

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

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THE VISION



GREATER AUBURN-GRESHAM
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2011 Winter Edition

Auburn Gresham Portal
News from a Chicago Smart Community

Upcoming Events

Jan 18th | Wednesday | 4:30 pm - 6 pm
Elev8 Expo
Perspectives Middle Academy
8131 South May Street
(773) 358-6330

Jan 18th | Wednesday | 6 pm
How to Make Foreclosed Property Your Home (Free Workshop)
Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS)
449 West 79th Street
(773) 488-2004

Jan 21st - April 16th | Times Vary
Monday & Thursday | 5:30 pm - 8 pm
Saturday | 10 am - 1 pm
FREE Tax Services
Auburn Gresham Resource Room
1153 West 79th Street
(773) 483-3696

Feb 10th & 11th | 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Youth Enrichment Day (Friday)
Senior Breakfast n Blues (Saturday)
Thurgood Marshall Library
7506 South Racine Avenue
(773) 483-3696

Feb 16th | Thursday | 3 pm - 5 pm
NHS Home Owner Orientation Series
St. Leo Veterans Residence
7750 South Emerald Avenue
(773) 488-2004

Feb 29th | Wednesday | 6 pm - 8 pm
Heartland/NHS Financial Education 101 Series
Northern Trust Bank
7801 South State Street
(773) 488-2004

Mar 30th | Friday | 6:30 pm
The Ultimate Tip Off Basketball Game
Jackson Park Field House
6401 South Stony Island Avenue
(773) 483-3696

For more events, please visit our website's calendar at www.gagdc.org

Auburn Gresham Remembers Maggie Daley



Former Mayor Richard M. Daley and his wife Maggie Daley share a laugh together at community tour and celebration of After Schools Matters in the 17th Ward. Photo: Ernest Sanders

The greater Auburn Gresham community would like to pay special tribute to Mrs. Maggie Daley and her constant support of Auburn Gresham youth through After School Matters. As founder and chairperson, she helped thousands of Chicago youth develop skills applicable to their personal and professional careers.

Mrs. Daley accomplishments are extensive. She was active in Gallery 37, which educates and employs young people in the arts. She also held a paid position as president of Pathways Awareness Foundation, a nonprofit organization that aims to teach parents about disabilities affecting children. Mrs. Daley has been honored on numerous occasions for her work with Chicago youth, served on national advisory councils and received numerous awards. **Auburn Gresham will miss you Maggie!**

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“Giving” is in Auburn Gresham’s DNA

The days after the Thanksgiving holiday officially kicks off the start of the holiday shopping season. During this season, you often find people standing in long lines to buy gifts to exchange with family and friends. While an accepted pass-time, the Auburn Gresham community demonstrated many examples of "giving" with no expectations to receive a gift in return.



Perspectives Middle Academy students joined Carlos Nelson and Tenisha Jones in distributing donated canned goods. Photo: Ernest Sanders

Free Coffee and Canned Goods Distribution: An early Monday morning the staff of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) began its day by lining the intersection of 79th & Racine to distribute over 350 cups of FREE hot coffee and apple cider along with fresh pastries to include cupcakes, cookies, and brownies. Pedestrians, drivers, CTA patrons, and even bicyclists all stopped to partake this quarterly event sponsored by GADC.

New to this coffee serving day was a free canned goods distribution coordinated by Elev8 middle-schoolers at Perspectives Middle Academy. These young people took the initiative to collect over 1500 canned goods to distribute to residents of the Auburn Gresham community. Because of their desire to help, several families who may not have regular access to food items could now provide for themselves and their

families. At the nearby Saint Sabina/Catholic Charities Social Service Center, GADC staff distributed a portion of these donated canned goods to people waiting in line.

Gift Baskets: At the start of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Elev8 program with support from GADC also donated six food gift baskets to include turkeys and other non-perishable items for Perspectives Middle Academy families in need. These families could now start their holiday season with a great meal.

Operation Hope 2011: More than 2050 Auburn Gresham community members and passer-byers were treated to a free and hot southern style dinner at the Auburn Gresham eatery, BJ’s Market and Bakery. In its second year, Operation Hope is a collaboration between the Faith Community of St. Sabina, BJ’s Market and Bakery, Johnson Publishing Company (JPC), Rush University Medical Center, and WVON Radio. There were several key stakeholders including elected officials as Alderman Latasha Thomas (D-17), Auburn Gresham native and Chicago Transit Board Chairperson, Terry Peterson, State Senator Jacqueline Collins (D-16), Linda Johnson-Rice (Chairman) and Desiree Rogers (CEO) of JPC, Jean-Claude Brizard, CEO for Chicago Public Schools, and Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

This day would not be possible if BJ’s co-owners John and Hank Myers did not recognize the importance of giving back to the community. The event offered Christmas melodies, gospel selections, and a warm reception by many volunteers. One gentleman was so filled with the holiday cheer, he danced solo to some of the musical selections.



“That was delicious. All gone!” exclaimed two hungry participants in Operation Hope 2011. Photo: Ernest Sanders

Turkey Giveaway: To conclude this week of giving, the Faith Community of St. Sabina Church gave away over 800 turkeys to community residents on a brisk Saturday morning.

"Giving" is in Auburn Gresham's DNA cont'd



Freelance reporter Bill Healy (L) instructs Justin Irving how to use a very complex digital camera at a press conference in Auburn Gresham with Mayor Rahm Emanuel. Photo: Ernest Sanders

Auburn Gresham Series on National Public Radio

(WBEZ): The Auburn Gresham community was featured on National Public Radio (WBEZ) through five unique and very different accounts of this community's richness.

Reported, photographed, and produced by a freelance reporter, Bill Healy, five Auburn Gresham residents and business owners (a high school student, a fitness club owner, a House Music legend, a 20-something journalist, and an elderly disabled artist) gave of their time and shared stories about their community.

These very robust and honest conversations give the listener sense of why Auburn Gresham is the gem of Chicago's neighborhoods.

Healy's project, **Auburn Gresham, Chicago** received support from the Chicago Community Trust's Local Reporting Initiative.

Miracle on 79th Street: Hundreds of Auburn Gresham residents lined up at 79th and Ashland for some Christmas holiday cheer at the Kidz Korna's 6th Annual Holiday Giveaway.

TV mom of "That's So Raven" and "In Living Color" actress (T'Keyah Crystal Kemah) and House Music icon (Farley Jackmaster Funk) joined Delece Williams and the Kidz Korna organization in an effort to help stop the violence through the spirit of giving in their childhood neighborhood, Auburn Gresham.

Located between several gang turfs, this grassroots organization provided free and age appropriate toys, bookbags filled with educational goodies, and other important necessities as clothing. Kidz Korna's giving back to its community members remains vitally important even as they experienced organizational lost from the previous year.

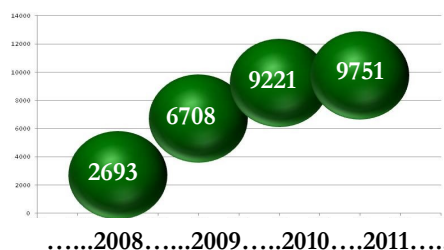


Delece Williams (L) speaks to hundreds of Auburn Gresham residents before the opening of the 6th Annual Kidz Korna's Miracle on 79th Street. Photo: Ernest Sanders

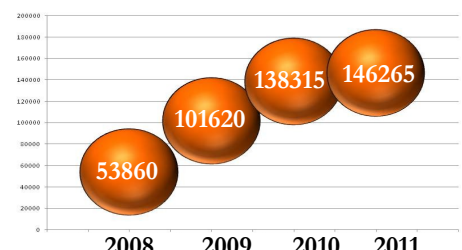
Litter Free Zone Promotes Sustainability and Awareness

The Litter Free Zone Initiative works closely with residents of the greater Auburn Gresham community to ensure that our grassroots recycling efforts offer residents a sustainable quality of life and the ability to keep their neighborhood clean.

Recyclable Bags Collected



Pounds of Recyclables Collected





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

James Drake

77th & Hermitage Block Club

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



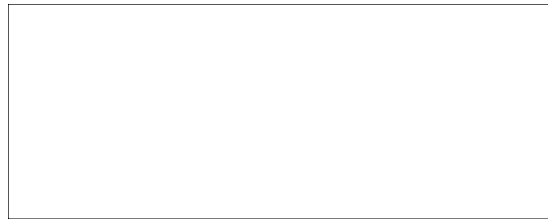
Auburn Gresham: Chicago's Best Kept Secret! We Dare you to tell someone!

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

**GADC
1159 WEST 79TH STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60620**



Deliver To Current Resident:



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.

Auburn Gresham Celebrates in Style

It was very clear that something special was going on in Auburn Gresham on Friday, 11/11/11. A red carpet was rolled out in front of the headquarters of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation and spotlights brightly illuminated into the evening sky.

unveiling of the community's new FamilyNet Center, an information fair about the Smart Communities program, and a graduation ceremony for the neighborhood's first computer training classes to earn a netbook computer, all rolled into one.



Veteran Babette Peyton gives testimony about the important of the Smart Communities Initiative to a large group. Photo: Gordon Walek

What might not have been as obvious was just how much the neighborhood had to celebrate. The Auburn Gresham Red Carpet Event II was the official

The fact that it was Veteran's Day and most of the graduates were veterans was just icing on cake. **Congrats to all of the graduates!!!**