

# Annual Report 2016



## Omega Community Development Corporation

*"Our focus is Family Development, Youth Development, & Economic Development to strengthen Northwest Dayton"*

# Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	3
About Us.....	4
CIRGV .....	5
Freedom School .....	6
Restorative Passage.....	7
Ready to Work .....	8
Urban Leadership Academy .....	9
Hope Center for Families.....	10
Financial Summary .....	11

# Executive Summary

The Omega Community Development Corporation is blessed to have completed 19 years of service to the Dayton community last year. We managed to maintain a strong presence, while expanding our services within our three focus areas of Family Development, Youth Development, and Economic Development. I am excited to share with you some of the highlights from 2016.

Around family development, our Community Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence (CIRGV) remained strong, where our Street Advocates strived to reduce gun violence among gangs and groups. Through mentoring and 1-on-1 engagement sessions, our Street Advocates were instrumental in mediating disputes and building stronger relational supports for families and neighborhoods.

In youth development, we successfully completed our seventh year of operating a Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools®; the longest consecutively run Freedom Schools program in the Dayton area. In this report, we share the good news about our impact in building and reinforcing strong summer readers who were prepared to achieve greater success when they returned to their schools! We are indebted to the sponsorships of United Way of Greater Dayton and the John Moore Society that enabled us to serve over 58 scholars, grades K-8.

In addition to Freedom Schools, we were awarded the opportunity to conduct a mentoring program at the Dayton Boys Preparatory Academy. Through the Community Connectors grant, we partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters, El Puente and the Wright State Stem Collaborative to provide mentoring services to youth in the Dayton area. During our first year we served 30 boys in the 5th and 6th grades. We received an additional year of funding and expanded our services to 60 boys grade 5-8th. Mentoring is such an important factor in the lives of our youth and it has truly been an honor to do this work.

During the 2016 programming year, we also continued to expand our services in Economic development. Our newest project came to be after we were approached by Montgomery County to implement a workforce development program. Upon receiving this grant opportunity, we successfully completed three training sessions through our Ready to Work program! Our success led to additional funding and the opportunity to implement the program through 2018!

Finally, perhaps our largest economic development was that of the Omega Harvard Campus (formerly United Theological Seminary). The multi-phase project continued to evolve, with phase one-the Hope Center for Families- anticipated to be complete in the fall of 2018. The Hodge Group conducted a feasibility which initiated the capital campaign process. We hired a fund developer who will guide our fundraising campaign of \$8 million dollars. Additionally, we are fortunate to be in conversation with community partners to occupy space in the Hope Center. As of last year, Mini University committed to a 5-star early-childhood center on the first floor, Sinclair agreed to lease space for a satellite learning center and the Urban league agreed to move their operations to the Hope Center! All great partners who share in our vision to bring hope to Northwest Dayton, what a blessing!



As you can see, so much has transpired over the last year; the Omega CDC has experienced great success. We want to thank everyone who continues to support the mission of the Omega CDC, we would not be able to do this work without you!

Vanessa Oliver Ward  
President

## ABOUT US

The Omega Community Development Corporation (CDC) is a community-based, 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization that focuses on three aspects of community development: youth development, family development, and economic development. Founded in 1999, it is the sister organization, social services and economic development arm of the Omega Baptist Church.

With a track record of success in dealing with community-wide issues, such as joblessness, gun violence, illiteracy, and education – Omega CDC is ready to use its reach, resources, and network of community partners to transform the face of poverty in Northwest Dayton.

### Mission Driven Highlights

Many nonprofit organizations end up expanding beyond their formal program focus and help the community in differing ways. The Omega Community Development Corporation has always done more with less and along those lines we thank those volunteers, program participants and other organizations and entities that we worked with in 2015. Listed below are some highlights:

- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the East End Community Development Corporation for joint grant opportunities and data research sharing.
- Staff provided mentoring to numerous individuals beyond normal programmatic activities.
- Participated in the AmeriCorps program.
- Participated in programs with Learn to Earn-Preschool Promise.
- Added to new Board of Director members, Terry Rapoch and Ezra Knox

## CONTACT US

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<b>STAFF</b>	<b>BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>
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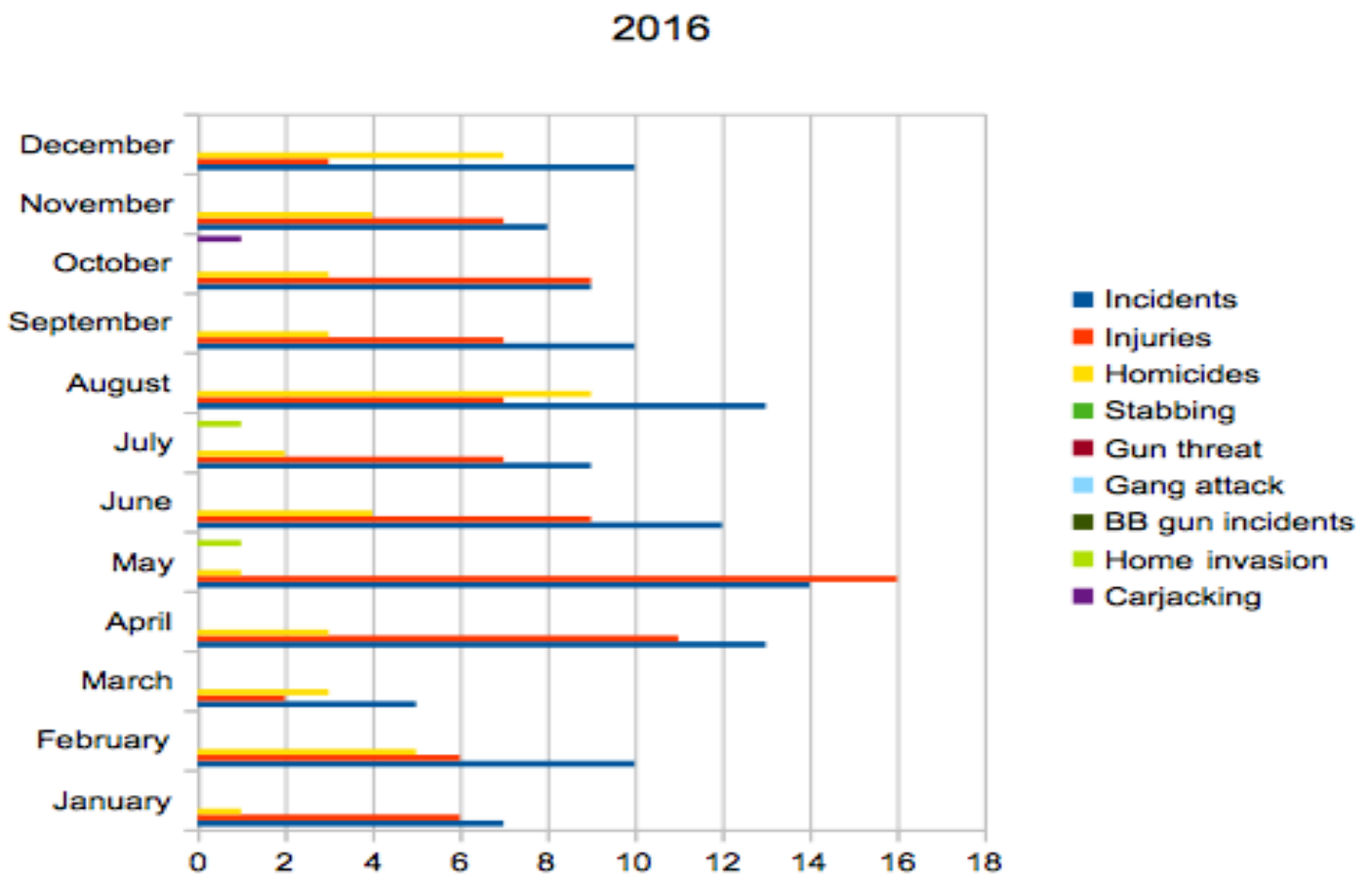


# CIRGV

In 2016, the Street Advocate program completed its 7th and 8th year of participation with the Community Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence (CIRGV) Program. The Advocates' main mission is to reduce gun violence among gangs and groups within Montgomery County.

Advocates are just two (2) in number and have been able to expand their efforts by incorporating two AmeriCorps VISTA members into the program during 2016. Over the last two years, our team has been able to provide at least 3-4 interactions per client monthly; and per year over 7,000 interactions, including assisting clients with obtaining employment, transporting clients to/from work, and life coaching.

The advocates facilitated violence interruption tactics to de-escalate conflict in schools, organizations, and the community. Advocates worked with many individuals administering surveys pertaining to the level of violence in the community at large. This is a tremendous load for the two advocates and two AmeriCorps VISTA members but, the team has been able to establish a sense of camaraderie to implement this program to the best of their ability.



In 2016: the Street Advocates and AmeriCorps VISTAS have put in over 4,000 hours toward the success of this program during 2016.

During this past two years, there have been (223) gun-related incidents consisting of (155) injuries, (65) homicides, (4) BB gun incidents, and (1) stabbing. The Advocates provided canvassing efforts within 24 hours of a gun-related incident in Montgomery County. Their mobilization has contributed, to the reduction of certain types of violence as shown in the table.

# Freedom School

The Omega CDC recently served 58 scholars grades K-8 through our 2016 Freedom Schools program at the Dayton Boys Preparatory Academy. This summer program builds literacy, curbs summer reading loss, closes achievement gaps, and empowers children to make a difference in themselves, their families, communities, nation and the world today.



Throughout the summer we maintained an attendance rate of 87% which contributed to significant growth amongst our scholars. Pre-and post-tests were conducted to measure the impact of the program. By the end of the program, 90% of the scholars improved in at least one category.

Level	Grade	Assessment Measures
1	k	Phoneme segmentation and word reading fluency
1	1	Phoneme segmentation, word and passage reading fluency
1	2	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension
2	3	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension
2	4	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension
2	5	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension
3	6	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension
3	7	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension
3	8	Passage fluency and multiple choice reading comprehension

# Restorative Passage



In 2015 we were awarded the Community Connectors Grant by Governor Kasich, This grant was a partnership between Big Brothers Big Sisters, El Puente and the Wright State Stem Collaborative to offer mentoring services to children.

Through this grant we adopted the Dayton Boys Preparatory Academy to

offer a Restorative Passage program. We served 30 boys in the 5th and 6th grades. Each student was paired with a mentor who completed a combined total of over 400 hours of 1-on-1 mentoring to the students. In addition to 1-on-1 mentoring, students participated in 31 weekly group sessions, covering various topics from *Rites of Passage Youth Empowerment Curriculum*. Finally, students participated in numerous STEM related fields trips, to increase STEM interest and learning, a fundamental goal of the program.



Overall the program positively received from the staff, parents and the community. The principal recognized behavioral improvements in the students and the culture within the school. Students who participated in the Restorative Passage saw an increase in attendance and grades. Overall, students missed an average of 1.52 days and saw a .2 increase in the average GPA.



# Ready to Work



In 2016, the Omega CDC received a grant to pilot a workforce program from Montgomery County. We conducted this program in partnership with the Miami Valley Child Development Centers (MVCDC).

We began by offering a 4-week training session, but later expanded the program to an 8-week training period. The workforce training included sessions on job readiness, attitude, workforce communications and resume writing, concluding with a job fair and completion ceremony. To eliminate barriers and extend our reach, we offered transportation, food and childcare.

Throughout the year we successfully completed 3 training sessions and served approximately 30 individuals. Our final cohort concluded in the Fall of 2016 with eight graduates. To date 50% of those individuals are employed. The remaining individuals are pursuing educational opportunities or are unemployed and actively looking for employment.





# Urban Leadership Academy

The Urban Leadership Academy (ULA) is a school for Christian Leaders and Lay Members who seek a deeper understanding of Biblical history, customs, and theology. ULA further provides practical instructions to aid individuals who express a calling to service in the Christian Church and Community so they can fulfill their callings.



ULA offered:

- 3-year Certificate program for Pastors and Ministers; 2-year Certificate Program for Lay Leaders/Members.
- Approximately 30 students currently enrolled, of which 16-20 attend classes each Semester.
- 13 Highly qualified Professors and instructors assisted with the program.
  - o ULA is currently undergoing expansion to include Certificate Programs in Church Administration, Bible, and Theology.
- A recognized by Major Denomination, American Baptist Association (ABC); can be used for ordination consideration with ABC Ohio.
- Two Graduation Ceremonies were conducted during 2016.
- Transferable credits to some local Colleges, Universities and Seminaries; Graduates have continued to pursue degrees at accredited schools to obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees.

# Hope Center for Families



The Hope Center is a facility that serves as the anchor for the overall development of a 32-acre site that is positioned in the center of NW Dayton, OH. The Center, with its tenant/partners goal is to implement a two-generation poverty reduction program that focuses synergistic efforts on education, workforce development and health concerns.

- Campaign leadership confirmed with Dan Curran, President Emeritus, University of Dayton and Dan Foley, Montgomery County Commissioner confirmed
- Formalized agreements with project architect, Pinnacle Architects, Inc. and Wise Construction Company
- Hired an internal project manager with a construction background
- Completed a campaign feasibility study with the Hodge Group
- Hired a fund developer for internal support with fundraising and project financing options
- Received grants/gifts from corporations, board members, and individuals
- Obtained first tenant commitment from Mini University, a 5-star rated early childhood entity

# Financial Summary

## Omega Financial Highlights Through Audited Statements

Current Assets	\$797,829
Current Liabilities	\$73,818
Net Unrestricted Assets	\$727,074
Overall Revenues	\$578,720
Overall Expenses	\$544,682

## Honor Roll of Donors

The Omega Community Development Corporation wishes to thank the donors and granting agencies for their support in 2016. The numbers below represent gifts, pledges and grants:

Montgomery County	\$225,000
University of Dayton	\$200,000
City of Dayton	\$125,000
Premier Health	\$50,000
Children's Defense Fund	\$41,000
Fordham Foundation	\$20,000
Daryl and Vanessa Ward	\$20,000
Dan Curran	\$20,000
DP&L	\$15,000
Kroger	10,000

Numerous gifts below 1,000 each

Thanks to all who have supported the Omega Community Development Corporation