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[UPDATED] Indy Neighborhood Scores With Super Bowl Project

InsideIndianaBusiness.com Report

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The 2012 Super Bowl Legacy Project in Indianapolis is receiving a significant boost. The United Way of Central Indiana is providing a \$450,000 grant to help fund the purchase, renovation or construction of 32 foreclosed or abandoned residences as part of an effort to revitalize a neighborhood on the city's near eastside.



Source: **Inside Indiana Business**

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Press Release

INDIANAPOLIS – The REALTOR® Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of REALTORS® (MIBOR), recently received significant support for Building a Living Legacy, the 2012 Super Bowl Legacy project that plans to build and remodel 32 affordable homes in a near-eastside Indianapolis neighborhood.

The John H. Boner Community Center – one of the Foundation's partner organizations – was awarded a \$450,000 grant from the United Way of Central Indiana (UWCI) to help fund the purchase, renovation or construction of 32 residences that were previously foreclosed or abandoned. This project is a part of the 2012 Super Bowl Legacy effort which aspires to affect 200 to 300 homes. It is estimated that the cost of completion of these residences will be nearly \$5 million. To this end, REALTORS® have pledged \$500,000 to Building a Living Legacy as part of the MIBOR Centennial celebration set for 2012.

Specific identification and purchase of the homes, as well as oversight of the construction, will be led by the Indy-east Asset Development (I-AD), the near eastside's community development corporation. The Boner Community Center, in partnership with other agencies, will provide residents with social services which could include homeownership counseling, workforce development and financial education.

"This project will sustain the economic diversity that already exists in this neighborhood, including some of our homeless neighbors. It will help make what was once a neighborhood of last resort into one of choice," said James Taylor, CEO of the John H. Boner Community Center. "Our partnerships with organizations like the REALTOR® Foundation, and financial support of those such as United Way, are making this collective effort a reality."

Another new advocate for the project is former Indianapolis Colt Tarik Glenn, recently named honorary chair for Building a Living Legacy. Glenn's commitment to the community and making a positive impact on youth has long been evidenced by his involvement in D.R.E.A.M. Alive, a local organization led by Glenn, who founded the nonprofit to strengthen communities through mentoring, educating and serving.

"This project is going to leave its mark on Indianapolis long after the Super Bowl is over," Glenn said. "It has the potential to have a life-altering impact, not just on one family, but on entire neighborhoods. It's really an honor to chair this project and to be part of inspiring positive change in our community during such an exciting time for our city."

Each year, the Foundation looks to support the vital work of organizations that serve people displaced because of domestic violence, natural disaster or those affected by economic hardships that have made them temporarily homeless. The organization's supporters will continue to donate funds to sustain the Foundation's ongoing grant cycle and community support initiatives separate from the Building A Living Legacy project.

"It's thrilling to know that we're creating a piece of history for the community, not to mention helping numerous local families fighting back from homelessness," explained Regina Jones, 2010 president of the REALTOR® Foundation. "As we move closer to 2012, the project is gaining momentum, and every fundraiser we host and member gift we receive brings us one step closer to achieving that goal."

Mark Miles, chair of the 2012 Super Bowl Host Committee, commented, "It's not a surprise that REALTORS®, who have been helping build the city for the last 100 years, would step up and take a major role in this project. The near eastside is coming back, and the real estate community is a big part of that progress."

Each family selected to be part of the Building a Living Legacy effort will be on the path to self sufficiency. As residents make strides toward homeownership and achieve permanent housing, the 32 residences will be used to help new families start their journey.

To learn more about Building a Living Legacy, visit www.MIBOR100.com.

Source: MIBOR, 2012 Super Bowl Host Committee.

  
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