



Holy Cross Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Established in 1981

Holy Cross Neighborhood Association – P.O. BOX 3417 New Orleans, LA 70177
 Website: www.helpohlycross.org Email: sustainthe9@gmail.com

News from the Lower Ninth Ward Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development



A Project of Holy Cross Neighborhood Association

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday 10AM-4PM
 Physical Location: 5130 Chartres Street, New Orleans, LA 70117 Back of Greater Little Zion M.B.C.

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ANNUAL REPORT/CSED

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Continuing presence and exceptional performance of office manager and program coordinator, providing community access to resources, enabling full civic engagement, working programs and projects and promoting the sustainable restoration of the Lower Ninth Ward. The office is open to the community minimum 32 hours per week.
- More than 1,500 volunteers identified, oriented and deployed for CSED operations and initiatives including newsletter, outreach, recruitment, sustainable rebuilding, training, green building, sampling, analysis and assessment.
- Financial payment, documentation and reporting system fully operational and functioning producing simple, understandable financial reports
- Storage and distribution system operating and fully functional to allocate sustainable materials to Lower Ninth Ward residents
- Proposals for funding submitted to a variety of sources
- Ongoing research into community banking, savings plans, alternative arrangements for bulk purchasing, retail for the Lower 9th Ward.
- Many contacts with key funders and technical advisors for wetlands restoration, sustainable building materials, green building, development
- Establishment, operation of fully functional revolving fund to joint purchase sustainable building materials
- Ongoing development of proposals for funding aspects of wetlands restoration, sustainable building materials, green building, planning and development

ANNUAL REPORT/CSED CON'T

Sustainable, resilient rebuilding

- Facilitated installation of radiant barrier insulation in 72 homes.
- Recruited and deployed more than 500 volunteers to assist in installation of sustainable building materials and upgrade of Holy Cross and Lower 9th Ward homes.
- Ongoing collaboration with government towards restoration of Lower Nine.
- Ongoing support and developing alternative assistance strategies for elderly and disabled homeowners within the historic district
- Facilitation, troubleshooting for State Historic Preservation Grant Applicants
- Facilitation, troubleshooting for "This Old House Project"
- Ongoing support, community and neighborhood participation in design/build, recruitment, permitting, advocacy for Global Green Project including a community workshop.
- Ongoing collaboration, support, workshops with sustainable architects, technologies and Lower 9th Ward community based organizations for the Make It Right Initiative.
- Ongoing work on communal alternative technology initiatives including solar, alternative sewer systems, geothermal, and gasification
- "Sister city/community" collaborations and assessments with Cairo Illinois, the Carrollton neighborhood and Raceland, Louisiana.
- Ongoing collaboration with Parks and Parkways, additional earth friendly ngos, academic institutions to "retire" and landscape Holy Cross and Lower Ninth Ward
- Ongoing Collaboration with Episcopal church, local architects, community to establish day care/social services/health services at Walgreen's
- Ongoing Collaboration with "The L9 Village" to upgrade the building, establish family, community and retail center
- Facilitated completion of platform at Bayou Bienvenue triangle
- Ongoing strategic community planning and advocacy towards restoration of Bayou Bienvenue.
- Development and preliminary implementation of economic development, community and "progress tours" around Bayou restoration including series of canoe trips.
- Ongoing professional analysis of New Orleans section Bayou Bienvenue
- Planning, preparation of papers regarding Lower Ninth Ward sustainability campaign in context of international human rights struggles.
- Continuing connections with governmental leaders (inside and outside Louisiana) responsible for Louisiana recovery
- Ongoing Facilitation of renewal of city funded care for Delery St. playground
- Implementation of Emerging Green Builders 2-week event
- Workshops on Energy Efficiency/Green Building/Historic Preservation
- Completion of planning for site-specific Energy Efficiency/solar consultants
- Ongoing Planning for the Holy Cross School Site
- Recruiting responsible, sustainable development to the community.
- Contacting, recruiting suppliers of sustainable rebuilding materials
- Provided access to "quality of life" sustaining resources for Lower 9th Ward residents
- Ongoing development of "green market" in Lower 9
- Ongoing support of Rebuilding Together, Operation Comeback efforts
- Facilitated installation of 10 solar panels in 9 homes and 1 the NENA community center
- Keeping Lower 9 in the limelight

Civic Engagement

1. Ongoing collaboration, support with Lower 9 community-based organizations
2. Planning, documentation and participation Corps' meetings, workshops on environmental protection near the IHNC, closure of the MRGO, and Orleans parish hurricane protection. Publication of economic study.
3. Planning, documentation & Actions around the Florida Avenue Bridge Project/
4. Ongoing engagement state representatives to reassess and realign on water-related projects
5. Ongoing work with Corps Reform Network, Tulane Environmental Law Clinic, Gulf Restoration Network
6. Ongoing development of campaigns for presentation to the community for Carbon and Climate Neutrality and Environmental Justice
7. Development and preliminary implementation of campaign for energy equity
8. Ongoing monthly newsletter
9. Collaboration, planning, support for local groups and display of WELCOME HOME-WE'RE HERE TO HELP billboard with information about resources for residents returning to Lower 9

A LETTER TO OUR GOVERNOR

Dear Governor Jindal,

As a resident of the Lower 9th Ward and Holy Cross, I'm writing this letter to inform you that we are still in need of vital services in this area. Crime in this area has started to rise and we would like very much if you would extend the stay of the National Guard in New Orleans. We feel their presence would aid the N.O.P.D in their fight against crime. We have a long list of things we need done in our area. The state funded Florida Avenue bridge project comes to mind and 358 million dollars can be used to rebuild the infrastructure of this area's Community centers, Grocery stores, Drug stores, a community outreach center for health purposes, tax breaks for businesses that relocate in this area and also, aid in the beautification of the Bayou Bienvenue project. This was once a vibrant area and we will not allow this area to die because of lack of funding. Mr. Jindal, please note the wide margin of your victory, signaling the people of Louisiana want positive change. No more corruption in state government! Please overhaul the infamous Road Home program. Also, please find a way to aid our senior citizens so they can return home and feel safe. We feel education is the key to our growth and recovery and we want the Recovery School District to be given the tools and resources to succeed.

Respectfully,

William P. Waiters

A concern citizen from Holy Cross located in the Lower 9th Ward

PLEASE JOIN US! FOR AN ANTI-CRIME AND VIOLENCE CITY WALK

- **Who:** The Holy Cross Neighborhood Association and the anti-violence organization SilenceisViolence
- **When:** Saturday, May 10th at 6:00 p.m till 7:30 p.m. Starting at Greater Little Zion M.B.C. 5130 Chartres Street. End at Mercedes's Place Bar, corner of Lizardi & Burgundy Street.
- **What:** 2.2- mile walk through the Historic Holy Cross and Lower 9th Ward neighborhoods.
- **Why:**
 1. To send a message that we are rebuilding a safe community that won't be held hostage by crime.
 2. Help launch a Neighborhood Watch Program
 3. Discuss your concerns with NOPD Fifth District and National Guard Officers and the Guardian Angels
 4. Meet Your Neighbors.
 5. Enjoy a crawfish boil at the end of the walk!

Go to www.helpholycross.org to electronically sign the petition to keep the National Guard in New Orleans while we rebuild.

DCL Provides Playground with Missing Links

The company DCL Mooring & Rigging (Dreyfus Courtney as we know it) On Poland Avenue & the Canal. Mike DiSalvo, right and James, Left.



On May 7, 2008 this company donated and delivered to us the chain and links to replace every bit of chain used in the playground. That's just about a thousand feet of chain, several thousand dollars worth. As you know this equipment has deteriorated since the flooding and is broken in many areas and has become unsafe. We have marked structures with broken chains with yellow warning tape but the kids keep removing the tape! So we need to fix this soon. Mr. DiSalvo has also offered to help us replace the tires used in the Play equipment. We are getting a plaque made to honor their generous donation.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD



Remembrance Celebration Rally April 12th



The People's Summit Workshop @ Greater Little Zion on Tuesday, April 22nd.



World Harmony Runners, Rev. G. Scie, Council & Woman Jackie Clarkson gathered @ Lower 9 Memorial Sun. May 4th. For a prayer: Warrenetta Banks & Kathy Muse of the CSED both received medals of Honor from World Harman for their work in their Lower 9th Ward

Upcoming Events

- PRC Energy Efficient Shotgun House Training – Friday, May 9th Greater Little Zion 4-5:45pm. 5130 Chartres Street.
- Look and Believe Tour in Holy Cross – Saturday May 10th, 10 am to 2pm. Welcome Tent @ 819 Forstall Street. Free to the public.
- Global Green Home in Holy Cross 500 block of Andry will officially open for Tours on Thursday, May 15th. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony begins @ noon.
- Community Town Hall Meeting, Lower 9th Ward Village, 1001 Charbonnet Street, Saturday, May 24th, 11:00 am.
- US Army Corps of Engineers Meeting – June 4th @ Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School, 1617 Caffin Avenue. Open House 6 pm. Presentation begins @ 7pm.

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(504)388-9759 cell or (504)342-2159 home.*

*Pick up your Avon books from 5422
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Earn While You Learn Green Building

LA Green Corps Training.
For ages 18 – 24. Learning

- Radiant Barrier
- Insulation
- Ductwork
- Weatherization
- Energy Auditing
- Energy Consulting

Four month training in Green Building. A stipend of \$3,000 will be paid. Call Teresa Nguyen @ (504)255-9170.



The mission of Consciously Rebuilding is to enhance the post-storm quality of life in New Orleans, Louisiana by educating and providing a platform to foster an environmentally and socially responsible community. Currently, Consciously Rebuilding is working on an “Affordable Green Transitional Housing Program” that will provide an outlet for community development, affordable housing, job creation, and social services while exercising energy conservation and efficiency. Our agenda is to create legacy work, therefore investing in our initiatives is mutually beneficial as we offer access to community relations and have the skill set for organizations to achieve their missions toward the betterment of New Orleans and the world.

Consciously Rebuilding offers non-profit services for your rebuilding needs, and has an active role as environmental consultants for the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association.

How can you help?

- Volunteer
- Partner
- Organize a new project
- Coordinate community outreach

How can we help?

- Home audits
- Personal environmental consultation
- Workshops
- Emergency Preparedness Plans
- GIS/Mapping

For more information or to request services contact:

www.ConsciouslyRebuilding.org - email: ConsciouslyRebuilding@yahoo.com - phone: 504-218-7907

Laurentine Ernst Community Garden News

The Laurentine Ernst Community Garden hosted a Tool Maintenance Workshop sponsored by the New Orleans Food and Farm Network (NOFFN) on April 19th. Garden Committee member and resident Gina Phillips holds hoe while Anne Baker of NOFFN demonstrates a tool sharpening technique.



Educating children early-on about gardening and food production is one of our goals with the Community Garden. We were thrilled to have pre-preschoolers from Nanny's Playhouse visit for an educational tour on April 18th. They touched and tasted; they planted and watered; they learned so much.

On April 24th, a small group of Lowernine.org volunteers hailing from New York City descended upon our garden, eager to help out. They helped us harvest plants and herbs for the community (we gave the food away at that evening's Holy Cross Neighborhood Association meeting). And also transplanted a few green onions to clear a bed for one of our Garden Committee members to begin planting.



Community Rebuilding Information

- **Total Community Action, Inc.**
Low income Home Energy Assistance Program call (504)324-8609 for an appointment.
- **St. Jude Community Center Furniture Bank-** Selling used Hotel Furniture at a very reasonable price. Contact Kevin – (919)345-8516.
- **New Orleans Survivor Community Meeting Every Saturday, Old Pathway Baptist Church 1910 Alabo Street, 11am – 1pm.** For more information call: (504)655-2715 or (504)655-3014.
- **ACORN (504)943-0044**
- **Rebuilding Together – Helping Senior Citizens age 62, Disable, and First Responders in Holy Cross Rebuild their Home.** Pick up an application @ CSED office.
- **Holy Cross Neighborhood Association Planning Meeting every Monday 5:30 pm Greater Little Zion Church**
- **All Congregations Together (504)304-2281**
- **Common Ground Relief (504)278-1240**
Free legal Clinic (504)717-7324
CGR Media Collective (504)583-0750
The Meg Perry Healthy Soil Project (504)913-5635
Common Wetlands (504)442-2314
- **Lowernine.org (504)278-1240**
- **Lower 9th Ward Clinic (504)309-0918**
- **Lower 9th Ward Homeowners Assn. (229)269-9017**
- **Lower 9th Ward Neighborhood Council (504)261-2768**
- **Lower 9th Ward Village (504)948-0777**
- **Lower 9th Ward NENA (504)373-6483**
- **New Life Intracoastal CDC (504)606-2603**
- **Green Light New Orleans (504)324-2429**
- **Historic District Landmarks Commission (504)658-7040**
- **Debris Removal 311**
- **Red Cross – (800)814-1477**
- **Catholic Charities (Free Exterior Painting) (504)281-7230**
General help rebuilding (504)895-5439

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**For \$10 a month you can
advertise your business
in our newsletter**

Warrenetta Banks,
Editor
warrenettab@yahoo.com

About the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association

Established in 1981, the mission of the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association is to make our community the best place in the city to live and raise a family. Elections are held on the 2nd Thursday in May. Membership dues must be current by the end of April each year or the member will not be able to vote or participate in the May election. The association meets every Thursday night from 5:30pm – 7:00pm @ The Greater Little Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 5130 Chartres Street. Annual membership dues are \$10.00 T-Shirt included.

Charles Allen, III, President
William Waiters, Vice President
Linda Novak, Recording Secretary
Evelyn Stanley, Treasurer
Pam Dashiell, Past President

**The Board of Directors 2007/2008 is
as follows:**

Antoinette Ackerson
Charles Allen
Calvin Alexander
Pam Dashiell
John Koefel
Elois Parker
Linda Novak
Rev. Gilbert Scie
Evelyn Stanley
Mary Patsy Story
William Waiters

Holy Cross Neighborhood Association Crime Committee

Mission Statement

To facilitate an alliance between Lower Ninth Ward residents, community partners and public officials that fosters a safe, just and healthy community. In spirit of activism, resiliency and compassion that characterizes our neighborhood, the crime committee is dedicated to encouraging residents and partners to participate in both crime prevention and intervention for the betterment of our diverse and historic neighborhood.

**You're invited to attend the Committee Meetings on
Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm
Greater Little Zion MBC
Jeffery Chambliss & Ariane Wiltse, Committee Organizers**

**Please report all crime to the NOPD's 5th district at:
(504)658-6050. Report Drug activity to the FBI:
(504)813-3000.**

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