



MARTINDALE-BRIGHTWOOD: MAKING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Martindale-Brightwood Environmental Justice

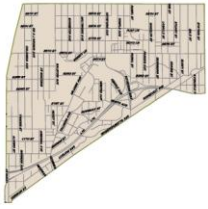
Collaborative



The Martindale Brightwood Neighborhood is.....



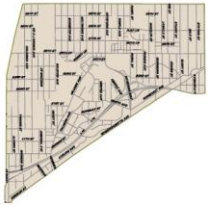
- A near north-eastside community that is home to nearly 9,000 residents
- A heavily industrial neighborhood with past and present environmental issues
- A community of strong neighborhoods, strong faith and residents committed to improvement



Strengths: Assets of MB



- Residents dedicated to building a safe environment
- Strong, stable community and faith-based organizations
- Local and state government support



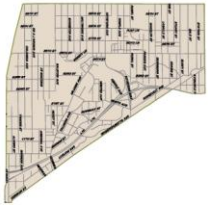
Threats: Environmental Health Issues in MB



- Illegal dumping
- Lead contamination
- Abandoned industrial sites
- Polluted sites
- Vacant houses



- Housing code violations
- Air pollution
- Brownfields
- Pests
- Environmental Tobacco Smoke

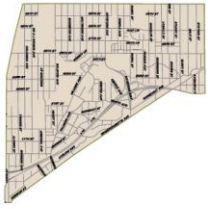


Impact on Our Residents



- Asthma and other respiratory illnesses
- Childhood lead poisoning
- Affects on mental health
- Other health effects (cancer, birth defects)
- Diminished quality of life
- Limited economic development, few jobs

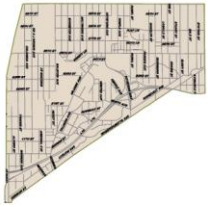




How We Got Started



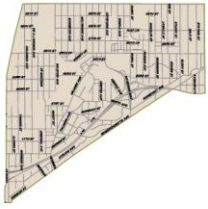
- The Martindale-Brightwood Environmental Justice Collaborative was founded in 2006
- Our Mission: To serve as champions and advocate for the residents of the Martindale-Brightwood against environmental hazards and injustice that have an impact on the health and wellness of the community



Vision of our Collaborative



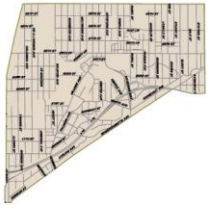
- To create a sustainable community by organizing, educating and empowering residents and community partners to strive for a safe, healthy and prosperous environment that is conducive for the spirit of change.



Action of our Collaborative



- Empower residents to change environmental conditions
- Work with local government and partners to construct a better social and environmental quality of life for the health of residents in the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood



Participants and Partners

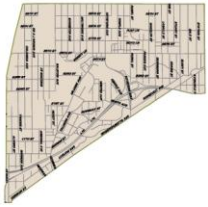


- Residents
- Community Leadership
- Business Partners
- Partners



- Martindale Brightwood Community Development Corporation
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- Marion County Health Department
- City of Indianapolis
- Improving Kids' Environment
- NAACP
- Local universities and their entities
- United Methodist Church
- Edna Martin Christian Center



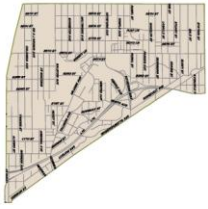


How We Work



- Leadership Committee
- Communications and Resident Engagement Committee
- Research and Policy Committee
- Monthly Share the Vision meetings open to all residents and partners

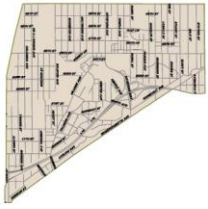




Our Accomplishments



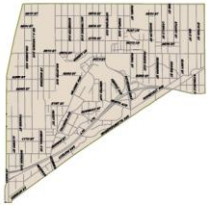
- In partnership with Improving Kids' Environment, we were awarded a \$97,840 CARE grant from the USEPA for research to determine environmental health priorities
- We were awarded a \$27,000 grant from the United Methodist Church Federation to host a statewide environmental justice conference in March 2009
- We have built relationships and established many partnerships with residents



Progress in Our Community



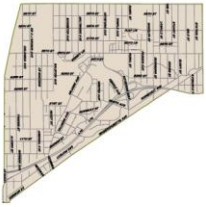
- Cleaned up lead and chemical waste in our community
- Removed contaminated soil from residents' property
- Exposed business owners with contaminants and waste hazards
- Tested residents for lead
- Educated residents about contaminants and how to dispose of them properly



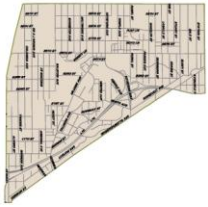
The EPA CARE program goals are to...



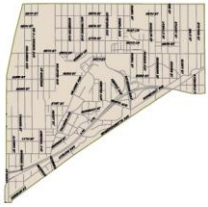
- Reduce exposures to toxic pollutants through collaborative action at the local level.
- Help communities understand all potential sources of exposure to toxic pollutants.
- Work with communities to set priorities for risk-reduction activities.
- Create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve the local environment.



- CARE offers communities an innovative way to **address the risks from multiple sources of toxic pollution in their environment.**
- CARE allows communities to **create partnerships that implement local solutions** to reduce releases of toxic pollutants and minimize people's exposure to them.
- CARE provides **access to EPA's and other voluntary programs** to address local environmental priorities and improve the environment through local action.



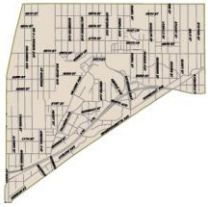
- Level 1: communities organize and create a collaborative partnership to reduce toxics in their local environment, develop a prioritized plan
- Level 2: communities take action to reduce the environmental health threats they have identified and prioritized in Level 1
- The CARE Roadmap provides a step-by-step process for communities to follow



What does the MBEJC/IKE CARE grant include?



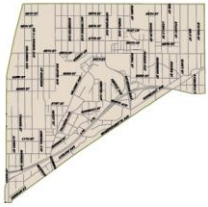
- Establishing an office for the Collaborative at the CDC
- Building capacity for constructive action into the future within the Collaborative
- Improving our ability to communicate with the community
 - Phone
 - Webpages:
 - www.ikecoalition.org/CARE/index.htm
 - Community Newsletter
 - Education for residents through community workshops



The CARE Grant Will Help Us....



- Develop processes for community decision making
- Provide opportunities for training and mentoring
 - ▣ Gathering and analyzing data
 - ▣ Project management
 - ▣ Facilitation and leadership



The CARE Grant Will Help Us....



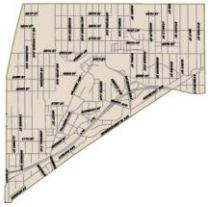
- Hire technical experts to gather and organize existing environmental information
- Get assistance from USEPA, IKE, and other experts to evaluate information, decide on community priorities
- Develop plan for next stage of grant—to actually address priorities chosen by the community to improve environmental health



A Minute on the Roadmap



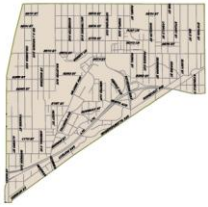
1. Build a partnership
2. Identify community concerns
3. Identify community vulnerabilities
4. Identify community assets
5. Identify concerns for immediate action
6. Collect and organize information
7. Rank risks and impacts
8. Identify potential solutions
9. Set priorities for action and begin work
10. Evaluate results and become self-sustaining



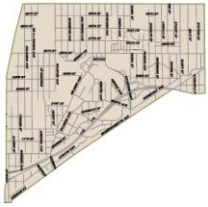
Plan of Action



- CARE Partnership will meet monthly for the next 9-12 months
 - Develop a decision-making process
 - Identify community concerns, assets and vulnerabilities
 - Learn about environmental health topics, how to evaluate risk
 - Discuss the environmental information being compiled for the community
 - Develop a plan for action (Level 2)



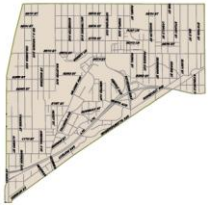
- Hold at least four community environmental health workshops on topics of interest
 - The first one will be on *May 9*—Environmental Hazards in Home
 - Future dates and topics to be determined based on community interest and need



Building the Partnership



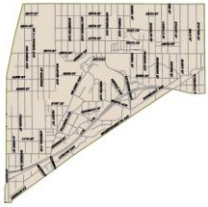
- Are you already a Partner? THANK YOU
- If not, please become one. We need residents, businesses, churches, schools and other organizations to make this successful!



What It Means to Be a Partner



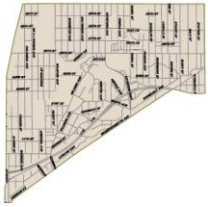
- You (or a representative) will attend the monthly CARE Partnership meetings
- You will participate in the discussions about environmental quality
- You will give your input to development of a plan to address environmental concerns in our community



Join Us.....



- Share the Vision/CARE Partnership Monthly Community Meetings
 - 3rd Thursdays, Brightwood Library, 25th and Sherman, 5:30-7:30 PM
- Resident Engagement and Communications Committee
 - 2nd Mondays, Brightwood Library, 25th and Sherman, 5:30 PM
- Research and Policy Committee
 - 1st Tuesdays, Martindale Brightwood CDC Office, 2855 N. Keystone, 1 PM



For more information:



To find out how you can help, contact:

- Elizabeth Gore, MBEJC/MBCDC
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- Janelle Williams, Communications Committee
 - janellewilliams83@yahoo.com
- Janet McCabe, IKE
 - 317-902-3610, mccabe@ikecoalition.org