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# THE DOWNTOWNER

## **Randy's Ramblings...**

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### **A Revisited Rambling...**

Sometimes things which have been included in a previous Rambling are worth revisiting. I hope you find this as meaningful as I did.

*What is a neighborhood? Some might say that it is a place where we live and go to school. Others might say that it's a safe place for family and friends. Yes, others will tell you, it's the one place in the world they are trying to escape from. Neighborhoods are all these things and many more.*

*We believe that neighborhoods are an extension of our families. Everyone knows each other and they watch out for each other. It's not just a place for the rich or poor, but rather a place where folks from all walks of life call home. Plumbers, doctors, factory workers, bank presidents, welfare recipients and anyone else who strongly believe in community, family and youth.*

*It's hard to separate family from neighborhood; the two tend to go together. History has shown that when there's been a breakdown within the family unit, we have likewise witnessed deterioration within the neighborhood. On the other hand, when the family units are strong, neighborhoods are stronger. Residents take more pride in the appearance and upkeep of homes, streets, schools and especially youth. As a matter of fact, there is an old African proverb that says, "It takes an entire village to raise a child." That is how each of us at the LCNFC feel. We believe that positive youth development is the key to a safer, more promising future for all of us. Our youth are one of our greatest natural resources. They deserve to grow up in safe, healthy and prosperous neighborhoods. That's what all of us here at the LCNFC are trying to do. By strengthening our community, we will instill hope and promise into the lives of our beloved children. We need your help with this tremendous task. Please call our office so you can find out how you can help us help our children.*

The offer still stands. While we have come far—together, you and I—we still have plenty of children who could benefit from our involvement. The door is always open.

~ Randy Allman

*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](http://www.lcnfc.org). Please call the LCNFC at 379-1630 for additional information.

