



UEDA Community News

Spring 2007

Published by the Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (UEDA)

Welcome!

It has been some time since UEDA has been in a position to reach out and communicate with our members. This quarterly newsletter is just one of the many benefits our members and partners will receive when they join us in supporting professionals and organizations in community and economic development. We look forward to working with you all this year and in the future!

If you have not already done so, we urge you to join or renew your UEDA Membership today! We hope you will find this publication informative, and the other services and programs we are developing useful. We welcome your feedback and suggestions. Read on to learn more about our renewed focus and plans for UEDA in 2007!

UEDA Programs

Besides operating as a membership association, UEDA carries out a variety of programming and services that align with our mission:

Capacity-Building: This work includes information dissemination, networking opportunities for UEDA members, and event coordination such as the annual Community Development Summit and quarterly gatherings. These events allow professionals from the private, public and nonprofit sectors to exchange ideas and foster collaboration.

HUD Community Planning and Development: UEDA is a contractor with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for technical assistance to local nonprofit housing organizations. Projects include organizational and financial management, technology, strategic planning and housing/project development.

Making Connections Milwaukee (MCM): UEDA receives funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation as the lead strategy partner in the Asset Building Strategy. Services to MCM residents include financial literacy, advocacy and education, housing support, and training.

Contracted Services: UEDA is currently a fiscal agent for two organizations, and has provided financial management and organizational assistance to others in its ten-year history.

In Every Newsletter:

- **Feature articles** on events, issues and happenings in the UEDA Community
- **"In the Know"** Recent headlines in community development
- **Community Development Calendar:** A listing of UEDA-sponsored events, plus a listing of the upcoming events of our members.
- **"Bill's Food For Thought"** An inspiring thought that Bill has come across – let's generate more great ideas!
- **Member Spotlight:** In the next newsletter, we will begin featuring one of our members in each edition.

Mark Your Calendars!

More information to follow on these events...

- **Thursday, JUNE 14th, 2007 – UEDA Annual Membership Meeting**
Location to be determined
- **Thursday, JULY 12th, 2007 – UEDA's 6th Annual Community Development Summit**
At the Italian Community Center

UEDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bill's Food For Thought...



We hope these thoughts help inspire great ideas in the UEDA Community!

**"When the best leader's work is done,
the people will say, we did it ourselves."**

From *The Servant As Leader*

UEDA unveils new staff, renewed focus in 2007



In September 2006, William Johnson Sr., Executive Director, and Kristi Luzar, Program Manager, took the helm at UEDA. Johnson came to UEDA after a long history in the nonprofit sector, both as an administrator and a private consultant in the areas of housing, community development and philanthropy. He is a native Milwaukeean, but has spent most of his professional career in New York and Detroit. Bill is excited to be back in Milwaukee and hopes he can lend his years of experience to make a difference in Milwaukee's community development sector. Luzar is a recent graduate of the Urban Studies Master's program at the

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, also receiving a certificate in Nonprofit Management. She has previous work experience in community development, and is looking forward to continuing that work with UEDA. With a complete transition of staff in 2006, UEDA's 2007 goal is to take a leadership role in providing opportunities for the community and economic development sector to share information, foster collaboration, and to help steer comprehensive community building initiatives.



The strategy to fulfill that goal is to expand and further support membership, build collaborations where they did not exist in the past, and work towards increasing employment, housing and economic development opportunities for central city residents. In 2007, UEDA will also host its 6th Annual Community Development Summit, and according to UEDA's Executive Director William Johnson, the success of this event will show that, "through collaborations and comprehensiveness, the approach to doing our work will bring about results far beyond the ability of an individual, a group, or an organization."

IN THE KNOW

Each UEDA newsletter will feature recent news items focusing on community and economic development issues. We welcome suggestions from our members and friends for upcoming editions!

- On November 28, 2006, the City of Milwaukee established a **Housing Trust Fund**. Congratulations to those who worked hard on the grassroots campaign to make this a success. Soon, these funds will be put to use! For more information, visit www.interfaithconference.org/housing_trust_fund.htm.
- A **joint City-County Special Needs Housing Action Team** has been meeting regularly since November to address concerns raised by a series of articles about housing conditions for people with special needs. This group represents a cross-section of agencies and advocacy groups. A final recommendations report that includes strategies and identifies resources will be released in May, so stay tuned!
- In February, HUD announced that **Milwaukee's Continuum of Care (CoC)** received \$9.7 million in funding for the 2006 grant year. This more than doubled the amount of the previous year's grant, and will help fulfill our City's most pressing affordable housing and service needs for vulnerable populations.
- The **UW-Milwaukee Center for Economic Development** has released two reports since November that address two issues affecting Milwaukee's central city. *The Crisis of Black Male Joblessness in Milwaukee* and *Income Change in Milwaukee's Inner City, 2004-2005* are both available to the public at www.uwm.edu/Dept/CED.
- On Friday, March 30th, Mayor Tom Barrett released his plans for a **city-based regional workforce development initiative**. Visit www.city.milwaukee.gov to view the Mayor's press release, and access the recommendations report.



BECOME A UEDA MEMBER!

2007 is UEDA's 10th anniversary of membership-based community development work. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization, UEDA is dedicated to providing professional development and networking opportunities for its members. Take advantage of UEDA programs and services for a nominal fee. Open the door to endless opportunities with UEDA!

Membership Benefits

- ✓ Discount on program fees to UEDA-sponsored events, which highlight pressing public policy and community development needs.
- ✓ Communications such as the UEDA listserv, newsletters, monthly members updates, and other tools.
- ✓ Opportunities for one-on-one technical assistance – we can help you get what you need!
- ✓ Advocacy through the formation of affinity groups and collaborative, action-oriented projects.

Membership Fees

Individual: \$50.00
Nonprofit/Organizational: \$150.00 (Includes 2 members)
Corporate/Government: \$350.00 (Includes 4 members)

How Do I Join?

Contact us by phone or email, or visit our website at www.uedawi.org for a membership form.

How To Contact Us:

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Email: Bill@uedawi.org

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Visit us at www.uedawi.org for more information
on all UEDA Programs & Events!