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The DOWNTOWNER

Randy's Ramblings...

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Columbus—A CommUNITY

2008 will long be remembered as the year of the flood. Unfortunately, many are still reeling from the devastation the flood left behind—including a number of our own neighbors in the Lincoln-Central Neighborhood. Obviously the areas most affected in our neighborhood were on the east side near Greenbelt and the west side in the Lawton/Washington Street areas.

The LCNFC did what little it could to bring some comfort to a terrible situation. First—we visited door-to-door with gift cards. Next, the Showers of Toys helped replenish toys for the little ones who watched their toys wash away. Then, it was time for the school supply distribution. This year, many of the flood victims needed assistance as well. Staff and volunteers were also fortunate to shop with flood survivors for school clothes. Collaborating with other Columbus providers, the LCNFC has been able to reach out to neighbors in a variety of ways in order to help them through a difficult summer. None of this, however, would be possible without generous contributions from the many donors who were equally concerned about the children, youth and families impacted by the flood.

All the while, the LCNFC has continued with its regular programming. We're still here—whether it be flood-related or just routine issues any of you are facing. Even in a time of despair, it's been rewarding watching neighbors helping neighbors and the community coming together to help those whose lives were forever changed. Columbus truly is a special place. YOU help make that possible.

Though the road ahead is long with many obstacles, remember this community cares about others. Unique partnerships, caring donors, amazing churches, dedicated government employees and thoughtful citizens should help ease the fears of an uncertain future.

Now as classes have resumed and life appears a little more normal, just know that this community has not forgotten... there is still much to be done. A system is in place to continue to address all that is left to be done. If you have questions specific to this system and how it works, please call the LCNFC at 379-1630. We love hearing from you!

~ 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. Please call the LCNFC at 379-1630 for additional information.