



THE CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE CHANGE

www.newarkchange.org • Winter 2009

An Evening with The Center for Collaborative Change

More than 200 people took part in the festivities celebrating the launch of **The Center for Collaborative Change** on September 30th at Calçada in the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. The official launch party brought together the many partners, supporters and community members invested in the Center's collaborative change approach to revitalizing Newark. Special guest, Newark Mayor Cory Booker praised the Center: "The mission of this grassroots organization will help us prioritize the city's most critical needs according to the people that know it best – our residents. Person by person, brick by brick, we are resiliently working towards making Newark a safer, stronger, prouder city." Capped off by performances by the Honorable Julien Neals (Newark's Corporation Counsel) and his jazz ensemble, the Integrity House Choir,



and students of the American Dance Theater, the evening was a smashing success. We are grateful for the dedication and commitment of so many who support the Center's mission and work and look forward to sustaining these partnerships through the new year and beyond.



Looking Back and Looking Forward...

We are midway through a year-long, citywide needs assessment compiling input from people living and working throughout Newark to determine the city's most pervasive unmet needs, as well as

untapped resources and un-integrated efforts. We have looked very broadly at identifying Newark's critical issues that are insufficiently addressed by present resources and strategies. We interviewed 50 key civic and community

leaders, surveyed over 500 Newark residents, collected and mapped existing research and data.

During the next phase, we plan to drill down deeper into some areas that

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Looking Back and Looking Forward... *(continued)*



emerged as most critical. These will include issues related to workforce and economic development, police and community relations, and individuals' and organizations' access to information about available services. We will gather input from a broader sample of the population through open community forums, citywide surveys (block by block), and focus groups. Throughout this process, we are developing collaborative solutions through maximizing resources and talents already here in Newark and also identifying best practices with promise from other cities.

Who We Are

The Center for Collaborative Change is an innovative organization that employs a simple process to bring transformative change to the City of Newark. Because people who live and work in a community have the best insights into its challenges, for any new solution to be successfully adopted, those community members need to take part in and lead these transformative efforts. We work with community members to map and identify Newark's most pressing problems as well as untapped or underutilized resources, research policy and programmatic solutions that have worked elsewhere, and implement them in Newark in collaboration with policy-makers, local nonprofits, community leaders and others.

Thank You From the Executive Director

It is with heartfelt gratitude to so many individuals and organizations that I reflect upon 2009, the year that **The Center for Collaborative Change** grew from an inkling to a force for good! I now proudly stand at the helm of an organization that is poised to make significant change in the City of Newark, NJ, thanks to the countless individuals who have contributed their ideas, talents, services, materials, funds, advice and encouragement to the inception and development of the Center. Thank you for believing in me and in this mission.



Rachel

STAFF

Arlene Correa,
Development Director

Laurel Dumont,
Executive Director

Linda Park,
Legal Research & Policy Director

Yaminah Spotswood,
Office & Program Manager

VOLUNTEERS, INTERNS & FELLOWS (to date)

Tasha Branford	Marquise Hicks
Mary Brown	Devin Jefferson
Lora-Lynn Byfield	Dan Meyler
Camille Claudio	Caroline Nagy
Danielle Counts	Solomon Ogieva
Alison Crawford	Tracy Nelson
Mike Driscoll	Julius Richards
Lisa Helem	Kenya Scott

TRUSTEES

Mark Alexander
Richard Greenberg
Victor Herlinksky, Jr.
Celia King
Dawn McPhee
Adam Zipkin



We Welcome Your Support

Thank you for your interest in supporting **The Center for Collaborative Change**. As a new nonprofit getting started in difficult economic times, every contribution—big or small, in cash or in kind—makes a significant difference and is greatly appreciated. If you would like to learn more about the various ways you can contribute, please visit our website: www.newarkchange.org