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The DOWNTOWNER

Randy's Ramblings

By Randy Allman

Reflections...Fifteen Years and Counting...

On October 21 the LCNFC celebrated its 15 year anniversary. It was great to see old friends, many of whom played a significant role in shaping the LCNFC into what it is today. Though there were many great things about that special evening, none were more important to me than acknowledging the incredible accomplishments of a select group of individuals that have meant so much to this organization's history. Below are condensed versions of the original introductions...

Ted Marston & Mindy Lewis - Through Ted & Mindy's leadership, the LCNFC was given the resources and expertise necessary to carve out a vision for itself. On loan from Cummins, Ted & Mindy became the face of the Children, Youth and Families Initiative from which the LCNFC sprang. Ted and Mindy were kind of like the parents, and at times we (LCNFC) were the rebellious teenagers. Make no mistake however; Ted and Mindy were the right choices at the right time. We cannot say enough about their vision, leadership, patience and commitment. Hopefully, we still have Ted and Mindy's stamp of approval because they definitely have ours!

Herb & Barbara Hoover - Everyone who knows Herb & Barb love Herb & Barb! To be perfectly honest, Columbus just isn't the same without them. Herb and Barb's generosity is well chronicled. But, their contributions go way beyond monetary. They became personal friends with many of our residents, even volunteering to drive them to doctor's appointments, meetings, etc. Herb and Barb truly believed in our mission. So, when a strange little agency no one had ever heard of was trying to get residents, who for years have felt isolated and powerless, to join our efforts, Herb & Barb's involvement helped immensely in building the trust necessary to take this project to the next level! Where there was once hopelessness and despair, there was now hope and the prospects for a better and more prosperous future! I am proud to say, 15 years later, the legacy of Herb and Barb Hoover is alive and well in the Lincoln-Central Neighborhood!

Sarla Kalsi & Em Rodway - Sarla and Em for years were the eyes and ears of the funding community. So organized and so thorough, they brought out the very best in many of us. They challenged us to be fiscally responsible and nurtured our creativity. Sarla and Em had a gift for seeing the big picture and helping agencies create a more efficient way of getting to the end result. More importantly, they proudly and professionally represented a family whose generosity to our entire City can never be replicated, replaced or forgotten. Nonprofits throughout the County will always be grateful to Sarla & Em for the contributions they have made to all those we serve.

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Building tomorrow's neighborhoods... TODAY!

THE DOWNTOWNER is a monthly newsletter for the Lincoln-Central Neighborhood Family Center. Our office is located at 1039 Sycamore St. See our enclosed calendar for the activities and programs that you or your family might be interested in or jump online at www.lcnfc.org. Please call the LCNFC at 379-1630 for additional information.