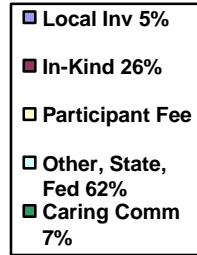
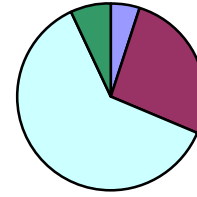
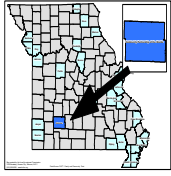


Community Partnership of the Ozarks, Inc.

Established: 1995



FY07 Result Achievement: Collaborative Clean-up and Recovery Efforts for the January 2007 Ice Storm

September 2007

Community Profile:

Community Partnership of the Ozarks is located in the City of Springfield, chosen this year for the second year in a row as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People by America’s Promise – The Alliance for Youth. Although the city’s population currently stands at 151,823, its economic impact influences 27 counties and over 936,000 individuals.

While the City of Springfield and Greene County serve as the geographic base of our service area, our programming efforts reach 20 other counties in Southwest Missouri.

Community Partnership of the Ozarks is governed by a 29-member Board of Directors, which is comprised of representatives from local government, the faith and education community, local businesses, civic organizations, the media, and other non-profit organizations. We also have the Ozarks Fighting Back Board, which governs our alcohol, drug and tobacco prevention services, and a talented and committed staff of 30 that works to facilitate and implement our tremendous diversity of programming and collaborative efforts.

Future plans for our Partnership include focusing on diversification of funding to decrease reliance on state and federal funding; promoting America’s Five Promises and making them a focus of our work; and continuing to build and expand our collaborative efforts to leverage additional resources for our community.

Major Collaborative Accomplishment:

In January 2007 our community was surprised and devastated by an ice storm that damaged trees, homes and businesses across the City and County as well as caused power outages that lasted almost a month in some areas. Because of our connection with so many neighborhoods and our experience with neighborhood clean-ups, the Partnership was poised to immediately assist with clean-up and recovery efforts, both during and after the storm.

Working in partnership with the City, Greene County, and AmeriCorps, the main priorities were to disseminate correct and timely information to neighborhoods, help connect residents to available resources, and recruit volunteers to assist with debris removal for the elderly and people with disabilities.

We helped meet these priorities by working with our schools and churches to provide emergency food and supplies to families in need, assisting 10 neighborhoods with damage assessments, distributing over 5,000 of the City’s Ice Storm

Recovery Packets to neighborhoods and churches, organizing neighborhood debris clean-ups, calling residents to confirm their need for debris removal, and recruiting team leaders and volunteers through our network of neighborhood contacts. We also worked with City staff to visit 1,200 residences door-to-door and completed almost 50 requests for help from the neighborhoods. The Evangel Football Team cleaned up more than 30 of these residences during the Hometown Clean-up Weekend coordinated by AmeriCorps, Greene County, and the City of Springfield.

Utilizing the United Way’s Day of Caring model, our community organized a Week of Caring to help meet the needs of over 900 residents who physically could not clear ice storm debris from their homes. The Partnership assisted with volunteer recruitment in the faith community, the neighborhoods and through our schools, and during the Week of Caring, 728 volunteers served over 600 residents.

We also recruited students and teachers of the Leadership/Drug Free Clubs at Reed and Study Middle Schools. As a result of their involvement in volunteering during the ice storm, a 4-week summer service learning program at Study Middle School was created and implemented this year with 16 students participating. These students volunteered at 12 different agencies that requested help this summer, and we already have a commitment from the teacher/sponsor to continue this program next year. Another outcome of this disaster was the realization that a majority of residents were not prepared with food, water and emergency supplies. In response, our Early Childhood Department worked to create and distribute Emergency Kits for families and child care providers, and our Senior Link Collaborative has been working on disaster preparedness for seniors.

Collaborative Partners:

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|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| City of Springfield | Greene County |
| AmeriCorps St. Louis | United Way of the Ozarks |
| OTC, Evangel, MSU, Drury | Community Volunteers |
| Urban Neighborhoods Alliance | Faith Community |
| Neighborhood Associations | Local Businesses |