



VICTORY IS SWEET  
BUT I'M STILL

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

LISC

Greater Cincinnati &  
Northern Kentucky



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we look forward to the coming year, we are grateful for a productive 2012 full of accomplishments, progress and momentum. In the past year, our office significantly expanded the breadth, depth and impact of our work in the region. Our partnerships are visible from the five Place Matters neighborhoods to the four Financial Opportunity Centers, from a football field in Campbell County to housing in Covington.

We are also deeply grateful to Tom Williams for his 12 years of service as Chair of our Local Advisory Committee. Tom helped guide LISC through many crucial periods in our efforts to improve the quality of life in our region's distressed neighborhoods. As Tom moves to the position of Chairman Emeritus, we thank him for his insight, energy, wisdom and good humor.

Sincerely,

Robert Killins Jr., Chair  
Local Advisory Committee

Kathy Schwab  
Executive Director



# 2012

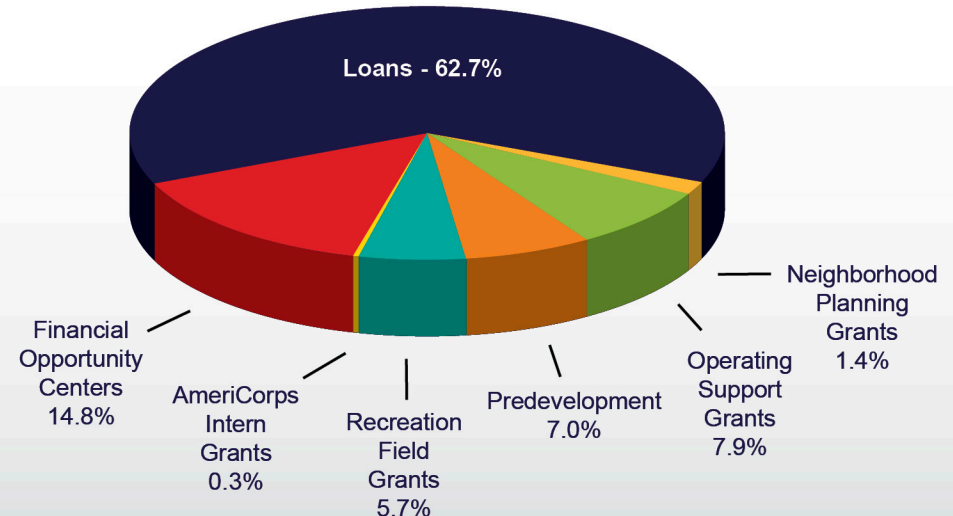
## OUR RESULTS

	In 2012	Since 2000
Total Investment	\$12,381,899	\$64,281,899
Dollars Leveraged	\$63,745,702	\$349,845,702
Homes & Apartments	216 units	2,041 units
Commercial Space	54,800 sf	881,800 sf

## OUR INVESTMENTS

Grants and loans from LISC and its affiliates totaled \$3.5 million in 2012 and covered a wide range of community needs, from technical assistance and operating support to arts, recreation and community organizing.

(Figures do not include \$8.9 million in New Markets Tax Credits.)



## ABOUT LISC

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is the nation's leading community development support organization. LISC helps resident-led, community-based development organizations transform distressed communities and neighborhoods into healthy places to live, do business, work, and raise families.

Our work begins and ends with the premise that local residents can best identify community needs and develop solutions that solve neighborhood issues. We provide individuals and communities with the capital and technical expertise they need to revitalize their neighborhood.

By engaging neighborhood residents in physical development and strengthening the capacity of local CDCs to plan and execute real estate projects, LISC empowers whole communities and gives residents a voice in shaping their local market, civic environment, and physical neighborhoods.

LISC operates in five program areas that contribute to a sustainable community:

- Stimulating economic development
- Supporting healthy environments and lifestyles
- Increasing family income and wealth
- Expanding investment in housing and real estate
- Improving access to quality education

## IN 2012 LISC:

- Assisted Madisonville with the creation of a Quality-of-Life plan, with specific goals and a plan of action.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Supported the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation's efforts to improve the community's local grocery store, which is in danger of closing.
- Continued to support small business and commercial corridor revitalization in Place Matters communities through grants, HUD Section 4 and technical assistance.
- Celebrated the opening of Washington Park, supported in part by a LISC investment of \$13.95 million of New Markets Tax Credits in 2010.



Visitors at the First Annual Cincinnati Street Food Festival in Walnut Hills

- Helped Walnut Hills hire a Safety Coordinator and develop a safety plan for the business district, with a \$62,500 grant from LISC's national Community Safety Initiative.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

- Awarded Price Hill Will its second annual \$10,000 grant for urban gardening projects.



Staff and volunteers at Gabriel's Place market in Avondale

- Provided an AmeriCorps member to Gabriel's Place, a community center that offers fresh food, classes, and outreach in Avondale.



- Invested \$8.9 million in New Markets Tax Credits for the CityLink Center, a revolutionary social services hub that contains a Financial Opportunity Center.
- Invested \$515,000 in four Financial Opportunity Centers which served nearly 1,800 people.

## FAMILY INCOME



CityLink Center in West End, funded in part by LISC New Markets Tax Credits.

- Invested over \$2.2 million in loans and recoverable grants in 147 units of vacant or foreclosed housing in the region, in part through the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).
- Secured a \$65,000 grant from Annie E. Casey Foundation for a diagnostic tool to help communities guide decisions on property acquisition, demolition, and rehabilitation.

## HOUSING DEVELOPMENT



The Elberon in Price Hill, remodeled with NSP funds, opened in 2012.

- Leveraged political support for a Hamilton County land bank with many partners, funders and the City of Cincinnati.
- Provided Building Value, a local deconstruction agency and an arm of Easter Seals, with a \$40,000 grant.
- Continued to support the NSP efforts with advocacy and policy work, access to National Community Stabilization Trust (NCST), loan funds and ongoing technical assistance.

- Supported the creation of an ArtWorks mural in Lower Price Hill with a \$3,000 AmeriCorps grant.
- Awarded a \$200,000 recreation-field grant to Campbell County schools, in partnership with the NFL Grassroots program and the Cincinnati Bengals.
- Received a national JPMorgan Chase grant for planning and implementation of programs to help improve access to quality out-of-school activities in Price Hill.

## EDUCATION & YOUTH

- Provided an AmeriCorps member to Groundwork Cincinnati - Mill Creek to link public schools with environmental resources.



Young artists in front of the Artworks mural in Lower Price Hill





Madisonville residents attending the Quality-of-Life Plan Rollout

Place Matters, which launched in 2007, uses the Building Sustainable Communities model of transformation by addressing issues of housing, economic stability, youth, health and civic engagement simultaneously. There are now five Place Matters neighborhoods, including:

- Price Hill
- Covington
- Avondale
- Walnut Hills (new in 2012)
- Madisonville (new in 2012)

Major successes in 2012 include an extensive quality-of-life planning process in Madisonville, a Community Safety Initiative grant in Walnut Hills, and the attraction of a \$29.5 million HUD Choice Neighborhoods implementation grant in Avondale. In 2013, LISC and the Place Matters funding partners will invest \$1.5 million in the communities' lead agencies and provide intensive technical assistance to help achieve neighborhood goals.

# AMERICORPS

Fourteen LISC AmeriCorps members brought new talent to the community development field in 2012. Agencies with an AmeriCorps member this year included all four FOC sites, the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati, and Groundwork Cincinnati - Mill Creek.



AmeriCorps members with LISC staff

Financial Opportunity Centers (FOCs) help families stabilize their finances and build assets through financial education, access to benefits and job skills. There are four centers in our region: Cincinnati Works downtown, the Brighton Center in northern Kentucky, Santa Maria Community Services in Price Hill, and the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati in Avondale. LISC works in partnership with United Way to help improve financial outcomes in the Greater Cincinnati area by providing funding to the FOCs.

In 2012, the network's second year of operation, more than 700 people were placed in jobs and nearly 200 people achieved employment for one year. More than 330 individuals increased their monthly net income, and 106 saw their net worth improve.

LISC received a national multi-year award for \$8.4 million from the Corporation for National and Community Service to enable us to continue funding FOCs in our region through 2015.

Visit our website to hear stories of people like Tammy Liles who have pulled themselves out of financial difficulty with the help of an FOC. Go to [bit.ly/FOCstory](http://bit.ly/FOCstory).



Tammy enrolled in the Medical Assisting program through Brighton Center.



## Funders

United Way of Greater Cincinnati  
The Greater Cincinnati Foundation  
Western & Southern Financial Fund  
PNC Foundation  
JPMorgan Chase Foundation  
Robert H. Reakirt Foundation, PNC Bank, Trustee  
SC Ministry Foundation  
The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr./U.S. Bank Foundation  
Fifth Third Bank CRA Enterprise Investment Fund  
The Thomas J. Emery Memorial  
U.S. Bancorp Foundation  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
First Financial Bank  
NFL Grassroots Program  
The Annie E. Casey Foundation  
Social Innovation Fund  
Citi

## Partners

ArtWorks  
City of Cincinnati  
City of Covington  
Community Building Institute  
CDC Association of Greater Cincinnati  
Duke Energy Foundation  
Greater Cincinnati Workforce Network  
Hamilton County Community Development  
Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati  
NeighborWorks® America  
Ohio Community Development Corporation Association  
The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati

## CDCs and Funded Agencies

3CDC  
Avondale Comprehensive Development Corporation  
Brighton Center, Inc.  
Building Value, LLC.  
Catalytic Development Funding Corp. of Northern Kentucky  
Center for Great Neighborhoods of Covington  
Cincinnati Works  
Corporation for Findlay Market  
Episcopal Community Services Foundation  
Gabriel's Place  
Greater Ohio Policy Center  
Homesteading and Urban Redevelopment Corporation  
Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati  
Lower Price Hill Community School  
Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation  
Model Group  
Over-the-Rhine Community Housing  
Price Hill Will  
Santa Maria Community Services  
The Niehoff Studio at University of Cincinnati  
Urban League of Greater Cincinnati  
Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation  
Westwood Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation  
Working In Neighborhoods

## STAFF

**Kathy Schwab**  
Executive Director

**Kristen Baker**  
Program Officer

**Patrick Duhaney**  
Program Officer

**Kate McInerney**  
Program Assistant

**Lisa Carson**  
Administrative Assistant

**Pamela Taylor**  
VISTA Member



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LISC Greater Cincinnati & Northern  
Kentucky



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## LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Robert Killins, Jr. (Chair)**  
The Greater Cincinnati  
Foundation

**Chuck Winger (Vice Chair)**  
Community volunteer

**Shiloh Turner**  
The Greater Cincinnati  
Foundation

**Terry Grundy**  
United Way of Greater Cincinnati

**Sister Sally Duffy**  
S.C. Ministry Foundation

**Cinnamon Pelly**  
JPMorgan Chase

**Eric Avner**  
The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile,  
Jr./U.S. Bank Foundation

**Lisa O'Brien**  
U.S. Bank

**Margaret Moertl**  
PNC Bank

**Michael Cervay**  
City of Cincinnati

**Larisa Sims**  
City of Covington

**Jeanne Gollither**  
Cincinnati Development Fund

**Mark Walton**  
Fifth Third Bank

**Chuck Gerhardt**  
Government Strategies

**Ann Barnum**  
The Health Foundation

**Kathryn Gibbons**  
NeighborWorks America

**Thomas Williams (Chair  
Emeritus)**  
North American Properties

(Cover photo by Sara Bedinghaus  
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