



MARTINDALE-BRIGHTWOOD: MAKING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Martindale-Brightwood Environmental Justice Collaborative
Improving Kids' Environment, Inc.



Welcome and Introductions

Carmen Helms

MBEJC Chairperson



Agenda

Housekeeping

Meeting Etiquette

Julie Rhodes

CARE Facilitator



MBEJC/CARE Project Overview

Janelle Williams

Janet McCabe

MBEJC Communications Committee

Improving Kids Environment, Inc



The Care Project



In October 2008, we were awarded a \$97,840 two year Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) grant from USEPA to evaluate and prioritize environmental health issues in Martindale Brightwood and develop a plan to address the issues of greatest concern.



What is CARE?



- A USEPA grant program that helps communities understand, prioritize and address environmental health issues
- It offers communities an innovative way to address the risks from multiple sources of toxic pollution in their environment
- It allows communities to create partnerships that implement local solutions to reduce releases of toxic pollutants and minimize people's exposure to them
- It provides access to EPA's and other voluntary programs to address local environmental priorities and improve the environment through local action



Our CARE Leaders



- **The Martindale-Brightwood Environmental Justice Collaborative** advocates for the residents of the Martindale-Brightwood against environmental hazards and injustice that have an impact on the health and wellness of the community
- **Improving Kids' Environment, Inc.**, works to reduce environmental threats to children's health in Indianapolis



Our CARE Program Goals



- Help residents understand all potential sources of exposure to toxic pollutants
- Set priorities for risk-reduction activities
- Create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve the local environment
- Improve health and quality of life in MB by reducing exposure to toxic pollutants through collaborative action at the local level



How CARE Works



- **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

We are in Level 1



What Does the 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



Our Plan of Action



- The 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
 - Hold community environmental health workshops on topics of interest
 - Discuss the environmental information being compiled for the community
 - Develop a plan for action (Level 2)



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!



CARE Partners



- Residents and Community Leaders
- Business Partners
- Community Organizations, including,
 - Martindale Brightwood CDC
 - NAACP
 - Neighborhood Associations
 - Martin University
 - Edna Martin Christian Center
- Government Partners, including,
 - US Environmental Protection Agency
 - Indiana Department of Environmental Management
 - Marion County Health Department
 - City of Indianapolis



We need you!



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, 1:00 PM



Contact Us....



To find out how you can help, contact:

- Elizabeth Gore, MBEJC/MBCDC
 - 317-923-6817
- Janelle Williams, Communications Committee
 - janellewilliams83@yahoo.com
- Janet McCabe, IKE
 - 317-902-3610, mccabe@ikecoalition.org
- Julie Rhodes, CARE Facilitator
 - 317-631-2220, jrhodes4@indy.rr.com



MBEJC Committee Reports

Janelle Williams

Jeani Jones

Communications/Community
Engagement Committee

Policy & Research Committee



What does Environmental Health mean to our community?

Janelle Williams

Julie Rhodes

Communications/Community
Engagement Committee

MBEJC/CARE Facilitator



What Environmental Health Risks exist in our community?

Janelle Williams

Julie Rhodes

Communications/Community
Engagement Committee

MBEJC/CARE Facilitator



IWM Technical Team Role

Patrick Rohan

Project Manager, MBEJC Technical Consultant
IWM Consulting Group, LLC



Partnership Building

Julie Rhodes

MBEJC/CARE Facilitator



Next Meeting

Julie Rhodes

MBEJC/CARE Facilitator



Open Forum/Announcements



**Thank you for your
participation in the
MBEJC!**

See you on June 18