



Annual Report *2005*

City of Peoria
Planning & Growth Management Department
Neighborhood Development Division
456 Fulton Street
Peoria, IL 61602

INTRODUCTION



Neighborhoods are the cornerstone to vibrant, livable communities. Each year the City of Peoria receives federal entitlement funding from the United States Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Justice Weed and Seed Program for neighborhood improvement programs and activities. In total over \$3 million in City, state, corporate, and federal funds are invested annually in Peoria neighborhoods for housing preservation and development, neighborhood revitalization, public services, and capital improvements.

To maintain and preserve existing neighborhoods, the Neighborhood Division focused on collaborative litter control and beautification efforts. Litter control protects the public health, safety, and overall well-being of neighborhoods. In 2005 the Neighborhood Development Division partnered with Peoria City Beautiful to sponsor the nationally recognized Great American Cleanup™ that annually mobilizes more than two million volunteers to make their neighborhoods beautiful, safer and healthier places to live. Over 40 neighborhood and civic organizations cleaned up litter and landscape waste throughout Peoria.

In sustaining livable communities, homeownership opportunities and citizen investment are essential. City Council allocated \$600,000 for downpayment assistance for citizens purchasing their own home. This program offers up to \$10,000 for downpayment and closing costs for income-eligible households purchasing single-family homes. The City of Peoria also invests \$300,000 annually in new housing

development through Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO's). These organizations continue to develop new single-family, owner-occupied housing. Fire prevention and safety was well promoted through the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Program, where over 400 smoke detectors and 200 carbon monoxide detectors were distributed to the citizens of Peoria.

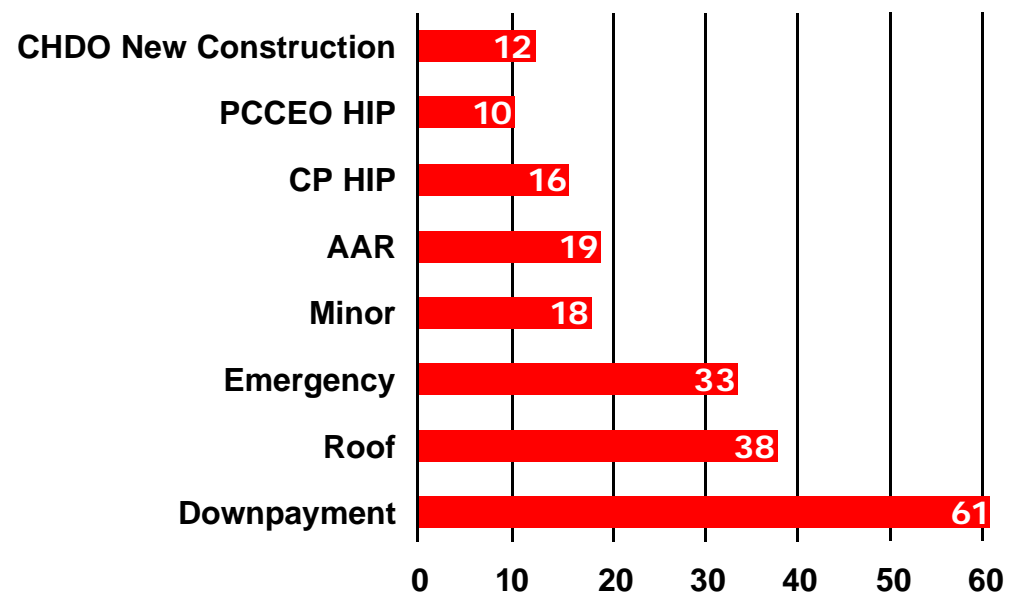
Through capacity building programs, residents obtain the skills to work together and identify resources to build partnerships within the City. During 2005 the City of Peoria Neighborhood Division sponsored the Neighborhood College, a grassroots training program that empowers residents to be more involved in the well-being of their neighborhood. The City of Peoria and other community development professionals offered workshops on communication and leadership, City services, fundraising with community partnerships, and homeownership assistance programs. The Neighborhood Division continues to develop programs that improve neighborhood conditions, enhance community safety, and expand community services.

HOUSING REHABILITATION & CHDO DEVELOPMENT

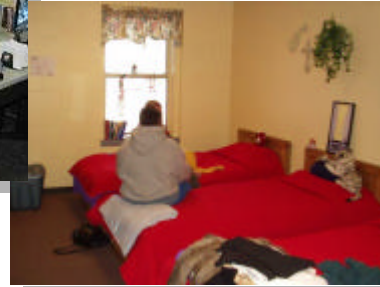


- Assisted over 180 residents in housing construction, rehabilitation, and downpayment assistance
- Partnered with community housing organizations, housing counseling agencies, and lender consortiums
- Continued construction of wheelchair accessible ramps for disabled citizens
- Worked with non-profit agencies for volunteer related rehab projects for families in need

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS THAT RECEIVED ASSISTANCE THROUGH CITY OF PEORIA HOUSING PROGRAMS IN 2005



PUBLIC SERVICE AND EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANTS



- *Over 2,000 women, children, and families received homeless service assistance*
- *Over 800 youth received mentoring, tutoring, life skills, and other youth achievement assistance*
- *Over 1,000 women, elderly, and youth received shelter, medical treatment and treatment for violence and abuse*
- *Over 50 disabled youth and adults received academic assistance and job training*

The Human Resources Commission (HRC) administers Public Service Grants and makes recommendations to the City Council for final approval. The process for awarding funds is public in nature with public hearings to set priorities. In the past, the HRC has had a record of awarding many community organizations that provide vital services such as transportation, education, cultural, medical care, employment, and emergency food and shelter programs. Typical beneficiaries are youth, elderly, homeless, and families in crisis.

NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS



The Neighborhood Development Commissions (NDC) mission is to strengthen the capacity in Peoria's neighborhoods. Programs in 2005 focused on leadership development and volunteer opportunities.

- *Over 35 neighborhoods adopted the Know 9 Neighbors Program*
- *Formation of the Neighborhood Alliance*
- *Over 30 neighborhood advocates attended the 2005 RNNC, Muncie, IN*
- *Grant awarded for the operation of the District 150 Truancy Center*
- *Coordination of volunteers for the Full Service Community School*
- *Plant Pride Not Litter! Anti-Litter Campaign*
- *Pride Week Litter Control and Beautification Grants*
- *Over 25 neighborhood cleanups, including the national Great American Cleanup*

WEED & SEED STRATEGY



The Weed & Seed Strategy brings together the shared goal of 'weeding' out violent crime and gang activity while 'seeding' in social services and economic revitalization.



- *Development of the City's first Truancy Assessment Center*
- *Four neighborhood Safe Havens offered educational and recreational opportunities for youth*
- *Over 40 landlords attended the annual Landlord Training*
- *Over 50 citizens attended the annual Citizen Involvement Training*
- *Intensive saturation and joint jurisdictional patrol throughout the Weed & Seed Area*

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

- *Human Resources Commission*
- *Neighborhood Development Commission*
- *Weed & Seed Steering Committee*

CHDO AND HOUSING AGENCIES

PCCEO
Hand Up Development Corp. (Habitat for Humanity)
Christmas In April
Upgrade
Christian Family Center
Housing Action Illinois
METEC

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Center for Independent Living
Children's Home
FICRAC
The Heartland Partnership
Peoria County Health Department
RNNC Consortium
Peoria Public Schools
Peoria City Beautiful
Regional Superintendant of Schools

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION GRANT RECIPIENTS

East Bluff United Neighborhood
East Bluff Serenity Neighborhood
Neighborhood Alliance
Wardcliffe Homeowners Association
East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services
Altamont Park Neighborhood Association
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association
Heart of Peoria Neighborhood Association
Glen Oak Park Neighborhood Association
Moss Bradley Neighborhood Housing Association
Orchard District Neighborhood Association

2005 EMERGENCY SERVICE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Emergency Service

Shelter, transportation
Bus services for homeless
Shelter, childcare services & meals

Organization

The Center for the Prevention & Abuse
The Salvation Army
YWCA of Peoria

2005 PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Public Service

Shelter for victims of violence
Employment for the disabled
Lodging & meals for the homeless
Health programs for the homeless
Child learning activities
Special education & rehab services
Child abuse victim services
Homeless shelter & case mgmt.
Legal services & advocacy
After school and summer programs
Childcare services
Teen reach program
Youth life skills classes
Transitional meals
Hispanic case management

Organization

The Center for the Prevention & Abuse
Central Illinois Business Network
The Salvation Army
Peoria Friendship House
Common Place & Planned Parenthood
Community Workshop & Training
University of Illinois
YWCA of Peoria
Prairie State Legal Services
Counseling & Family Services
Crittenton Centers
Greater Peoria YMCA
Girl Scouts - Kickapoo
Neighborhood House
Heartland Community Health Clinic