



**B.R.E.A.D.**

*People of Faith Building Power To Do Justice*

Fall Issue

www.breadcolumbus.org

September, 2011

## ***BREAD starts new year with Listening Process***



Whether Protestant, Jewish, Catholic, Muslim, or Unitarian, we are called to “do justice”.

With the recent dedication of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington we are reminded of his words;

***“We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.***

***Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”***

Dr. King understood so well that we belong to each other. We are our brother’s keeper.

### ***BREAD’s four step process to Social Justice***

*Charity* requires the kindness and mercy of individuals who donate their time, goods, and financial support to satisfy immediate needs. *Justice*, on the other hand, requires the collective effort of many to influence and affect change for the long term. With a mission to gather people of faith to build power and “do justice”, BREAD uses a 4 step process that enables congregations across Central Ohio to achieve remarkable changes in our community.

1. **LISTEN** – the process begins in September as people gather in house meetings and town hall meetings to discuss “What keeps you up at night?” At the Annual Assembly, Monday, November 14, 2011, member congregations will vote to select the problem that BREAD will work on throughout the year.
2. **RESEARCH** – a committee is formed to define the problem in Central Ohio, explore proven solutions, and identify workable recommendations.
3. **GATHER** – we assemble a large number of people at the Nehemiah Action on the first Monday in May to secure the commitment of public officials that are capable of addressing the problem with systemic solutions.
4. **FOLLOW THROUGH** – the committee continues their work to ensure commitments are met and action is taken to bring positive change to our community.

**Stargazer Charities, Inc.  
invites you to attend their  
Annual Style Show and Luncheon**

**September 23, 2011**  
Columbus Country Club  
4821 E. Broad Street.

The event begins at 11:30am with a social and hat judging, followed by lunch at 12:30pm and the style show at 1:30pm. There will also be door prizes and a raffle.

Admittance is \$40.00 per person and checks should be sent to:  
Stargazer Charities, Carole Markle,  
1062 Hardesty Place West,  
Columbus Ohio, 43204.

**Proceeds benefit BREAD**

## Update on the Issues

On any given day, BREAD teams are working hard to build solutions for the problems, surfaced during the Listening Process, that impede justice in our community and indirectly affect us all. Their efforts result in change that improves the health of our neighborhoods and the people that live in them. Whether you have an hour or ten hours to share, your participation is welcome. Please contact the BREAD office for information on upcoming committee meetings.



### Neighborhood Blight:

With more than 7,100 vacant properties in Franklin County, an active Land Bank would keep \$2 - \$4 million dollars in the County for the rehabilitation or demolition of dangerous properties in our neighborhoods. Despite the commitment of County Treasurer Ed Leonard at the Nehemiah Action, in a follow-up meeting with BREAD representatives he gave no indication that he is working to fulfill his commitment. A delegation from BREAD (left) attended a Franklin County Board of Commissioners General Session to urge the Commissioners to support the funding of an Active Land Bank for Franklin County.

### Crime and Violence

Municipal Court Judge Paul Herbert moved quickly with the implementation of ORAS, Ohio Risk Assessment System, in June. However, there has been little progress to improve the sentencing outcomes in the Juvenile Court. BREAD leaders will attend the Juvenile Justice Community Planning Meeting on September 16 to re-focus the campaign. The committee is also exploring Restorative Justice approaches that address the needs of victims and offenders, as well as the involved community.



### Healthcare

BREAD leaders have held a series of meetings with top officials at the Ohio Department of Health to review proven ways to treat chronically ill Medicaid and uninsured patients. The model we are jointly pursuing is based on the Milwaukee Healthcare Partnership. By electronically linking Emergency Rooms across the city, they are able to perform fewer tests, deliver better follow-up care, and realize a significant savings. Another project in Camden, New Jersey saved \$700,000 per month by working intensively with 52 high frequency patients.

**BREAD Spokesperson, Kathy Foster, urges the Franklin County Commissioners to support the funding of an Active Land Bank.**

### Youth At Risk

\$115,000 will be devoted to funding the KEY Truancy Program for the 2011-2012 school year. Dr. Gene Harris committed \$75,000 from the General Fund and a Principal currently seeing the positive impact of the Key Program, pursued and received a private grant for approximately \$40,000 to ensure the KEY Program will continue at his school. The committee continues to work with Dr. Harris to eliminate the use of "out of school suspensions" for truancy.

## Calendar Of Events

- ◆ **September 12 - Listening Process Kick-off at 7 pm**  
Faith Lutheran Church, 730 Collingwood Ave, Whitehall
- ◆ **October 24 - Justice Ministry Team Assembly at 7 pm**  
Good Shepherd Baptist Church, 1555 E. Hudson Ave.
- ◆ **November 14 - ANNUAL ASSEMBLY at 7 pm**  
Rhema Christian Center, 2100 Agler Rd