A PROPOSAL & PLAN

TO OPEN A TEMPORARY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER
1305 & 1307 IRVING STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20010
202-332-1117

'00 SEP 22 P2:59

BZA
Case No. 16650
Exhibit No. 4

AUGUST 22, 2000

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16650
EXHIBIT NO.4

SUMMARY

A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A FAMILY INVESTMENT AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT 1305/1307 IRVING STREET, N.W.

A. BACKGROUND

The Southwest Church of Christ, Inc was incorporated in the District of Columbia in 1944 In 1995, a few members of from Southwest Church of Christ, Inc dba/the 13th Street Church of Christ pooled their resources to reach out to the Columbia Heights Community. Thus the development of the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group (TIDG) was born and incorporated in the District of Columbia in 1996 and is operating as a 501 (3) (C) non-profit corporation.

The leadership for the Southwest Church of Christ, Inc in conjunction with the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group has specific plans for developing and implementing a wholistic approach for bringing about improvements in the Columbia Heights community or areas within four blocks of 13th & Irving Street, N.W. and when necessary we will go beyond the Columbia Heights Community to include Ward 1 and its environs. We have been joined by a newly formed corporation, Parents Striving for Joy, Inc to address the issued confronting the Ward 1 community.(Columbia Heights Community and its environs)

Both Boards and staff consists of individuals who possess diverse professional backgrounds including accounting, business management, media and public relations, speech-language pathology, and social work. The groups are committed to dealing with the issues of abandoned housing, homelessness, low rate of homeownership, high unemployment, dysfunctional families, crime, and lack of educational resources for the youth. SWCC & TIDG has joined partnership with a newly formed organization "Parents Striving for Joy, who represents the Columbia Heights Village Apartments, who are predominently section 8 subsidized. This community of 406 families, consisting of more than 835 residents, 700 being children. This community is located in the Columbia Heights Neighborhood of northwest D.C.

The focus of our attention will be on the critical needs of the Whole Individual and the Whole Community, rather than rehabilitation just housing units, even when such housing is critically needed. **This focus is a movement beyond Charity.**

"The primary mission of these three organizations is to promote spiritual, economic, human, social, and educational development in addition to advocating home ownership"

B. MISSION AND GOALS for the Partnership/Joint Venture

1. **The primary missions of the Southwest Church of Christ,** for this project is:

- To provide **the facilities to house a Family Investment and Youth Development Program**
- To provide **spiritual,** social and psychological support to individuals and families:
- To provide crisis intervention to individuals and families within the Center.
- Professional, Prevention and Invervention Pastoral Counseling

2. **The mission of the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group**:

The primary objective of TIDG is the acquisition, rehabilitation and sale of low to moderate-income housing and commerical property in the Columbia Heights Community and it environs.

Currently participating in a program to rehabilitate and sell 10 single homes in joint venture with Hope Housing, Inc

- To facilitate the purchase of the computer systems & hardware to open the high tech training and development program. (From no tech to high tech)

- To manage the complex where the Family Investment & Youth Development Center, will be located.
- To operate manage the High Tech Computer Training and Development Institute

- Health Information, etc.

3. The mission of Parents Striving for Joy, Inc.

Vision: All members of the Columbia Heights Village community reach their potential and achieve their goals as individuals, family members, and members of the community. We envision a community that is active, peaceful, creative, well-informed and mutually supportive

Mission: To work with residents, local organizations, and other partners to enpower residents so that they improve the quality of life for individuals, families and the quality of life in the community.

The Partents Striving for Joy, Inc youth service programs will initially consist of the following to be housed at 1305/1307 Irving Streets, N.W.(See attachments for description of these services)

(a) Early Childhood Development Program (ages 2-5)

(b) Children's After-School and Summer Program (ages 6-12)

(c) Youth Program (teenagers) (ages 13 -18)

C. Brief Description of the Issues Confronting the Community

The Board of Directors for SWCC & TIDG has identified the following circumstances that has negatively impacted the Columbia Heights community:

a. The disappearance of jobs, which had offered the most promising career paths for many inner city residents,

b. The effects of fair housing laws enabled middle income African-Americans to move to the suburbs, leaving behind youth deprived of role models, exposure to the world of work and linkages to social institutions and friendship networks.

c. A fundamental new approach to community building must be applied in our community, thus a trend toward non-profit organizations must take the lead in rebuilding the community, such as faith communities and non-profit organizations reaching out to link inter-city neighborhoods to metropolitan opportunities and resources.

d. The new approach must be asset-based rather than problem based: Our efforts will identify assets upon which the community can build, ranging from the skills and entrepreneurial ideas of residents and the strengths of locals associations, institutions and local churches.

e. The Partnership Group will develop a comprehensive strategy that cuts across and set priorities among opportunities, such as spiritual development, social services, crime prevention, education, job creation and Housing which is traditionally separated under the old paradigm.

D. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Board of Trustees for:

1. Southwest Church of Christ, Inc & the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group, Inc.

- Chairperson of the Board
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Trustees from both SWCC and TIDG.

2 Initial Staff for the Family Investment & Development Center

- Executive Director for the Family Investment & Youth Development Center
- Business Manager (PT)
- (2) Licensed Social Workers and Counselors
- (2) Mental Health Professional
- (2) Communnity Outreach Workers/Youth Director
- Secretary

3. Parents Striving for Joy, Inc.

- President
- Chief Executive Officer
- Secretary
- Treasurer

E. SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL

The Southwest Church of Christ and the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group is interested in the development and maintenance of the whole family within the Columbia Heights Community. through a Family Investment and Youth Development Center, in conjuction with Parents Striving for Joy, Inc.

The Family Investment & Youth Development Center will be using a **wholistic approach** by making the best of what we have and assistance from outside sources, such as foundations and governmental sources. We realize that the problems that beset this community are sometime the result of national or metropolitan wide forces that are beyond the control of our community. By going beyond the community, The partnership will not have to struggle in isolation or proceed without linkages or help from the outside.

The Thirteenth- Irving Development Group's housing development component and its human and social service component will implement a comprehensive strategy that cuts across and set priorities among opportunities, such as social services, crisis intervention, crime prevention, education, job creation, youth support services dealing with educational growth and Housing all which is traditionally separated under the old paradigm.

G. Goals and Objectives

The Southwest Church of Christ, Inc in conjuction with the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group & Parents Striving for Joy, Inc will open and operate a Family Investment & Youth Decvelopment Center at 1305 & 1307 Irving Streets, N.W. housed in a 8000 square foot facility, with a conference room, meeting or class rooms, computer center, offices, a lunch room that can seat 75 people.

The Mission of the Family Investment & Youth Development Center is to assist or equip family to live in today's society. This mission will be accomplished in collaboration with the Thirteenth-Irving Developemnt Group, who is participating in rehabilitating the housing stock within the Columbia Heights Community, N.W. SWCC aim is to invest in or administer to family units, whether its single parent family, headed by a mother or father or whether mother & father with children. Out efforts will be to interact with families prior to crisis or during a family crisis. We will use a wholistic approach for supporting individuals and families, to include children and seniors.

H. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION'S MISSION

The mission of this partnership/joint venture Group mission is to assist in rebuilding the physical infrasture of the Columbia Heights Community and it senvirons, thusly improving the lives of the residents of the community. The Groups mission is to provide a number of services to the community, which range from providing affordable housing, facilitating the development of families, individuals, youth, children, high tech training and development, professional and pastoral counseling, health education, career development and resource development for the community.

3. Programs & Service components of The Family Investment & Youth Development Center (Community Service Center)

The Southwest Church of Christ, Inc will furnish the space to house the proposed Community Service Center, the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group will operate this Family Investment and Youth Development Center to be housed in this 8000 square foot office, with at least, meeting rooms, a High Tech Computer Training Program , a youth rap room for youth, offices, a computer centered health information library.

The Mission of the Columbia Heights Family Investment Center is to assist or equip family to live in today's society. This mission will be accomplished in collaboration with the Thirteenth-Irving Development Group, who is participating in rehabilitating the housing stock within the Columbia Heights Community, N.W. SWCC aim is to invest in or administer to family units, whether its single parent family, headed by a mother or father or whether mother & father with children. Out efforts will be interact with families prior to crisis or during a family crisis. We will use a holistic approach for supporting individuals and families, to include children and seniors. This goal will be accomplished through the following programs & service components

a. Youth Development & Services

- After School Program for Children
-

After School Program-will provide tutorial services and home work assistance to youths in the community.

- Mentoring
- College Funding Assistance
- Ex-Offenders Program (Support)
- Field Trips
- College Preparation

- Home Work Assistance Program:

During the day, the church will sponsor a Home Work Assistance Program/tutoring program. This After School Tutorial Program-will provide tutorial services and home work assistance to youths primary from the Columbia Heights Village community and its environs. (Ward 1) During their study period, the church will provide light snacks for the children participating in this program. Our tutoring program is designed to help our youth perform at the highest level possible scholastically. Its main goal is to identify and help students who are strugling and being left behind by the education system. It is also designed to instill in each participating student that God has given all of us talents and they are expected to do their best with these talents.

ollege or University Bound Counseling and Assistance Program to prepare students to enter college, by offering preparation of application, selections of appropriate college, financial aid, such as grants, loans and scholarships.

b. Career Development Program:

- In conjunction with the Department of Employment Services, the center plan to provide Employment Counseling & Career Development- this involves setting up a job bank, job development services, job or career counseling, job readiness workshops and job retention counseling, this will involve setting up a national job opportunity information data bank.

This will involve making appropriate referral to various D.C. agencies to provide the specialized needs of the residents participating in our program.

- .Job Counseling/Job Preparation
- Job Search, etc
- Employment Assistance
- Training & Development

c. Office for Professional & Pastoral Counseling Services

- Social & Psychological Counseling

Psychological Support & Pastoral Counseling- provide counseling and referral to assist residents to handle problems or crisis brought on by sudden disruptions of their daily lives, such as loss of jobs, housing or other emergency situations. This service will include drug or alcohol counseling, domestic abuse counseling and other crisis intervention services

- Housing Counseling

Home Ownership Counseling-provide counseling to help homebuyers to qualify to purchase a home. Budgeting, Finance & Stewardship Seminars/workshops- provide counseling to residents to manage their finances, budgeting, credit repair or gain information on arranging mortgage loans, etc.

- Crisis Intervention: The purpose of this program is to provide immediate assistants to youth and adults, whose lives have been disrupted by a crisis in the family, either a adults or child.

- Parenting Skill Development

Parenting Classess- provide counseling to young parents on the proper methods and techniques of child rearing, discipline of children, family budgeting, interpersonal relationship between husband, wife and children. This will involve using successful adults who have experienced the joy of child rearing.

- Self-Esteem Training

d. A High-Technology Training & Development. SWCC & TIDG will develop a High Technology Training and Development Program. The center will consist of approximately 20 Computers, with the state of the art software and telecommunication technology. The center will provide training and development in the following areas:

- Computer Operations;
- Computer Repair;
- Computer Programming;
- System Engineering;
- Modeling and Simulation;
- Internet Services;
- Intranet Solutions;
- Network Development and Solutions;
- Equipment and Maintenance;
- LAN/WW Administration, etc.

e. Urban Wellness & Fitness Program

Family Recreational Programs-provide specialized recreational program or activities to senior citizens and youth, in such areas as:.

- Exercise & Aerobics
- Nutrition for Homeliness and Its Impact on their Health
- Physical fitness training and hypertension
- Stress Management
- Weight Control, etc.

e. Office for The Columbia Heights Sport's Club for Youth

The Office will develop and coordinate the development of activities in the following areas:

- Tennis Club
- Football
- Basketball
- Volley Ball
- Soccer leagues
- Skating Groups
- Ping-Pong Tournaments, etc.

f. Family Entertainment/Social Gatherings

- Bingo/Chess/Checkers
- Backgammon
- Playing Cards Tournament
- Talent Contests

g. Arts and Crafts Training

This Program-provide socialization services for senior citizens and youth to include exercise sessions, discussions, arts and crafts and field trips when appropriate.

- Photography
- Drawing, painting and sculpting
- Sewing,
- knitting

h. **A Community Health Information Library** - The Center will distribute various types of Health information to customers. Some of the materials will be handouts, and others will be sold to the public. The Center will conduct regular information workshops and seminars geared specifically toward the health condition of the residents of Ward 1 and the Columbia Heights Community. These workships and seminars, and session ;will deal with hypertension, (high blood pressure) Diabeties, High Cholosterol, Obesity, heart diseases, AIDS, etc. This information will be given out through pamphlets, books, magazines, and health research and will provide the state of the art health information on-line. This will be computer centered health information library primary for residents of the community.