

RICHMAN HEIGHTS

2012 - 2013
IMPACT REPORT



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Introduction

This information serves as an impact report for our first year of the Kettering Cares initiative. It compares the goals and measurements submitted with our application to the Impact Volunteering Fund to what was achieved at the end of our first Cities of Service Kettering Cares initiative: the Richman Heights Neighborhood. It also lists additional, miscellaneous accomplishments that do not fit within the Kettering Cares Matrix and concludes with notes on how to improve for our future initiatives.

PRIORITY AREA: GENERAL CLEAN UP



October Make a Difference Day (MADD) and April service clean-up day will focus on volunteer service groups' efforts in this neighborhood.

Modifications: Second clean-up day moved to May.

Metric: # of clean-up projects in neighborhood compared to baseline

Baseline: 0

Goal: Two cleanup events will be held in 2013.

Actual: Goal met.

Additional accomplishments:

- 460 trauma dolls assembled by volunteers on MADD in another location
- 36 cubic yards of limbs and brush removed total (estimated 2.62 tons) on both days
- 7 blocks of homes offered leaf-raking and yard debris removal (shown in image)
- 36 cubic yards of leaves raked and removed
- 1 neighborhood alleyway cleaned and cleared of debris both dates
- 3 boxes of household items and clothes donated to Goodwill
- 10 households participated in the neighborhood garage sale
- 1 city-owned lot cleared

PRIORITY AREA: VACANT PROPERTY CLEAN-UP

City staff and volunteers will identify, clean up exterior, and secure vacant properties and maintain as needed.

Modifications

Vacant properties will be secured if permission from owner is received or if city-owned

Metric: # of vacant properties cleaned.

Baseline: N/A

Goal: All vacant properties identified and cleaned.

Actual: Goal met.

- All vacant properties have been identified.
- 8 vacant properties have been cleared of garbage and yard debris.
- One vacant house, deemed an eyesore to the neighborhood, was demolished.



PRIORITY AREA: YARD DEBRIS AND LARGE TRASH PICK-UP

Volunteers will coordinate with the Public Service Department to remove yard debris and the local trash removal company for large trash pick-up.



Modifications:

Information will also be given on how to obtain future bulk and yard debris pickups.

Metric: # of large item and yard debris pick up dates offered with the two cleanup days.

Baseline: 0 – No scheduled pickups have taken place in this neighborhood.

Goal: Two large item and yard debris pick up dates.

Information distributed to neighborhood on how to obtain future bulk and yard debris pickups.

Actual: Goal met. 5 houses arranged for bulk-trash pick-up

PRIORITY AREA: MINOR HOUSE REPAIR

Volunteers will perform minor home repairs. CDBG program will perform home rehabs for income eligible homeowners.

Modifications: An educational seminar and presentation by CDBG representatives was held in addition.

Metric: # of homes with some type of repair; # of CDBG projects in the last 5 years compared to baseline

Baseline: 0 – There have been no volunteer projects in this neighborhood regarding home repairs. There have been 2 CDBG projects in this neighborhood in the last five years.

Goal: 160 homes will have some type of repair.

Actual: 7 blocks of properties had minor home repairs/clean-up as needed. Smoke detector batteries were replaced by volunteer firefighters in 20 homes.

PRIORITY AREA: ASSISTING CODE VIOLATIONS

Volunteers will assist homeowners in correcting property maintenance violations. CDBG will assist income eligible homeowners.

Modifications: We will track number of property maintenance violations found by a walkthrough of the neighborhood by property maintenance inspectors and compare that to how many of those properties our volunteers helped

Metric:
of homes that will be in compliance with the property maintenance code compared to baseline

Baseline:
101 property maintenance violations for 2012
23 property maintenance violations volunteers could assist with in April 2013

Goal: Assist with some or all of these property maintenance issues

Actual: Goal met. Every block was offered maintenance and clean-up assistance on MADD. 14 houses assisted on clean-up day in May 2013.

PRIORITY AREA: ACCESSIBILITY GRANTS

CDBG program will administer grants for accessibility projects.

Modifications: We had a representative come to one of our *Kettering Cares* events and present information on what is available.

Metric:

of accessibility grants in the past 5 years compared to baseline

Baseline: Two accessibility grants in the past 5 years.

Goal: Two new accessibility grants by CDBG.

Actual: 0

PRIORITY AREA: ENERGY AUDITS AND IMPROVEMENT

City Home Energy Rating System (HERS) will perform home energy audits. Volunteers will perform energy improvements. CDBG program will assist homeowners with rehab loan grants.

Modifications: Did not perform energy audits, but instead Dayton Power & Light presented at an educational seminar and gave away energy efficient light bulbs.

Metric:

of energy efficiency grants in the past 5 years compared to baseline

of homes that received energy audits or improvements

Baseline: There has been one energy efficiency grant in the past 5 years.

Goal: 60 homes will have energy audits or improvements.

Actual: 8 households received education on energy improvements and energy efficient light bulbs.

PRIORITY AREA: ENERGY & WATER CONSERVATION EDUCATION

City staff, the Miami Conservancy District, and the University of Dayton will administer educational seminars.

Modifications: N/A

Metric:

of educational seminars offered
of educational seminar attendees

Baseline: 0 – No educational seminars have been performed

Goal: 160 households will receive education about energy and water conservation

Actual: 2 educational seminars were offered on energy and water conservation, 28 households received education about energy and water conservation.

PRIORITY AREA: NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE

City staff and volunteers will strengthen and provide education about the [Neighborhood Watch](#) & [Neighborhood Pride](#) program.

Metric:

of Neighborhood Pride nominations and winners compared to baseline.
Presence of a Neighborhood Watch program and # of members

Baseline:

0 - No Neighborhood Watch Program in this neighborhood
0 - No Neighborhood Pride winners in four years
0 – No Neighborhood Pride nominations from the neighborhood

Goal:

The Neighborhood Watch program will appoint a coordinator and recruit 30 new members.
The Neighborhood Pride program will receive 10 new nominations.

Actual:

Two prospective regional coordinators. 4 new members were recruited for Neighborhood Watch.
The Neighborhood Pride program received 4 nominations from the neighborhood and one house from the neighborhood won an award.

PRIORITY AREA: AWARENESS

City staff will maintain a Cities of Service webpage to market initiative.

Modifications: (This was not stated in the goals of the previous grant application.)

Metric: Presence of a webpage that is regularly maintained

Baseline: 0 - No webpage has been implemented in the past

Goal: A webpage will be developed and maintained to inform community on initiative.

Actual: A [webpage](#) has been created and is being updated regularly.

Additional Accomplishments:

Kettering's [High Impact Service Plan](#) has been posted on Kettering and the Cities of Service website.

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Residents take initiative to clean own properties.
- Neighbors more aware of surroundings. Tips from neighbors led to an investigation into two search/arrest warrants in the neighborhood. Residents feel more comfortable calling the police.
- There is a renewed faith in government services in this neighborhood.
- Residents left the educational seminars with a better understanding.
- The date for street resurfacing in Richman Heights has moved up to follow this initiative. Engineering Dept will be repairing concrete panels in Summer **2013** instead of **2024**.
- City Departments became a cohesive team working on this initiative together. We presented our efforts and accomplishments to the Mayor and Council at a City Council Meeting in July 2013.
- **9 area businesses** donated **\$750** worth of door prizes for our kick-off.
- Secured **20 partnering organizations** including service clubs, colleges, leadership academies, faith-based organizations, high schools and businesses.
- The City of Kettering has participated in Make A Difference Day for **19 years**
- **210 volunteers** participated in Make A Difference Day 2012 and **15 volunteers** in final cleanup.
- More than **100 residents** attended the Richman Heights Block party.

HUNDREDS – the number of citizens impacted by the generosity of all volunteers, staff, and partners helping to make **Kettering Cares** a success.

BLOCK PARTY WRAP-UP SURVEY RESULTS

Below are the quantitative questions from the six-question survey given out to our block party wrap-up event attendees.

Upon completion of the survey, respondents were given a raffle ticket to win one of several door prizes donated to us by community businesses. **Respondents: 41**

Question 3

On a scale of 1 – 5, how much of an impact would you say Cities of Service made in your neighborhood? (1 – no impact, 5 – large impact) - **3.98 average**

Question 4

On a scale of 1 – 5, how would you rate the availability of resources for home improvement, maintenance and sustainability? (1 – scarce, 5 – plentiful) - **3.24 average**

Question 5

On a scale of 1 – 5, how would you rate your pride in the Richman Heights Neighborhood? (1 – no pride, 5 – very prideful) - **3.73 average**

WHAT WE LEARNED FOR NEXT YEAR

- Holding educational seminars during the evenings instead of a Saturday morning will bring more attendees
- Possibly have the garage sale on Friday and Saturday instead of Thursday and Friday so those who work during the week have one day in which they can participate. Advertise earlier and in City newsletters/publications.
- Many residents – especially the low-income and elderly we are targeting - do not have access to a computer or the Internet, which makes access to information on city services and resources very limited. Pamphlets with basic information on:
 - Property maintenance, how to obtain bulk pick up and yard waste pick up/drop off, a directory of numbers, Neighborhood Pride and Neighborhood Watch, how to host their own block party, and additional information
 - This would be very useful to give out all throughout the year we are in the neighborhood.
- Train volunteers on what is okay to clean/pick up at a resident's house.
- Choose an area to set a Goodwill Trailer early on and inform residents early in the initiative as to when the trailer will be there.
- Door-to-door flyers and door hangers are most effective. Typically mailings go in the trash and are overlooked.