



**Shorb Neighborhood Plan
Phase I - 2021/2022**

MISSION

To improve the quality of life for the residents of downtown Canton.

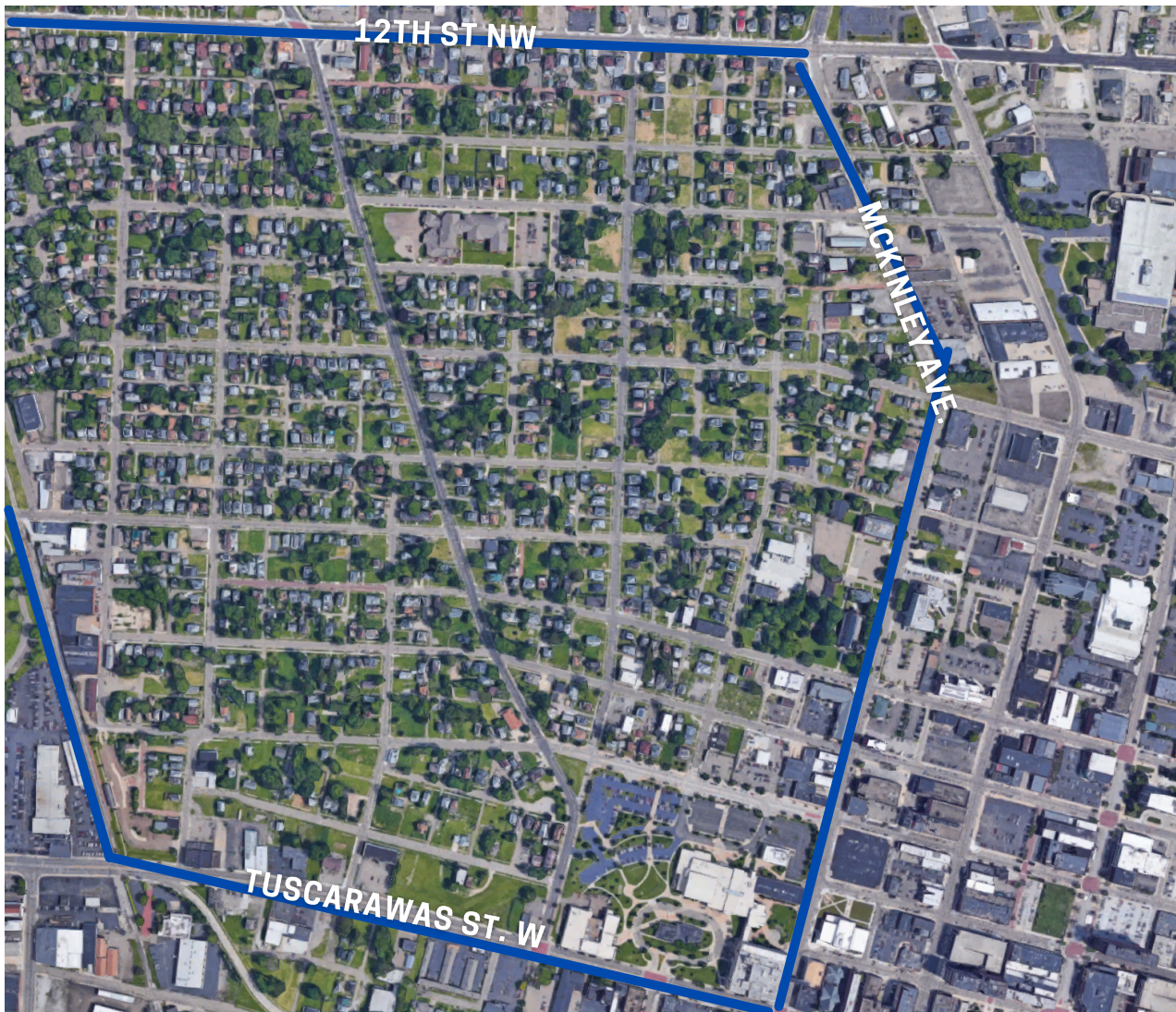
BACKGROUND

Canton for All People is a Community Development Corporation formed by Crossroads United Methodist Church in partnership with the Lemmon and DeHoff family foundations to bring quality housing and opportunities for all people to downtown Canton. Canton for All People was formed to help the church address two of its primary focus areas (1) Overcoming Poverty Together (2) Seeking Health and Wholeness for All.

In tackling these areas in Canton, it became evident that the church needed to address the growing problem within our community that the housing conditions for many residents downtown were unsafe, unaffordable, and oftentimes unlivable. These conditions have led to higher crime rates, high unemployment, and have kept families in a cycle of poverty that is difficult to overcome.

After numerous encounters with this challenge through the church's ministries, Canton for All People was formed to gather community partners, address housing and community needs in neglected neighborhoods, and ensure our city's neighborhoods have access to resources that would help people live healthier lives.

THE GREATER SHORB NEIGHBORHOOD



- Area Population 2,942 / 800 under the age of 24.
- Average Age: 36.
- 21% of people over 25 do not have a high-school diploma.
- 59% of households (667) have an income less than \$24,999
- Average Rent price is \$710 and is increasing.
- More than half of renters are cost burdened. Another 20% are severely cost burdened
- The Family poverty level is three times that of the state average.
- Highest crime rates in the city of Canton

10 YEAR OBJECTIVES

Enhance public safety

Currently the Shorb Neighborhood has the highest number of reported crimes in the city of Canton. Through outreach and interaction with the residents, crime, drugs, and property violations are at the top of the neighborhood's concerns. **We seek to improve community/police relations, help the community address persistent code challenges, and initiate an anti-violence campaign that lowers the neighborhood crime rate below that of Jackson Township.**

Provide affordable housing options for all

Currently, more than half of renters in the study area are cost burdened with more than 30 percent of income spent on housing. In addition, 20 percent in the primary area are severely cost burdened with more than 50 percent of income spent on housing. **We seek to add 300 affordable units to the neighborhood, half of which will be for home ownership.**

Enhance Public Health

Due to the transient nature of the neighborhood, it is difficult to gather up to date health data. Additionally, nearly half of households in the neighborhood do not have a vehicle with limited access to healthy food sources. **We seek to ensure all neighborhood residents have access to healthy foods, safe community space, and high quality medical and behavioral healthcare.**

Break Cycles of Poverty

Poverty is real for most residents, with an annual median income of \$24,000. Meeting immediate needs and breaking the cycles that lead to poverty are a primary effort of C4AP. **We seek to reduce income and racial inequality, promote home ownership, improve educational outcomes, and develop career pathways that provide living wages.**



THE VISION

To create whole, healthy, and engaged community where All People are empowered to pursue their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.

Promote Educational Opportunity

We believe our kids in Canton deserve the best that we can give them. **We seek to work with the Canton City School District and promote greater educational opportunity in the Greater Shorb area.**

"THE START" - PHASE I (FIRST 24 MONTHS)

Enhance public safety

Goal 1: Identify the "best in class" evidence based programs in the US currently operating in mid-sized cities. Recruit and train a neighborhood leaders to develop a neighborhood strategy, work with local police and the prosecutors office, and implement a best in class program in the neighborhood.

Goal 2: Coordinate existing grant opportunities and develop specialized grant programs for the neighborhood to address persistent code and safety challenges.

Provide safe & affordable housing options for all

Goal 1: Acquire property in the Newton area for application of a LIHTC housing development project. (Feb 2022).

Goal 2: Add 15 owner occupied units in the Arts/Shorb Corridor for households with an income less than the Stark County median income.

Enhance Public Health

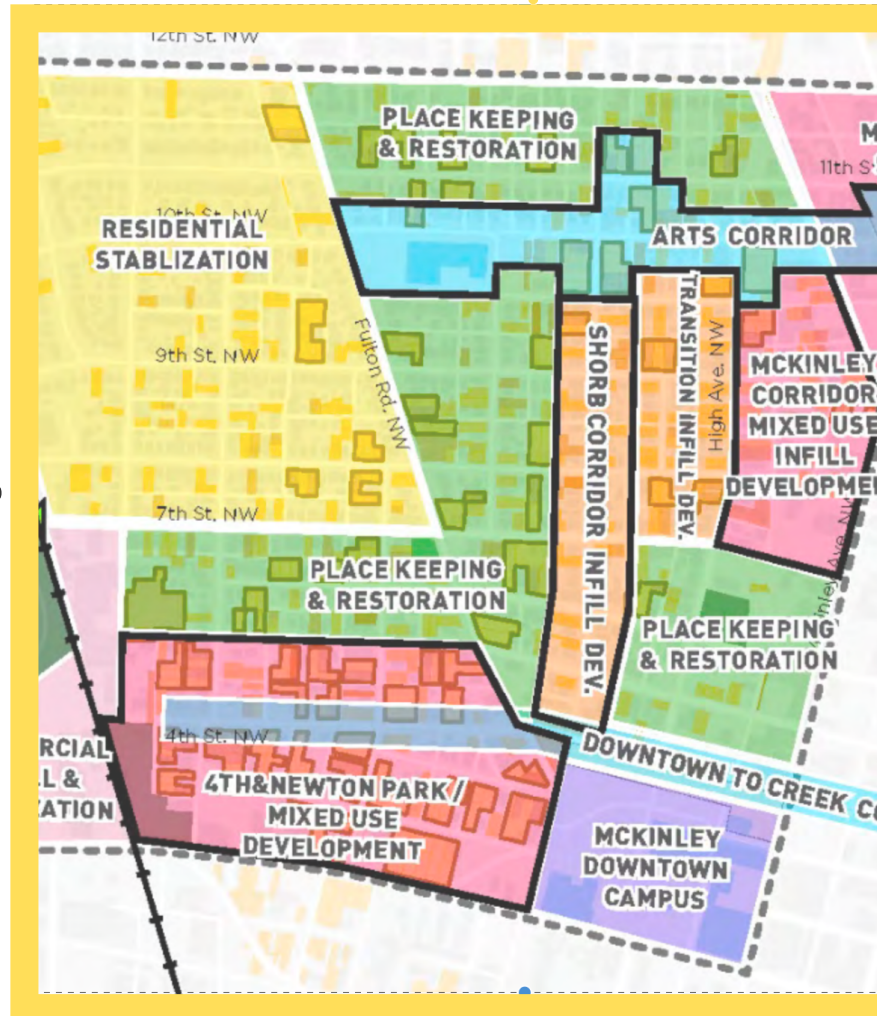
Goal 1: Conduct neighborhood health needs assessment to develop a strategy that improves access to quality behavioral and medical healthcare.

Goal 2: Identify, purchase, and renovate a location for the Shorb Neighborhood Market and C4AP development offices. Space will also provide residents regular access to needed community services.

Goal 3: Add a large public recreational space for the children in the neighborhood and improve access to play spaces at the Summit Arts Academy.

Break Cycles of Poverty

Goal 1: Implement the first cycle of the "Shorb Healthy Homes" Initiative which provides transition housing to families experiencing persistent poverty or trauma.



ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY

Goal 1: Identify the "best in class" evidence based programs in the US currently operating in mid-sized cities. Recruit and train a neighborhood leaders and coordinate with the Stark Couty Prosecutors Office "Safer Streets Initiative" to develop a neighborhood strategy, and implement a best in class program in Canton, Ohio.

Action Steps

1. Research of active evidenced based community based crime prevention initiatives. (June-Aug)
 - a. Continued communication and coordination with Canton City Police, City/County Prosecutors Office, and local agencies.
 - b. Conduct site visit with key community leadership.
2. Selection of Community Based initiative. (Sept-Dec)
 - a. Hold greater Shorb community town halls to discuss programs and receive input on which programs would be most effective.
3. Implement a coordinated strategy for the crime prevention initiative. (Spring 2022)

Measures: Decrease Crime & Property Offenses

- Measure of Effectiveness: : Annual composite index score of Part 1 (violent) and Part 2 (property) offenses.

Goal 2: Coordinate with the city of Canton and promote equitable code enforcement, maximize existing grant opportunities and develop specialized grant programs for the neighborhood to address persistent code and safety challenges.

Action Steps

1. Clarify and communicate the City of Canton Code Enforcement process to the neighborhood.
 - a. Develop a flow chart of the existing process for neighborhood dissemination.
2. Create a neighborhood database of landlords with multiple holdings with a pattern of paying fines without resolving the causes of violation or are repeat offenders.
 - a. Develop an action plan in partnership with the City of Canton with the landlords to bring all properties into compliance while negotiating fees.
 - b. For homeowners, communicate opportunities for low-interest loans, existing home renovation grants, and coordinate volunteer/agency teams to assist with needed repairs.
3. Raise capital to supplement existing home improvement grants for homeowners.
 - a. Conduct housing assessment of the arts corridor to assess needed capital for the first 24 months.

Measures: Decrease Crime & Property Offenses

- Measure of Effectiveness: : Annual composite index score of Part 1 (violent) and Part 2 (property) offenses.

PROVIDE SAFE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR ALL

Goal 1: Acquire property in the Newton area for application of a LIHTC housing development project by Feb 2022.

Action Steps

1. Identify suitable private and public land for the development of a large scale LIHTC project.
2. Raise capital for the acquisition of privately owned properties by November 2021 and secure site control of needed publicly owned land.
3. Coordinate with the City of Canton and Canton Parks department on needed infrastructure improvements in the Newton area for project phasing.

Measures

- C4AP is prepared to submit a 9% LIHTC proposal by the 2022 deadline.

Goal 2: Add 15 owner occupied units in the Arts/Shorb Corridor for households with an income less than the Stark County median income.

Action Steps

1. Identify/acquire suitable public land for the development/renovation of single family and multi family housing in the Arts Corridor.
2. Last of Phase 1 home construction/renovation fall 2022.

Measures

- All homes are in contract by Spring 2023
- Phase II (2023-2025) home projects identified with interested buyers.
- Housing is affordable, well maintained, and available that meets a diversity of dwelling needs.

Goal 3: Add 15 owner occupied units in the Arts/Shorb Corridor for households with an income less than the Stark County median income.

ENHANCE PUBLIC HEALTH

Goal 1: Conduct neighborhood health needs assessment to develop a strategy that improves access to quality behavioral and medical healthcare.

Action Steps

1. Conduct a Community Health Assessment
2. Identify partners and resources that meets the current need.
3. Identify a strategy that localizes needed resources to improve access.

Measures

- Additional behavioral and medical healthcare are accessible within the Greater Shorb Neighborhood.

Goal 2: Identify, purchase, and renovate a location for the Shorb Neighborhood Market and C4AP development offices. Space will also provide residents regular access to needed community services.

Action Steps

1. Identify/acquire suitable public/private property for the Canton Free Store and Fresh Market in the neighborhood.
2. Complete renovations and begin operations from the facility as soon as possible.

Measures

- The Free Store is providing gently used clothing, household items, and fresh produce to individuals and families in a hospitable atmosphere that affirms the self-worth of each individual.
- Neighborhood residents use the space to meet immediate needs, find encouragement, and get better access to community resources.

Goal 3: Add a large public recreational space for the children in the neighborhood and improve access to play spaces at the Summit Arts Academy.

Action Steps

1. Identify/acquire suitable public/private land for the development of green spaces improved recreational activities for children in the neighborhood.
2. Survey neighborhood children for their dream for a new play area in the neighborhood (ie. soccer, football, dual purpose, playground etc.)

Measures

- Recreational community space is added to the community, is well lit, and is utilized regularly by neighborhood children.

BREAK CYCLES OF POVERTY

Goal 1: Implement the first cycle of the "Shorb Healthy Homes" Initiative which provides transition housing to families experiencing persistent poverty or trauma.

Action Steps

- Intervene where families are experiencing homelessness, domestic violence or persistent financial hardship.
- Provide safe transitional housing or a rent stipend for one year to 18 months depending on a family's life goals to provide reprieve from physical or financial hardship.
- Establish an achievable life plan that includes improved health as well as vocational, educational, and financial outcomes.
- Provide a transportation stipend for each family to support participation in program courses and services or upon improvement of credit outcomes and after a new home purchase to be used as down payment assistance on a reliable vehicle outside of the sub-prime market.
- Provide assistance for families to purchase new, safe, and affordable housing within 12 months or be set on a path to becoming "lender ready" with 48 months of programming start.

Measures

- Home ownership
- Independence in financial management
- Families have reliable transportation
- Improved health outcomes
- Stable employment with increase in wages
- Increased school performance

CANTON FOR ALL PEOPLE

BOARD MEMBERS

- **Board President / Scott Life:** President and Co Founder of Impact Development Company, an organization made to maximize the charitable impact of mission investments throughout NE Ohio.
- **Vice President / Patrick Mackie:** Director of Operations for Lemmon Development.
- **Tricia Radosevic:** Crossroads UMC Member homeowner and active member of the West Park neighborhood association.
- **Ernest Roberson:** Crossroads UMC worshipper and active member of the Shorb Community (Newton Area)
- **Betty Smith:** Executive Director of ENRICHMENT which is a local arts program for underserved neighborhoods and children.
- **Jamar Flemming:** Pastor of Agape ministries and Executive Director of "Men of Tomorrow" which is a local youth mentoring program.
- **Terry Regula:** CEO of My Community Health Center, a not-for-profit primary care federally qualified health center which provides care to all patients regardless of ability to pay.
- **Jim Porter:** Chief Marketing & Communications Officer at Pro Football Hall of Fame.
- **Cara Stutz Costello:** Tuscarawas District UMC Superintendent.
- **Joanna James:** Executive Director of Project Rebuild which engages young adults to create pathways to academic, professional, and leadership opportunities while providing them with the skills and support to set them up for lifelong success.
- **Jeff Talbert:** Superintendent of the Canton City School District. Talbert is coming to Canton after working as the Alliance Superinintendent since June of 2013. Previous to that, he served as the assistant superintendent for Cleveland Heights-University Heights City Schools for three years.
- **Taylor Vickers :** Our student member of the Canton for All People Board, Taylor is a junior at McKinley High School and an aspiring civil rights attorney. She recently won a state title in dramatic interpretation and was a key part in establishing the Canton Free Store and Fresh Market.
- **Tony Perez:** President of Lemmon Development, has over 18 years of experience in construction and development. Tony has built and managed over 800,000 square feet of senior living, multifamily and over 1,000,000 square feet of retail. Tony is responsible for site selection, municipality liaison, plan development and construction management of projects
- **Carla Frank:** Carla brings more than 30 years of financial and accounting expertise to Canton for All People and is responsible for overseeing the day to day financial operations and strategic financial planning for DeHoff Development.

Executive Director / Don Ackerman: Lead Pastor of Crossroads UMC in downtown Canton, Don is appointed by the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church as the Executive Director of Canton for All People.