

# Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Families



HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS, HEALTHY FAMILIES NEWSLETTER / FEBRUARY 2010 / VOLUME 1; NUMBER 1

 Housing

 Safety

## Healthy Homes Gaining Momentum

The HNHF Healthy Homes housing initiative is currently renovating three homes and anticipates three more in March. These properties are currently under construction: 799 Heyl Avenue, 815 Heyl Avenue and 762 Carpenter Street. All three homes are located within walking distance of the new Livingston Avenue Elementary School as well as Nationwide Children's Hospital. Moving forward, the focus continues to be on providing healthy and efficient homes.

Buyers will be excited to see features like tank-less water heaters, solar tubes, energy-efficient windows and furnaces, recyclable carpet and universal design features for handicap accessibility. As an added bonus, all homes will have a 10-year partial tax abatement that will significantly reduce annual property taxes. Also, modern design features, such as security systems,

open floor plans, multiple bathrooms and larger closets with ample storage space are being incorporated whenever possible.

Please drive by and check out the progress! For more information on HNHF Healthy Homes, contact Robert Williams, project director, at [Robert.Williams@NationwideChildrens.org](mailto:Robert.Williams@NationwideChildrens.org).



815 Heyl Avenue

 Health and Wellness

 Education

## Helping Children with Weight Problems

Columbus City School nurses attended the first of three mandatory obesity programs sponsored by Nationwide Children's Hospital. The program focused on the full needs of the overweight child (mind, body and social) as well as what the school nurse can do to help kids and their families. The nurses were given homework and, working in teams, they will develop resource guides to help school staff link kids and families with services in their neighborhood as needed.



## Happy Healthy Preschoolers

The FREE Happy Healthy Preschoolers (HHP) program sponsored by Nationwide Children's Hospital (through a grant from the United Way of Central Ohio) educates parents/caregivers of children ages 1 to 6 about the importance of eating breakfast everyday, choosing healthy drinks and snacks, decreasing screen time, the power of play and having dinner as a family. These sessions, taught by community volunteers, bring parents together to learn and share. Stowe Baptist Center will be the first Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Families area organization to hold the program in 2010. Call (614) 722-3502 to find out about the upcoming workshop or to arrange for a program at your location.



HNHF is focused on creating tangible outcomes through a broad-based effort that is responsive to the needs and desires of the community. It will build on existing efforts by targeting neighborhoods in the area around the new Livingston Avenue Elementary School, Nationwide Children's Hospital and current South Side housing improvement efforts. HNHF is based on five components: affordable housing; education; health and wellness; safe and accessible neighborhoods; and workforce and economic development.



 **Health and Wellness**

 **Education**

 **Workforce Development**

## New Stowe Baptist Center Opening

The Stowe Baptist Center is completing renovation of its new location, 888 Parsons Avenue, with hopes of completing work by the third week of February. Stowe is a vital ministry providing for the spiritual, educational and physical needs of those who live in the South Side of Columbus. The Metro Columbus Baptist Association, under the leadership of Michael and Janet Brooks, operates the Stowe Center which offers an extensive list of programs that serve a variety of needs. Each month, Stowe's soup kitchen and food pantry provide over 9,000 freshly-prepared meals to anyone in need. The dental and vision clinics have over a dozen doctors volunteering their time to treat patients in need of these specialized medical services.

Additionally, Stowe offers several educational programs, including tutoring assistance on Monday evenings. Stowe's Christian Women's Job Corp. provides job education training for those seeking employment. Recreation and worship programs for children of all ages are offered. On Sunday mornings, all neighbors are encouraged and welcomed to attend worship services. With its new location, Stowe Baptist Center and its dedicated leadership will continue to serve as a valued community partner. For additional information, please call (614) 443-1120 or (614) 445-8400.

 **Health and Wellness**

## Charitable Pharmacy

After years of planning, central Ohio's first-ever charitable pharmacy is opening. Soon, the Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio, Inc., a partner in the Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families initiative, expects doors to open in mid-February, initially operating two to three days per week for 15 hours. Eventually, the pharmacy

plans to be open three days a week, eight hours each day. Livingston Avenue United Methodist Church will house the pharmacy, which will serve low-income, uninsured and underinsured Franklin County residents who cannot afford generic medicines or who are in need of name-brand medicines that have no alternative generic available.

Over a three-year time span, Access HealthColumbus conducted a study on access to pharmaceuticals in the central Ohio area. The study revealed scattered charitable programs, exhaustive paperwork and, more importantly, large numbers

of people who are in need of medicines and are not being reached. The Charitable Pharmacy serves as a last resort to patients needing to fill prescriptions. The pharmacy will obtain the medicines distributed from a variety of sources, including donations from drug companies and inexpensive generics the pharmacy purchases. The pharmacist and Executive Director Allan Zaenger will have two professional staff and many volunteers to assist in the opening, which is set to begin slowly. Mr. Zaenger hopes to fill 50 prescriptions per week.

**The new pharmacy will be housed in the Livingston Avenue United Methodist Church.**

## H1N1 Clinic

On January 16, Nationwide Children's Hospital hosted a free H1N1 Vaccine Clinic for children and families who reside in the 43205 and 43206 zip codes. The clinic administered vaccinations by appointment, which allowed the program to run smoothly and eliminated wait-times. Nationwide Children's reached out to all civic and area commissions in the Good Neighbor Agreement, neighborhood schools, social service agencies, churches, libraries and local businesses to encourage families in the area to attend. As a result, many families in the targeted zip codes were able to take advantage of this free clinic and get vaccinated.

For more information about Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Families or the programs listed, please contact the Community Relations department of Nationwide Children's Hospital at (614) 355-0715.