



ICCF

Blueprints

INNER CITY CHRISTIAN FEDERATION

2010 No. 2

Volunteers Are at the Heart of Our Ministry

On April 20 ICCF held a volunteer appreciation event in the assembly hall. Everyone who volunteered their time in 2009 was invited for dessert, an awards ceremony, and entertainment by the Calvin College Improv Team. Small gifts awaited each volunteer. Special recognition was given to several individuals and groups.

Nathan Meyers was recognized for 200 hours of service in the Housing and Family Services division where he entered data, profiles, and case notes into our custom database for counselors. Meyers, a senior physics major at Calvin College, plans to attend seminary this fall for the purpose of being a church planter. Sue Ortiz reported, "Without Nathan we would have to spend a lot more Saturdays and evenings working to catch up."

Fairway Christian Reformed Church was recognized for their involvement at Family Haven over the past three years. They adopted apartment #2 and did an extensive remodel of it last summer. Currently they are committed to raising funds for replacing all the mattresses in the five apartments at the Haven. Deb Balk accepted the award on behalf of the church.

KESO (Knollcrest East Serving Others) was recognized for the group's faithful ministry to the children residing at Family Haven for the past five years. These Calvin College students who live at Knollcrest East apartments spend one evening a week with the children, helping them with homework, playing games, serving snacks, and simply being friends to them. Deb Armstrong asserted, "Each year it is a new bunch of KESO kids, but the same serving spirit." Andrea Timmermans, the college staff coordinator of KESO, accepted the award for the group.

Chris Overvoorde and Phil Schaafsma were recognized for their work as co-chairs of the ICCF art committee. They committed



volunteer recognition event

their professional gifts and time to the organization and hanging of the Kurelek paintings and the fabric art exhibits. They are using their connections in the art community to explore options for further exhibits. We are grateful for their expertise and generous spirits. Chris accepted both his award and Phil's award because Phil was unable to attend.

[continued on page 2](#)



Cindy Dreyer giving the award for Fairway church to Deb Balk, who was representing the church.

IN THIS ISSUE

Jonathan Bradford on God's Maps

New John Swanson Exhibit Coming

Praise from Clients and Partners for HFS Counselors

Name Your Own Price oil change fundraiser

Jenison Christian students serve ICCF

Jenison Christian School has a wonderful tradition of sending students out on service projects every spring. ICCF is blessed to benefit from a group of the students for three days. This spring the planned projects were hampered somewhat by rainy weather. Still, they accomplished significant weeding at 920 Cherry Street in the front gardens and in the islands in the rear parking lot. (That was especially appreciated in light of a wedding scheduled the following Saturday.) In addition, they did exterior property cleanups at several rental sites and cleaned woodwork at the Carmody apartments.



Jenison Christian School students



Jonathan Bradford
President and CEO

God's Maps

“Change is the only constant,” says an old proverb. Many of the changes that come at us are minor and short-lived, having little consequence in our daily living. There are also monumental changes, the kind that are permanent and life altering; some are unwelcome and others are welcome. These are the things that keep us awake at night or wake us in the morning with the same smile with which we went to sleep the night before.

I have just experienced several of these big changes. Although none arrived as complete surprises, it was a four month run of permanent life changes. It started in September with the arrival of Miriam, our first grand child. God blessed her with good health and big, beautiful dark eyes. Wow! Then in late October came grand child number two, Anders. He too is healthy, will crack the sweetest smile, but he lives in Denver.

Just a week later came a meeting of Classis Grand Rapids East (a regional governing body in the CRC) and an exam for our son, Nate. He was approved for ordination as a minister of God's word. Grace and I were there as was little Miriam and her Mom, Aminah. Indeed it was a time of great fulfillment. But someone else was not there, even though he surely wanted to be. My Dad, Eugene, age 94 could not be there because his health was failing rapidly. I visited him and told him about the exam. His smiles and tears confirmed his thankfulness and pride that there would be another Rev. Bradford continuing in service to Christ's church.

Six weeks later came that very special worship service where Miriam was baptized and Nate was ordained. My Dad was not there either, his health had continued to decline. A month later I had the special blessing to be with my Dad as he died and did so with a stately grace because he knew he was going to see the Lord whom he served for so long.

If our lives were to be compared to very long trips, then notable life changes like these might be like leaving one road for another,

never to go back to the first. It is easy to get caught up with the scenery along the new road, but as God's people the central concern in our lives has less to do with the roads we are on than about the map we follow.

In September of 1963 I surely did not wonder why a home remodeling contractor contacted me and offered me a part time job as his helper. Why was it that all of my youth was spent in urban areas and why was it that my Dad was drawn into a leadership role in a complex racial justice issue when he served a church in Chicago? How did it happen that Nate was called to the ordained ministry and admitted to it by the very same church body that welcomed my Dad from another denomination 60 years earlier? And of course how did it happen that my Dad died 30 days to the day after his grandson was ordained?

The philosopher Soren Kierkegaard wrote, “Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.” Isn't it wonderful that God is the master map maker? He drew my map and yours long before we were ever able to wonder about or worry over the changes of life. Therein is the challenge: trusting his map.

Sometimes our road changes make sense immediately, as if signs are posted telling us what lies ahead. But more often we have no idea where a new road will take us. But this we do know: God's kingdom endures from generation to generation and his maps, his plans accomplish that. Whether I, at age 14, was hauling heavy bundles of shingles to the roof of a house, or whether I was holding my first grand child while Nate was testifying to God's leading him into the ministry, or whether I was holding my Dad's hand while God was welcoming him to heaven, all of these new roads were leading to the further building of his kingdom. God uses you and me to do his work and accomplish his purposes. They're good maps, we should trust them.

Volunteers (continued from page 1)

Greg Fieldhouse was recognized for his leadership with the Union group volunteers from Ada Bible Church. Greg is a Steelcase employee who organizes service projects for more than 40 young adults in their 20s to work at local non-profits on Saturdays. They normally volunteer on Saturday every three weeks. Greg helps with set-up and clean-up, provides lunch for the volunteers, and monitors the work closely so it is first quality. Because Greg was out of town, his award was accepted by Jeff Clark, ICCF Board President and a staff member at Ada Bible Church.

Ken Westveer was recognized for the “extra mile” award because of his several varied contributions. Formerly a building contractor and finish carpenter, Ken was the lead volunteer in constructing an ICCF house at 1156 Madison SE. More recently

he designed and built the custom wood frames for the stained-art glass on our fourth floor and also designed and constructed the lovely wood window valances in our assembly room.

ICCF is grateful for every person who volunteers their time in service to our ministry. Volunteers are at the heart of what we do, whether they serve in construction projects, help with childcare during our classes, assist with mailings, sort food and clothing donations at Family Haven, or pick up trash on our vacant lots. There are many ways to contribute as a volunteer, and our website lists some of them. If you have time to give, check out www.iccf.org/support_volunteer.htm or contact Cindy Dreyer, coordinator of volunteer services, at 336.9333 x412, cdreyer@iccf.org. You can make a difference!

Art Exhibit Update

Now that the temporary fabric exhibit has been dismantled and returned to California, most of the walls at 920 Cherry are unadorned. ICCF has a very small permanent collection and the art committee is pursuing options for future exhibits as well as for expanding the permanent collection. The group is formulating policies and practices for choosing and installing art and for making connections with ICCF's mission and programs and the families ICCF serves.

The number of visitors to the fabric exhibit increased dramatically as it came to a close. All told, 675 guests viewed the exhibit, some of whom have become ICCF donors. It was remarkable to see how many guests made three and four or more visits to view the fabric art. Barb sent this note with a contribution: "Thank you for hosting that interesting, varied textile show in your beautifully restored building. I viewed it several times and know our Woodland Weavers Guild enjoyed a marvelous evening there!"

ICCF would like to thank the following persons for their work related to the fabric exhibit: Chris Overvoorde, Phil Schaafsma, Joel Zwart, Jeanne Logan, Virginia Wieringa, Fred Conover, and AnnaMae Bush.

The next exhibit will be hung June 14. It is an exhibit of serigraphs by John August Swanson, an artist with Swedish/Mexican ancestry. (See related biography from his website.) We have a direct connection with Swanson through an ICCF Art Committee member, Larry Gerbens, and his wife. He says, "Mary and I are close friends of John and are blessed to represent him on behalf of Grand Gallery. He is shown in and represented by other galleries such as Bazaar Del Mundo in San Diego."

Swanson is an ardent Roman Catholic whose work has a strong social justice component. His print work skills were a result of his extensive study at Immaculate Heart College with Sister Corita Kent, a very popular artist in the 1960s. His serigraphs are recognizable by their minute details and brilliant colors. Each design of 250 multiple originals requires six months of production time. ICCF has in its permanent collection an original of Swanson's *The Prodigal Son*, currently on display behind the reception desk.

The Swanson exhibit will hang at ICCF through the winter holidays. In January 2011 it will be replaced by an exhibit of paintings by the West Michigan Eight, which includes Armand Merizon and Chris Overvoorde.

JOHN AUGUST SWANSON makes his home in Los Angeles, California, where he was born in 1938. He paints in oil, watercolor, acrylic, and mixed media, and is an independent printmaker of limited edition serigraphs, lithographs, and etchings.

His art reflects the strong heritage of storytelling he inherited from his Mexican mother and Swedish father. John Swanson's narrative is direct and easily understood. He addresses himself to human values, cultural roots, and his quest for self-discovery through visual images. These include Bible stories and social celebrations such as attending the circus, the concert, and the opera. He also tells of everyday existence, of city and country walks, of visits to the library, the train station or the schoolroom. All his parables optimistically embrace life and personal spiritual transformation.

John Swanson studied with Corita Kent at Immaculate Heart College. His unique style is influenced by the imagery of Islamic and medieval miniatures, Russian iconography, the color of Latin American folk art, and the tradition of Mexican muralists.

His art is in no way "naïve." It is detailed, complex, and elaborate. Unlike many contemporary artists, John Swanson works directly on all phases in producing his original prints. His serigraphs (limited-edition screen prints) have from 40 to 60 colors printed, using transparent and opaque inks creating rich and detailed imagery. For each color printed the artist must draw a stencil on Mylar film. This stencil is transferred to the silk screen for printing the color ink on the serigraph edition. The resulting



serigraph is a matrix of richly overlaid colors visually striking and technically masterful.

Mr. Swanson's art is represented in the permanent collections of many museums, including three museums of the Smithsonian Institution: The National Museum of American History, The National Museum of American Art, and The National Air and Space Museum. He is also included in the print collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Harvard University's Fogg Museum, the Tate Gallery, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. His painting *The Procession* is one of relatively few works

by contemporary artists to be selected for the Vatican Museum's Collection of Modern Religious Art.

Life magazine, December 1994, featured John Swanson's painting *Entry into the City* for the article "Who Was Jesus?" This painting was purchased for the Center of Continuing Education building at the University of Notre Dame.

In 1995 Orbis Books published *There Is a Season*, which featured Swanson's painting *Ecclesiastes*, a series of meditations in art and words on the famous passage from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Joan Chittister, O.S.B., wrote the text. This book won the Catholic Press Association's 1996 first-place award in spirituality.

John Swanson was awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters degree honoris causa from California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, California, on May 11, 1996, in recognition of his visionary achievements as a graphic artist.

Family Haven Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Family Haven officially opened on April 1, 1990, and we celebrated the 20th anniversary of that event with an Open House on April 18 at 701 Prospect SE. In the intervening 20 years Family Haven has sheltered 1,613 families, including more than 4,200 children. Invitations to the open house were extended to individuals and churches that have supported the Haven. A steady stream of guests responded, and they enjoyed punch and cake in the community room as well as a tour of the remodeled apartments.

The goal of Family Haven is to help families find permanent housing, and ICCF's Family Haven staff has maintained a record of helping 75-85 percent of families move into permanent housing when they leave the Haven. Some families are able to move into affordable rental units owned by ICCF. Family Haven collaborates with the Salvation Army and other local housing agencies in our community's Vision to End Homelessness.

Volunteers play a large role at Family Haven. Through the "Adopt an Apartment" program, volunteers commit to clean and restock apartments once a month when there is a turnover of residents. In the past two years all five of the apartments have been remodeled by volunteers.

It is interesting to note how finances have changed over 20 years. In 1990 Family Haven's operating budget was \$121,000



Deb Armstrong, Manager and Veronica Arvizu, Case Worker at Family Haven. Both Deb and Veronica serve as Housing Resource Specialists for the Vision to End Homelessness.

with 70 percent of its expenses covered by two public contracts. Today it costs approximately \$200,000 to operate the Haven, and only 20 percent of the funding comes from public contracts. The balance is required from charitable sources. Your support is crucial to our services at Family Haven.

Family Haven Apartment #4 gets kitchen redo

Deb Armstrong, manager at Family Haven, is delighted that the final kitchen make-over for the facility's five apartments was completed the first week in May. Apartment #4 was adopted by Remembrance Reformed Church this year. The women's group that cleans and restocks the apartment each month reported to a men's Bible study group that the kitchen needed new cabinets. This Bible study group had a history of doing construction projects that grew out of their study of the book of James. "Anyone who reads the book of James should be convicted to do service projects like this," one of the men said. In the past three years the group has built five or six wheelchair ramps and remodeled one bathroom for total accessibility. At Family Haven they removed old dark cabinets that were in disrepair and installed new, lighter-color cabinets plus a new Formica top, while incorporating the previous sink and cook top. The group included a father and son plus four other men— four were retired and two took time off from work to participate in the project. For all of them it was their first visit to Family Haven. Deb gave them an introduction to the work there and shared her own life testimony. "We fell in love with her. We want to take her home with us," one quipped. When asked why they participated in the project, they answered:



"It gives me a sense of purpose."

"It gives me the opportunity to meet wonderful new people."

"I've got WAY more than I deserve, and I have talents I can share."

The women's group reports, "Our work at Family Haven certainly has opened our eyes to the bigger picture of homelessness. ... Seeing how homelessness affects the family unit has been daunting, to say the least. Family Haven has been a blessing to each and every one of us. ... It helps us to think more about what others need than what we might want."

The cabinets that the men's group installed were paid for with funds raised by the church youth group. Now the women's group plans to come in and paint the walls a new, brighter color. So this project has really been a team effort by the Remembrance Reformed congregation. THANK YOU!

Praise from Clients and Partners for HFS Counselors

ICCF staff are very hard-working people with a passion for what they do. Every so often that is reflected in the testimony of a client, partner, donor, or volunteer. Recently we received two letters in the same week that underscored the impact of the staff. Permission was given to share the letters in Blueprints.

The first letter came from Sarah S., who was homeless and was directed for help to Regina Davis, a housing resource specialist on our Housing and Family Services staff. Sarah addressed the letter to ICCF/Regina Davis and wrote:

I'm writing this letter in regards to the sincerely wonderful experiences I've had with ICCF and all of the help you (Regina) have given me.

I just want to express how thankful I am that I could be a part of the great opportunities ICCF represents. I honestly have fallen on very hard times, and it is so refreshing to know that I can get help without feeling like I'm a total and utter failure. Regina, you have helped me see the bigger picture and have presented so many different ways of helping me better my situation.

In the past, the help I've had would only fix my financial problems. But ICCF has gone further and has given me many tools to get ahead and stay ahead: giving me resources to use so that I can become independent, setting goals and following up on them, providing job leads, and so much more. I feel more accountable and definitely have a better sense of self-worth. You have no idea how good it feels for once to not feel so hopeless!

Without ICCF's help, I sincerely don't know what I would do! Words can't express how very lucky I feel to be able to participate in a program that offers so much more than just a quick resolution.

I want to sincerely thank you again, Regina, for making me feel like an important person who means something. Will you please forward this letter to ICCF and let them know how glad I am that there's finally an organization that **really** helps out there?!

Sincerely,
Sarah S.

Mary Ayers leads the Financial Management Class



The second letter came from Mike S. at Chemical Bank, a funder and partner in our homeownership education program. It was addressed to Jonathan Bradford and reads:

I recently had the pleasure to co-facilitate a banking class with ICCF Financial Counselor Mary Ayers, and wanted to share my thoughts on the experience: Seven adults were in attendance, and it was clear from the start that we had an active, engaged group of students. I was very impressed with Mary's knowledge, life experience, and empathy for her students. Her level of enthusiasm and excitement for the topic at hand was contagious, and the whole group from the beginning was involved – asking questions and offering insights on personal experience. I commented to Mary that her presentation of the Debt Snowball was so clear and easy to follow that it was better than when put on by the “master” Dave Ramsey!

Mary has given these people hope for the future; their moods were positive; and it was evident she was giving them the tools to take control of their lives and make tomorrow an amazing day!

I think frankness and honesty are imperative when talking about some of the traps and scams out there, and I believe Mary shares my mission to combat and expose the garbage perpetrated on some of our less fortunate neighbors. If we can educate and illuminate our students, perhaps we can drive opportunistic predatory lenders and their ilk out of our communities!

Chemical Bank has enjoyed our relationship with ICCF, and we very much appreciate the good things your agency provides.

Sincerely,
Mike S.
Chemical Bank – Allegan MI

Blueprints

Blueprints is published by the Inner City Christian Federation to keep friends and supporters informed about ICCF's affordable housing ministries.

Newswriter: Anna Mae Bush
Copy Editor: Paul Faber
Graphic Designer: Paul Stoub
Printer: KCI

ICCF Administration Offices

920 Cherry Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Phone: (616) 336-9333
Fax: (616) 336-9323
www.iccf.org
License # MICS 3927

Mission of ICCF

In response to God's call to justice, the Inner City Christian Federation provides housing opportunities and services that encourage family responsibility and independence, thereby helping to build stable communities.

ICCF Board of Directors

Mary Angelo
*President, Roosevelt Park
Neighborhood Assoc.*

Mark Banbury
Dell, Inc.

Bill Byl
Kent County Drain Commissioner

Ronald Calsbeek
Greenwich Management Services

Jeff Clark, President
Ada Bible Church

Peter Homeyer
*Land Conservancy of
West Michigan*

Colin Kraay
Colliers International

Adam Lipscomb, Vice President
Pastor, City Life Church

Hollie Schipper
Raymond James

Bill VanderSluis
McShane and Bowie, PLC

Don Vroon, Treasurer
The Grotenhuis Group

Julie Westra
Dickinson Wright, PLLC

To receive *Blueprints*
electronically, email
mbardolph@iccf.org

Board News

Hollie J. Schipper joined the ICCF Board of Directors in March 2010. She originally learned about ICCF through Dannell Merren (formerly at Providence Mortgage) in a business networking group. She hopes to bring value to ICCF through working with the Development Team and getting more companies and individuals involved with the vision of ICCF.

"To see the work that God has done in this community, because of the many hands and hearts at ICCF, is extremely affirming to his kingdom. One of the things that I was most impressed with was It wasn't just building a house. It was creating growth, skills, opportunity, and independence. ICCF has invested in the future of our community. I see ICCF as a natural expression of my faith and beliefs. . . ."

Hollie received her bachelor's degree from Aquinas College in computer information systems. After many years as a systems programmer and database administrator she became a financial advisor with Raymond James Financial. Hollie and her husband, Kenneth Byker, have a married daughter and four grandchildren living in Spain and a son in Michigan. She enjoys many activities, but gardening and watching sunsets over Lake Michigan are at the top of the list.

The newest addition on the Board of Directors is Bill Byl, the Kent County Drain Commissioner. Actually Bill is returning to the Board after a long absence; he first served on the board 1975–1987. A short bio will appear in the next issue of *Blueprints*.



ICCF Rates High with Housing and Urban Development

The last week in April was a week of long, busy days for the Housing and Family Services staff as they prepared for their bi-annual audit with the federal office of Housing and Urban Development. Usually they know several months in advance when the audit will occur, but this year they had only one week's notice. When the agent arrived on Friday, April 30, she was impressed with the organization and information she found. She reported to Sue Ortiz, director of HFS, that her time at ICCF was the quickest, most efficient audit she had ever done and that their files were "the prettiest files she had ever seen." She thanked Sue for the HFS team's excellent work. Audits by federal, state, and local government entities are regular occurrences in our offices. They underscore our need to be thorough, transparent, and up to date with our files. Good audit reports pave the way for funding and positive relationships with public agencies. Sue complimented the exemplary efforts of her staff and volunteers: "It was a real team effort to prepare for this audit. Credit for the success belongs to everyone."

Providence Home Mortgage News

The Providence staff is pleased to report they are very busy. They closed 8 loans in April and project 10 or 11 closings in May. The total number of loans in process right now is between 30 and 40. A couple factors that have contributed to the increased business are the tax incentive for first and repeat homebuyers and the new MSHDA loan product for the purchase of foreclosed homes that have been repaired through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. This new loan product provides two mortgages: an 80-percent mortgage on which the buyer makes payments, and a 20-percent silent mortgage that requires no payments and disappears after ten years if the buyer remains in the home for ten years. The home buyer who is income and credit qualified needs to provide only 1 percent of the home's cost to get into the home. This is a rare opportunity because most mortgages today require a 3-, 5- or even 20-percent cash downpayment. Interested prospective buyers should contact Jamie or Suellen in the Providence office at 616-719-4512.



PROVIDENCE
HOME MORTGAGE, INC.

Wholly Owned Subsidiary Of The Inner City Christian Federation

Former Patient Returns

On May 13, ICCF entertained a visitor who had been a patient at Mary Free Bed Hospital and had a remarkable story to tell. Eugene Colegrove was only 4 years old when he contracted polio in 1954 and his parents brought him to the facility at 920 Cherry Street. He remembered clearly the window on the fourth floor through which he watched his parents walk to their parked car without looking back or responding to his cries. Cut off from his family, he spent the next six months in isolation in an iron lung. The medical staff told his parents that he would never walk or talk again, but his parents were both apostolic preachers, and they began an intense prayer campaign for his healing. His progress that first year earned him the title of the “miracle patient of 1955.”



Nevertheless he had a long road ahead of him. He was a patient at Mary Free Bed intermittently until he was 15 years old and underwent multiple surgeries, the first one at age 7. He claims he organized the first wheelchair race at the hospital when he was 12 years old. As he toured the building in May, his memories tumbled out, some of them pleasant and others emotionally troubling. He pointed out where wards had been, rooftops where he had played, the space that had been a therapy pool in the basement, and a spot to the left of the door in the copy room. That spot once was occupied by a fearful machine that produced boiling water for the hot pack therapy he endured three times a day, one hour at a time. He remembered sleeping on screened-in porches when it was too hot inside, and he recalled being wheeled on his gurney into the assembly hall for entertainment. The assembly room floor was

concrete for easy transportation of the portable beds and wheelchairs, and he said the room was so dark and unpleasant that the patients referred to it as “the basement.” The entertainment consisted of watching a show on the 25” black and white television that sat center stage.

Eugene recited the names of doctors (Messmore, Franze, Swanson, and Phillips) and nurses who had cared for him, and he recounted stories about them. One of his most cherished memories was the day he was able to walk out of the hospital. The doctor called his parents and told them they could come to pick him up. When he walked out of his room by himself, his father fell to the floor on his knees and wept. His favorite nurse was Gloria, and he called her his girlfriend. A few years

ago in Florida he had the pleasure of crossing her path after more than 40 years had passed.

Today Eugene Colegrove is the Executive Pastor of GracePointe Church in Comstock Park. Healing from polio was a long and arduous process. But God granted healing from the hurtful memories too. The tour of the restored building gave evidence of that healing. Eugene took several photos of current spaces to replace the images in his memory bank. He is eager to have a group from his church schedule a meeting at 920 Cherry, and he looks forward to renting the new and beautiful assembly hall for a special event.

Families First

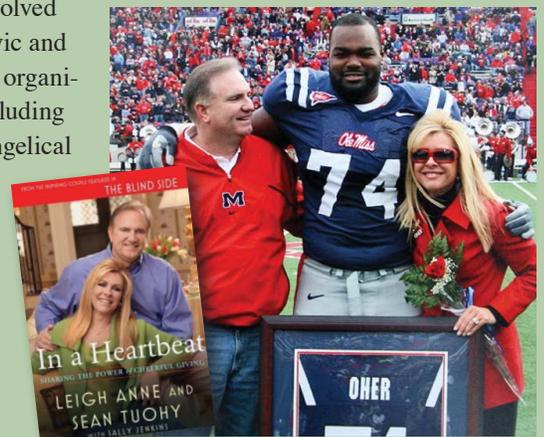
Join Families First and make monthly contributions to ICCF. Currently we have 46 donors participating and their regular gifts help stabilize our income throughout the fluctuations in giving patterns.

HCV Program Update

In our last *Blueprints* we highlighted the Housing Choice Voucher program at ICCF and explained that new vouchers could be assigned only as families left the program. But recently ICCF was given 50 new vouchers to assign to families. So our HCV staff is very busy reviewing applications for qualified families and getting them into the program. It is a complicated process with intense paperwork and exchanges with the Lansing MSHDA office. A housing assignment also involves inspections of proposed apartments and houses by our building inspector. Our staff is hopeful of assigning the new vouchers by June 30 and of leasing up the new families by September 30.

Mark Your Calendar—Oct. 19, 2010

Mark your calendar for October 19, 2010, for ICCF’s annual fall benefit event – dinner and guest speakers at DeVos Place. Coming this year are Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy whose family is portrayed in the movie *The Blind Side*. Sandra Bullock was awarded an Oscar for Best Actress in her role as Leigh Anne Tuohy, the take-charge woman who suggested that her family adopt Michael Oher. Leigh Anne and Sean Tuohy are now sharing the story in their own words. Their highly anticipated book, *In a Heartbeat: Sharing the Power of Cheerful Giving* will be published in July 2010. The Tuohy family is actively involved in many civic and faith-based organizations, including Grace Evangelical Church, of which they are founding members.



ICCF

Inner City Christian Federation

920 Cherry Street SE

Grand Rapids

MI 49506

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 313

Making places to come home to.

Change Your Oil – Change A Life

Community Auto Event #2

ICCF partner Dick Zaagman, owner of the Community Automotive Center on Fulton St. SE, has offered to host another Saturday event at his business location for the benefit of ICCF housing programs. On Saturday, June 19, his staff and suppliers will support his efforts in this fundraiser. We urge all our readers to participate as well. Here is Dick's announcement to his customers:



Change Your Oil—Change a Life An Event You Should Not Miss!

On Saturday, June 19th, we will be hosting a fund raising event for ICCF (Inner City Christian Federation). This is a prime opportunity for you to get an **oil change, vehicle maintenance inspection, and a car wash** —AND NAME YOUR OWN PRICE!!!!

ICCF has been helping low-to-moderate income families own their own homes along with many other services for over 35 years. This is a prime opportunity to receive something you need and help others in need at the same time.

Please call and schedule YOUR oil change and/or car wash appointment now! Appointments and times will be limited, drive-in customers may not be able to benefit from this great event.

Call 774-7048 today and schedule your appointment, feel great about your car, and help others in the process!

Cherry Street Garden — Summer Concert Series: A New ICCF Program



The Cherry Street business owners have evening store hours every Thursday night. This summer ICCF will build on the street traffic with a summer concert series in partnership with the Richard App Gallery west of our building and the Green Well Restaurant east of our building. App helped us secure our first guest artist, Ralston Bowles, and offered use of tables and chairs for guests who prefer not to sit on the lawn. The Green Well Restaurant will offer special boxed suppers, tickets for reduced prices on regular menu items and will contribute a percentage of sales receipts to ICCF.

This summer we have three concerts scheduled for the third Thursdays in June, July, and August, 6:30-8:30pm. Ralston Bowles will perform on June 17, Glenn Bulthuis will sing on July 15, and Creolization will entertain on August 19. Guests are invited to bring their own blankets and sit on the lawn; the concerts will be free to the public. We hope the events will bring a new audience to hear the ICCF story and will also enhance the community life in our immediate neighborhood. Watch our website for more details as they are determined.

ICCF exists because of the generosity of individuals, businesses, churches, and foundations.

There are many ways you can support ICCF's housing ministry — financial gifts, gifts of stocks, gifts of real estate, bequests, materials and time.

We are very grateful for our faithful partners and ask that you continue to help *make places for families to come home to.* **Thank you.**

phone (616) 336-9333 • fax (616) 336-9323 • website: www.iccf.org