

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

1159 W. 79th Street, Chicago, IL 60620 773.483.3696 Fax: 773.483.3692

Follow us @ www.gagdc.org / www.auburngreshamportal.org



THE VISION

2011 Fall Edition



GREATER AUBURN-GRESHAM
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Auburn Gresham Portal
News from a Chicago Smart Community

Mayor Rahm Emanuel's First 100 Days in Office



Mayor Rahm Emanuel enters the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation's (GADC) headquarters in Auburn Gresham during his first 100 days as Mayor of Chicago. Photo: Jimmy Prude

As Chicago's newest serving chief executive officer, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, reached his first 100 days in office by hiring a new police superintendent and a new schools chief. He announced new jobs to the Chicago area, reassigned 500 police officers to street beats and pledged to reassign 500 more police officers, and work with grocery chains to end food deserts in hard pressed communities.

Among these accomplishments, the Mayor has also visited the greater Auburn Gresham community a handful of times within his first hundred days. Visits included the 69th and 95th Street CTA Red Line train stops, Simeon Career Academy, Kennedy King College, St. Sabina Church, Walgreens, BJ's Market & Bakery, 7800 Block Throop Street, and the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation.

In an interview, the Mayor highlighted the importance of the beat police officer, "as the backbone of the police department," and pledged to extend the school-day an extra 90 minutes for Chicago Public School students. "We're going to have it school by school until all our children finally get the length of day and length of year that they deserve," Emanuel said on the first day of classes for the majority of Chicago Public Schools.

IN THIS ISSUE

Mayor Emanuel's First 100 Days

*79th Street Renaissance Festival
and St. Sabina Family Peace Jam*

Inaugural Educational Bike Tour

Digital Youth Summer Jobs

*The Parent Leadership in Action
Network, THE PLAN*

*Small Accessible Repairs for Seniors:
(SARFS)*

*Litter Free Zone Moving at a Record
Pace*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Autumn 2011 Senior Blues Festival
Thurgood Marshall Library
7506 South Racine
Saturday, November 5th
10 am—1 pm

South Region Super Delegate
Agency Workshop
006th District Police Station
7808 South Halsted
Wednesday, November 9th
10 am—12:30 pm

Grand Opening Family Net Center
Auburn Gresham Resource Center
1153 West 79th Street
Friday, November 11th
4 pm—7 pm

Create Your Own Website
Business Resource Center
7903 South Racine
Tuesday, November 15th
5:30 pm—8 pm

GADC/GAIA Recycle Pickup Day
Call (773) 483-3696 for more details
Tuesday, November 15th
9 am—12 pm



**6th Annual
79TH STREET RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL / FAMILY PEACE JAM**
Saturday, September 10, 2011
10am - 6pm
79th and Racine Ave

Presented by Special Service Area #32: Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation www.gaydc.org 773.483.3696 www.auburngreshamportal.org



Perfect sunny weather graced the 79th Street corridor as the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) hosted its 6th Annual Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival. New this year to the Festival was the Faith Community of Saint Sabina Church's Family Peace Jam.

The list of businesses, organizations and performers was not only top-shelf, but also numbered more than 100 at this year's Festival and Peace Jam.

Carlos Nelson, executive director of GADC, said the Festival has really grown to a point in this community's history where we may consider multiple days to accommodate the large number of attendees. There was an estimated 10,000 festival-goers at this year's event.

Some of the highlights of the day included a petting zoo, kids face painting, dental exams and cleanings, haircuts for youth, a book giveaway, food for senior citizens, a 1700 book bag giveaway and so much more. ALL FREE!!!

Farley Jack Master Funk closed the Festival with nearly an hour of non-stop house music and thanked Nelson and the GADC staff. He also gave special recognition to Fr. Michael Pflieger of St. Sabina Church and the Family Peace Jam.

There was a lot of time and effort expended to display such a showcase of talented individuals and organizations. GADC would like to recognize all of its key sponsors: 17th Aldermanic Ward, 21st Aldermanic Ward, several City of Chicago department agencies, Local Initiatives Support Corporation of Chicago (LISC/Chicago), UJAMAA Construction, The Cara Program & Cleanslate, ALDI, Beverly Bank, Chicago Children's Museum, World Sports Chicago, The University of Chicago's Urban Health Initiative, Foreman Mills, CJ & Associates and Special Service Area #32.

Another special thanks goes out to GADC's numerous volunteers and contributors including Clear Channel, Walgreens, Ty Watts Photography, Mania Organics, South Chicago Chrysler and Food 4 Less. Lastly, GADC would like to pay special recognition and congratulations to St. Sabina Church for adding their Family Peace Jam to the Festival.

See you next year September 8, 2012!



An estimated 10,000 people attended the 6th Annual Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival & St. Sabina Family Peace Jam. Photo: Ernest Sanders

Auburn Gresham STEPS-UP to Inaugural Educational Bicycling Tour

Nine community stakeholders joined forces to tour the greater Auburn Gresham community on their bicycles.

The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development (GADC) staff and friends including Illinois State University (ISU) administrators and students (from the *Summer Teacher Education Partnership for Urban Education* or



Photo: West Town Bikes

STEP-UP) along with Active Transportation Alliance and West Town Bikes, braved the cold rain one Saturday morning to tour Auburn Gresham, West Englewood and West Chatham.

An inaugural event conceived by GADC, but coordinated by ISU's *STEP-UP* intern, Heather Jones, availed 25 unique tour stops to these nine pioneers of sorts. Call GADC at (773) 483-3696 for future bicycling tour dates.

Digital Youth Summer Jobs a Huge Success

As part of its Smart Communities initiative and efforts to sustain the greater Auburn Gresham community, the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) employed local high school youth to increase their digital knowledge and capacity, while impacting their quality of life, businesses and residents too.

Twelve high school students worked at different organizations and business in Auburn Gresham and throughout the city of Chicago to learn about some aspects of technology and apply them to their skill sets.

At the end of the 10-week program, each student was rewarded with a new Apple MacBook Pro and received additional technical assistance from Blue Ocean Logic on the how-to-do's of operating their new laptop.



Pictured here are Digital Youth Summer Jobs student graduates and parents for 2011. Also included in the photo is Southwest Smart Communities Program Manager, Norma Sanders, along with Blue Ocean Logic's Rhea Steele and Brian Powers Photos: Ernest Sanders



The Parent Leadership in Action Network - aka The PLAN

The PLAN (Parent Leadership in Action Network) Program was designed to identify parents who have been through the fire raising their adolescent children. The goal was to hire them and train them for peer to peer community outreach.

The Greater Grand Crossing community hired 36 parents, who engaged other community residents in ongoing conversations around violence prevention, mental wellness and positive coping strategies to stress and trauma.

PLAN members are ambassadors in the community who 1) offer other parents information about proven "parenting techniques" related to protective factors (and community-based programs to refer their teens); 2) address issues of stigma and help-seeking; 3) and counter the shame and negative experiences that other parents of adolescents are facing.

The protective factors include:

- **Parenting Today's Teens: Adolescent "Ages and Stages"**
- **Effective Parent-Teen Communication: Intent vs. Impact**
- **Mental Wellness for Parents (Taking care of one's self and soul)**
- **Building Resilience in Our Children**
- **Support and Strength in a Crisis: Emotional First Aid**
- **Making the System Work for You**

The PLAN reached hundreds of parents during their outreach this year, and are looking forward to reaching more parents when the program begins again next year.



(Top) PLAN members participated in a conflict resolution training given by Angela Barber and Dara Griffin. Participants (L-R) include: Patricia Caldwell, Aurora Cruz, Danette Taylor, and Bianca Thompson. The training was focusing on helping build capacity by fostering leadership and collaboration of the parents of the Greater Grand Crossing area. (Bottom) Arthur Hearon and Yvonne Cherry (PLAN members) participated in the 3rd District Peace Walk from Woodlawn and South Shore into Grand Crossing. The purpose of the peace walk was to call attention to increased violence in the area and reclaim neighborhoods. Photos: (Top) Angela Barber (Bottom) Aurora Cruz



GREATER AUBURN-GRESHAM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



Auburn Gresham: Chicago's Best Kept Secret! We Dare you to tell someone!

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

GADC
1159 WEST 79TH STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60620



GADC Board Members

Board President

Deborah Moore

Neighborhood Housing Services

Vice President

James Miller

Park Boulevard Chicago

Treasurer

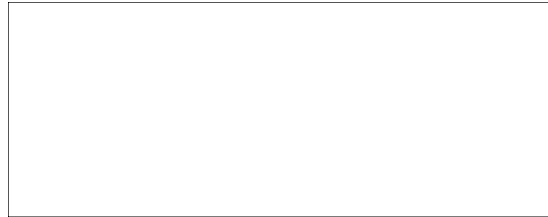
Amanda Norman

75th & Parnell Block Club

Secretary

Vacant

Deliver To Current Resident:



Byam Alexander

Synergy Force

Alberta Brooks

Resident

Kham Beard

Wahlomak Property Management

Ron Martin

The Johnsson Group

Michael Pflieger

Faith Community of
Saint Sabina Church

Willard Payton

New Birth Church of God in Christ

Betty Swanson

79th & Carpenter Block Club

Alderman Latasha Thomas

Board Advisor, 17th Ward

Carlos Nelson

Executive Director

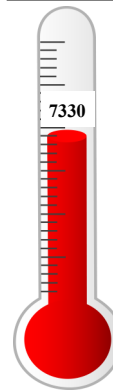


The mission of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) is to foster and promote revitalization of the greater Auburn Gresham community, which includes Auburn Gresham, Englewood, and West Chatham.

Small Accessible Repairs For Seniors (SARFS)

Small Accessible Repairs for Seniors is a FREE program for senior citizens who earn no more than 80% of the median income—adjusted for family size—and who are at least 60 years of age. Qualified recipients may be homeowners or renters living in a 1-4 unit building. The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) has partnered with Team Construction since 2003 to provide these invaluable and free minor home repairs for qualified seniors. Please call (773) 483-3696 for more details.

Litter Free Zone (LFZ) Initiative Moving at Record Pace



GADC is on record pace to collect more recyclable items this calendar year 2011. Compared to the same time in 2010, the LFZ has collected 215 more bags of recyclable materials to include bottles, cans, paper and plastics. This program is extremely important because it helps to prevent pollution, save energy, reduce landfilling and much more.

Photo: Steve Maclin: Leverette's on 79th Street.

