

John Carroll University Nonprofit Administration Program
Request for Proposals
Spring/Summer 2016

March 8, 2016

AGENCY: Stockyard, Clark-Fulton and Brooklyn Centre Community Development Corporation. 3167 Fulton Road, Suite 303 Cleveland, OH 44109 (216) 961-9073

The organization facilitates the collaboration between residents, stakeholders and community partners, supporting neighborhood based initiatives that improve the quality of life for everyone in the neighborhood. Below is a list of some commonly performed duties:

- Block Clubs and Community Associations
- Community Gardens
- Green Space and Land Reutilization
- Home repair programming (information and referral), including Home Weatherization Assistance Program
- Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- Assistance and Enforcement of Building Codes
- Commercial Support
- Neighborhood Service Administration and Planning
- Quality of Life and Safety Initiatives

DEPARTMENT: Economic Development, located at the CDC office and reporting to the Director Adam Stalder

PROJECT: International Village, Cleveland's Dream Neighborhood

International Village, Cleveland's Dream Neighborhood developed around a strong community asset located at heart of the neighborhood at 3145 West 46th Street. There Cleveland has its very own Model U.N and it is home to the Thomas Jefferson International Newcomers Academy; where over 25 languages are spoken and 19 different nationalities are represented. The academy is in the middle of a community that calls itself International Village Block Club because of its history of being home to residents with diverse ethnic backgrounds. Using this wonderful place of education as an anchor we created the State's first refugee centric neighborhood model that also, revitalized an underdeveloped neighborhood simultaneously. This renovation is crucial to a neighborhood that was hit hard by the housing crisis and had yet recovered. The .5 mile geography surrounding the school has not seen a significant investment (comparable to other Cleveland neighborhoods) in decades. We discovered that the neighborhood was at a 16% vacancy rate; which makes it hard to attract economic and housing development into the neighborhood. The neighborhood is represented by three City Councilmen who have worked

with the community for over a year to strategize a complete revitalization plan combining: housing, economic development and improved access to social services. Fulfilling these areas of opportunity will benefit the entire neighborhood including those who have lived here for decades and those who are newly arriving.

We are scheduled to rehab 20 homes by the end of 2016 surrounding this school. Empty homes, once a source of blight, will be filled with families walking their children to school. Welcome Wagons to help bridge the gap of unfamiliarity for newly arrived individuals to Cleveland. We have 11 existing community gardens for families who want to grow with their neighbors here. We are focusing on more than just filling empty homes but also the vacant commercial real estate in the neighborhood as well. Opening doors with development to help families have increased employment opportunities. We are filling this once densely and even more diversely populated neighborhood with an abundance of possibilities for growth. Since its founding in 1796, Cleveland has grown to be a great city with the blending of nationalities and cultures from around the world. So our plan is far from new but it is more intentional and resourceful. We are taking lessons learned from over 220 years of diversity to strengthen one neighborhood at a time.

NEEDS:

The organization is coordinating much of the work of the Dream Neighborhood, and the demands of this project are growing quickly. The main focus would ideally be to strategize on how to best implement the Strategic Plan for Welcoming Refugees in this specific geography with community partners. This plan has already been created as a roadmap to become more welcoming was created with community input and has been adopted by the City of Cleveland. 2016 is the year of implementation and will require oversight, facilitating meetings, grant writing, policy review, strategic planning, working with multiple public and private entities to address concerns and review area of opportunities. The capstone project will require getting to know the project and plan intimately then decisively planning out the logistics to implement the plan by the end of 2016. This project will need to be completed by a student with comprehensive business knowledge and ability to work independently and provide results.

SUPPORT:

The student's role would be directly supported by the CDC in that they will provide: work and meeting space at their officeⁱ, staff available to answer questions and guidance by the director. Samantha Peddicord, Councilman Cimperman's assistant will provide additional support such as: project briefing, neighborhood and school tours, contact information, the strategic plan and access to the creators and website.

ⁱ A computer will not be provided but high-speed Wi-Fi will be if the student is able to bring a laptop.