

White Center Community Development Association

Report to the Community

Year One and counting!

White Center Community Development Association is celebrating the success of our first full year of operations with the Global Supper – an event that symbolically reclaims downtown White Center for the whole community while raising money and visibility to fuel our efforts.

Downtown White Center is Seattle's newest and most authentic International District and the larger community is one of the most diverse communities of immigrants and refugees in the country. WCCDA is only one of the exciting developments happening in White Center: King County Housing Authority is building a new mixed-income community



of 1100

households four

blocks from downtown; the Highline School District is rebuilding many schools; the White Center Community School Coalition will begin operations this fall; and the Annie E. Casey Foundation is empowering White Center's many immigrant and refugee communities.

There has never been a better time to invest in White Center's future.

White Center's needs are great – but the opportunities is enormous. Twenty-five dollars barely covers the cost of your evening tonight even with substantial donations of food and drink from local bakeries and restaurants. Please give generously to support our work developing affordable housing, revitalizing downtown White Center, and building a strong and healthy community.

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WCCDA Staff

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John Morovich, Event Coordinator, 206-779-3474 john@wccda.org



First Year Accomplishments

building a solid organization

- Secured \$177,500 in cash support for 2002
- Initial Board of seven expanded to twelve
- Staff hired:
 - Executive Director David Schraer hired May 15th 2002
 - Main Street Manager Antoinette Carter hired October 15th 2002
 - Event Coordinator John Morovich hired March 15th 2003
- Five-year business plan approved May 8th, 2003
- Visible and accessible "storefront office" established on "main street" (16th Ave. SW)
- Partnerships developed with five direct service providers to provide tax, business assistance and employment counseling to White Center residents from WCCDA's storefront office:
 - United Way EITC/Free Tax Return site
 - Seattle Chamber of Commerce/Employment Security employer assistance
 - Community Capital Development business assistance and loan programs
 - King County Business Relations & Economic Development business assistance
 - The Center for Career Alternatives is locating two employment counselors funded by the King County Jobs Initiative in WCCDA's storefront office. CCA's diverse staff provides WCCDA informal access to a rich resource in cultural competency.
- Partnership developed with King County Housing Authority (KCHA) to market free weatherization and low cost home repair to White Center residents with qualifying incomes. Marketing materials are being printed in six languages to reach White Center's diverse population. This partnership includes complex programs offered by KCHA, the City of Seattle, King County, PSE and City Light.
- Internships and academic work:
 - Economic Development Program Intern Lisa Phounsavath developed WCCDA's prototype International Festival in September, 2002.
 - UW Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs Public Policy Clinic Fellow Michael Horner researched equitable development issues in White Center and has presented a paper with findings and recommendations for WCCDA.
 - UW MBA Business and Economic Development Program Intern Jini Han will develop two papers for WCCDA from July-September 2003:
 - White Center Community Technology Plan
 - White Center Case for External Investment.



First Year Accomplishments

creating a new enthusiasm about the local economy



- Main Street. WCCDA has been short-listed for entry into the State of Washington Office of Trade and Economic Development Main Street Certification program and is also cooperating with LISC's urban revitalization program.
- Crime Prevention. WCCDA is cooperating with institutions players in developing a comprehensive plan to reduce crime in White Center.
- White Center Farmers Market. WCCDA opened a full season of nineteen Farmers Markets on June 21st. The market opened in a spectacular way with 22 produce vendors and the Salvadorian band Talticpac. State Representative Jim McDermott, King County Executive Ron Sims, and King County Councilman Dow Constantine were on hand for the opening. WCFM is the first neighborhood Farmers Market affiliated with Pike Place Market.
- Cambodian New Year Festival. A series of five International Festivals was inaugurated with the Cambodian New Year Festival Saturday, April 12th. The festival was organized by dozens of Cambodian volunteers and attracted several thousand people to traditional and modern entertainment stages in the heart of downtown White Center. WCCDA's extensive support for the community-driven event included community organizing, logistics, infrastructure, promotion and financing.
- White Center Custom Car Show. The international flavor of White Center is also expressed in an extensive car culture. Dozens of automobile sales, parts, repair, auto body, and paint shops represent a significant portion of White Center's tax base. WCCDA collaborated with the local Lifetime Car Club in the production of the Car Show on June 14th where several thousand people viewed 60 historic and low-rider cars that competed for cash prizes and trophies in a variety of categories.
- Global Supper. WCCDA's first major fundraising event is also a community building event. In a highly symbolic effort, the Global Supper will take over a key block of 16th Avenue SW. The event is modeled on Pike Place Market's Sunset Supper and participants will dine under tents located in the center of the street. International cuisine is being donated by local restaurants and dancing to a local band, the Yes Yes Boys, will continue until 10:00 pm. The event is designed to help reclaim downtown White Center for the whole community.
- Community Supported Agriculture. In this program, local residents purchase 21 weeks of fresh produce, berries and flowers from Pike Place Market vendors for \$505 and pick up the produce at WCCDA's offices on Wednesday afternoon and evenings. The CSA program will bring new middle and upper income shoppers to downtown White Center and provide new co-marketing opportunities for local shops who will be invited to offer samples and specials to the CSA purchasers.



Many thanks to our supporters

2002-2003 FUNDERS

Washington Mutual Foundation
 The Annie E. Casey Foundation
 The Seattle Foundation
 Impact Capital
 King County
 The City of Seattle
 Safeco
 U.S. Bancorp Foundation
 King County Arts Commission
 EverTrust Foundation

TABLE CAPTAINS

King County Councilman Dow
 Constantine
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 Robert Leykam
 Bonnie Liebel
 Laurie Oettinger
 Chief Russ Pritchard
 Russell Parks
 St. James Church
 David Schraer
 Sylvia See & Courtland Shafer
 Rob Watt
 Peggy Weiss
 White Center Chamber of Commerce

SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL SUPPER

Thai Thai
 Ezell's Salvadorean Bakery
 Khmer
 Elisas Bakery
 Teriyaki Zone
 Hunan Springs
 Viva Mexico
 Salam
 On Safari Food (on 35th by Bird on
 a Wire Coffee Shop)
 White Center Pizza
 White Center Deli
 South Seattle Community College

WCCDA Board of Directors

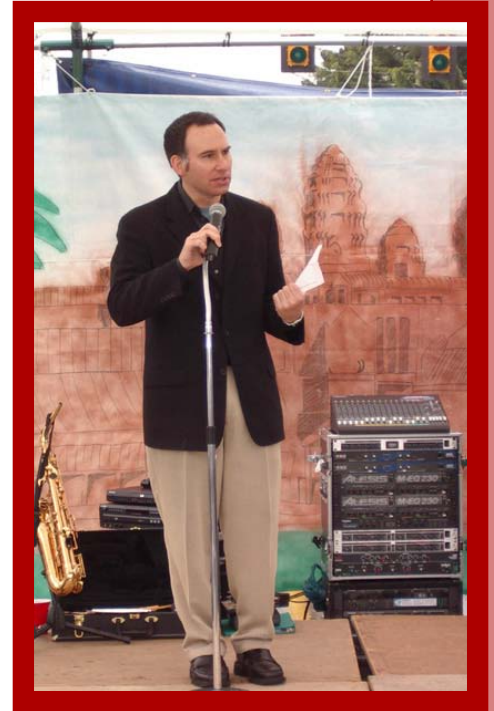
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 Tina Vlasaty, Treasurer
 Mabel Fatialofa-Magalei, At-Large

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 Housing Committee
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 Chief Russ Pritchard, Chair, Economic
 Revitalization Committee
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major grant activity

- WCCDA is short-listed for a five-year \$200,000 Robert Woods Johnson Foundation (RWJ) Active Living by Design Grant (ALbD). Of 966 original applications, WCCDA is one of 31 finalists for 25 grants. Notice of this award will be in the fall 2003. WCCDA pleased to lead Public Health Seattle-King County, King County Housing Authority, King County, and the City of Seattle in making this application. The ALbD grant will support activity generation with improved health of individuals as the desired outcome. This RWJ strategy fits with WCCDA strategies of promoting activity for community building and economic development outcomes. In addition, the ALbD message connects individual and community health in a very meaningful and comprehensible way.
- WCCDA is managing \$70,000 in CDBG funds provided by the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods to be used to be used for façade improvement matching grants in the Seattle portion of downtown White Center.
- WCCDA has received a \$15,000 grant from the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods to develop plans for a community arts identifier.
- WCCDA is participating in a joint Seattle-King County Weed & Seed grant application that will be the first multi-jurisdictional Weed & Seed program.



looking ahead

Studies

- A Retail Market Study commissioned by King County identifies provides a base for understanding economic conditions in White Center
- King County Landmarks Commission completed an historic survey of the downtown area in 2002 and recommended a small historic district.
- King County Landmarks has agreed to fund a design charrette on the restoration and use of historic White Center buildings in September of 2003
- The University of Washington School of Architecture has tentatively agreed to locate a graduate design studio in White Center from January to April of 2004. The studio will work with business and property owners on new streetscape and storefront improvement designs.

Affordable Housing

- WCCDA's business plan identifies two major strategies for development of affordable housing in White Center's downtown and in the surrounding walkable area:
 - New mixed-use, mixed-income affordable housing in the downtown area with a focus on a SW 98th Street pedestrian-oriented corridor that connects with King County Housing Authority's 900-1100 unit Hope VI project and its extensive pedestrian trail system.
 - Rehabilitation of existing multifamily housing within walking distance of downtown White Center.
- The business plan sets goals for affordable housing production at 30 to 80% of Area Median Income:
 - 40 units of affordable housing owned by 2007
 - 60 additional units of affordable housing pipelined by 2007