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MEMPHIS NEIGHBORHOODS WIN FEDERAL GRANT

BNCP grant will enhance ongoing local efforts in Frayser and Binghampton

The Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance announced today that the Greater Memphis Partnership, led by Community LIFT, will receive a \$225,000 federal planning grant for Frayser and Binghampton.

The Building Neighborhood Capacity Program (BNCP) grant will allow the neighborhoods to design and begin pursuing results-driven, sustainable revitalization plans.

"We are thrilled for the Binghampton and Frayser residents, stakeholders, community-based organizations, and the City of Memphis," said Eric Robertson, President of Community LIFT. "BNCP provides an exciting opportunity for us work with and learn from national organizations that have experience in proven best practices that truly builds the capacity of neighborhoods."

BNCP, a core component of the White House Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative, is designed to help low-income neighborhoods build the infrastructure and resources needed to ensure families experience better results around education, employment, safety, housing, and other key areas. Funded through an interagency agreement among the Departments of Justice, Education, and Housing and Urban Development, BNCP will provide intensive training and technical assistance to the community organizations over a period of at least 20 months.

Both the Mayor's Innovation Team and the Memphis Police Department's COP initiative are already focusing resources on Frayser and Binghampton.

“The BNCP grant joins a continuing tradition of collaboration and partnership between Memphis, the federal government, and other entities,” said Mayor A C Wharton, Jr. “We must all work together if we are to turn the tide of intergenerational poverty in our city and restore economic vitality to our distressed neighborhoods. In particular, I would like to thank the local foundation community for their support in this effort.”

The Greater Memphis Partnership is comprised of Community LIFT, the Assisi Foundation, Binghamton Development Corporation, the Community Development Council, the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, the Frayser Community Development Corporation, the City of Memphis Division of Housing and Community Development, Hyde Family Foundation, the Mayor’s Innovation Team, Memphis City Schools, the Memphis Police Department, the Memphis-Shelby County Crime Commission, Memphis Regional Design Center, the City of Memphis Division of Public Services, the City of Memphis Division of Parks and Neighborhoods, United Way, and the Rangeline Community Development Corporation.

Tony West, Acting Associate Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice, announced the grant awards today at the 2012 United Neighborhood Centers of America’s Neighborhood Revitalization Conference in Washington, D.C. Neighborhoods in Flint, Michigan; Fresno, California; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, also received grant funding.

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