development opportunities will be available through assisting in the daily operations and maintenance of the field, assisting in game day and tournament operations, ticket sales, and concession stand operations.

Installation of the field was completed in December 2012 with work continuing on the stadium in spring. The facility will open with the start of the 2013 football season.

## **FUTURE 2018 VISION OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**





#### journeyhouse.org

Journey House Center for Family Learning and Youth Athletics • 2110 West Scott Street • Milwaukee, WI 53204 Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/journeyhouse