

NO. 0909

**DIVISION OF HOMELAND MINISTRIES
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
dba DISCIPLES HOME MISSIONS**

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Board of Directors: Voting members of the DHM Board of Directors are: Janet Casey Allen, Indianapolis, Indiana; George Crawford, Gig Harbor, Washington; Paul Few, Lincoln, Nebraska; Marilyn Fiddmont, Spring, Texas; Janet Fountain, Milton Nova Scotia, Canada; David Geenen, Rock Island, Illinois; Alan Hilberg, Bakersfield, California; Jim Hockman, Columbia, South Carolina; Debra Joseph, New Orleans, Louisiana (Local Church Ministries delegate of the United Church of Christ); Rebecca Littlejohn, Anniston, Alabama; Madelyn Logan, Ashland, Virginia; Caroline Martinson, Louisville, Kentucky (Local Church Ministries delegate of the United Church of Christ); William McConnell, Wichita, Kansas; G. Lee Parker, Lynchburg, Virginia; James Rivers, Wadsworth, Ohio; Norweida Roberts, Jackson, Mississippi; Esther Robles, Riverview, Florida; Jean Vandergrift, Boston, Massachusetts; KK Wiseman, Nashville, Tennessee. Ex Officio Members without vote are the representatives from The United Christian Missionary Society: Martha Carroll, South Bend, Indiana; Sarah Draper, Hoover, Alabama; Mary Lou Kegler, Kansas City, Missouri; Richard Petty, Houston, Texas.

I. PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS

The Apostle Paul deemed it important to communicate by way of letter to the early church. Nourished by the Holy Spirit, planted by the apostles, and disciplined at scripture reading, singing, praying, sharing all things in common, and gathering together as one body around the Table – the early Christians in places like Corinth and Philippi, Galatia and Thessalonica, as well as Rome, learned how to be followers of “the way,” the earliest name given to those who followed Jesus. I submit this letter to you (aka “Report”) who are 21st century followers of “the way” in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), reflecting on the initiatives, ministries, and mission activities of Disciples Home Missions this past biennium.

II. SALUTATION

Ronald J. Degges, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be President of Disciples Home Missions, set apart for the gospel of God, equipping Disciples for Christ and connecting people to the life changing love of God,

To all of God’s beloved who will gather in Indianapolis, Indiana for the 2009 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

III. THANKSGIVING

I thank God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. Who would have ever thought it? Born on the early 19th century American frontier, ignited with a Declaration and Address, sealed with a handshake at Cane Ridge and set ablaze at Brush Run, you Disciples have proclaimed the gospel without ceasing. For two centuries you

have served the God of truth, even when paradigm shifts have thrown the church into a frenzy and rumors of economic collapse, lack of vitality, and dissention among sisters and brothers have threatened to dismantle you. You have stood by your faith, as it is written in Isaiah: “*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*” [Isaiah 43:19]

I give God thanks for you and your faithfulness in uncertain times, knowing that God will make certain that for which you long. The day is coming when God will reveal the kingdom that has no end. Hence my eagerness to proclaim the good news of what Disciples Home Missions has been doing in partnership with other general ministries, regions, and congregations to build up the body of Christ.

IV. THEME OF THE LETTER

A. The State of the Mission of Disciples Home Missions

Since the mission of the whole church is to be “a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world,” I want to give you an accounting of how in Christ God has acted powerfully through the ministries of Disciples Home Missions:

1. *Disciples Women are on the Move*, guided by Executive Director Adonna Bowman, Program Merger Staff Director, Sheila Spencer, and the Quadrennial Assembly Coordinator, Gloria Hernandez, providing 10% of the total giving to Disciples Mission Fund (DMF); networking with NAPAD, the National Convocation, the Hispanic Assembly, Church Women United, Black Ministers Retreat, Justice for Women Working Group, Global Women’s Connections, the World Convention, etc.; Women to Women Worldwide in their travels to Israel and Palestine; planning for the 2010 Quadrennial Assembly in Greensboro; participating in Habitat for Humanity Blitz Builds in Beaumont, TX and Greensboro, NC; and, publishing the new quarterly resource for Disciples Women, *Just Women*, with the first issue appearing in January 2009. Disciples Women, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church is *on the move*.

2. *Christian Education and Family and Children’s Ministries are on the Move*, celebrating the Rev. Billye Bridges’ 12th year as a Program Staff Director with DHM, building upon her leadership as a Merger Staff for Specialized Christian Education serving the National Convocation, expanded in 2003 to embody the notion of whole church as she serves all congregations in the United States and Canada. Ministries include expanded Web-site research design; partnerships with the National Convocation’s Leadership Institute for Clergy, Lay Leaders, Music Ministry and Leaders in the Making; working with Family and Children’s Ministry Director, Kaye Edwards, in the 2008 Association of Church Educators and Children’s Welcome!Conference. Kaye’s involvement in The Disciples Care for Children Network, Kids-to-Kids, Adults Relating to Kids (ARK), and Worship and Wonder are re-energizing our church. Kaye forever reminds us: “There are still too many people who believe their children are the church of tomorrow and do not see the gifts children have to offer now ...” Christian Education, Family and Children’s Ministries, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church *on the move*.

3. *Evangelism, New Church and Transformation Ministries are on the Move*,

guided by our Minister of Evangelism and Merger Staff Specialist, R. Wayne Calhoun, Sr., as four, possibly five, cluster Church Transformation events are held throughout the country beginning in the fall of 2008 and continuing through the winter of 2009. Each event is designed to help regions and congregations move toward transformative life. Disciples Home Missions provides resources in evangelism and witness to both new and existing congregations that call for passionate worship, joyful giving, intentional faith development, and bold mission. A team of gifted ministers who have guided congregations to new life provide insights, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church *on the move*.

4. *Chaplaincy Services are on the Move*, providing to those serving in ministries outside local Disciples congregations support, encouragement and denominational oversight. Disciples Military Chaplaincy Endorser, Steve Doan, and Institutional Endorser of Specialized Services, Susan Galasso, reach out to clergy serving in the military and institutional settings. A process is underway with Search and Call, requiring all new applicants to have background checks. Communication about chaplaincy has been enhanced with a new monthly e-mail called *Chaplaincy News and Notes*. Chaplaincy Services, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church, *on the move*.

5. *Search and Call on the Move*, directed by Warren Lynn, provides care for clergy in the area of relocation discernment with partnerships between regions, the general church, and indirectly with congregations. There is a Web-based Search and Call Profile System in place, but still the need to tutor clergy in its use. Long-time Search and Call's Administrative Assistant, Kelly Harris, is moving to Nashville with her family. But we are happy to announce that Anne Marie Moyars is in training for the position and will assume that role in mid-March 2009. Search and Call is a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church, *on the move*.

6. *Leader Development on the Move*, directed by Tod Iseminger and all Program Staff of DHM, is reaching out with intentionality to four specific constituency groups of our church, in addition to that being done by Disciples Women; namely, the Youth Ministry Commission, the Young Adult Commission, the General Youth Council, and Disciples Men. The goal is to "identify, grow and nurture the current and future leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)." In July, 750 youth gathered at Chapman University in Orange, CA to experience life-changing ministry. Leader Development, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church, *on the move*.

7. *Refugee and Immigration Ministries on the Move*, directed by Jennifer Riggs and assisted by Linda Williamson, helped relocate 871 persons in 2008 who otherwise would have had no place to lay their heads. As the refugee and immigration caseload increases, we are in need of more Disciples congregations to participate. Those who have participated speak of how their congregations have been transformed when partnering with RIM. Refugee and Immigration Ministries, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church, *on the move*.

8. *Disciples Volunteering on the Move*, directed by Carl Zerweck, provides 'hands on' mission experiences in the United States and Canada for individuals, regions and congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Both Short-term and Long-term Training Events provide leadership development tools for those who participate in this concrete expression of

mission. It is expected that more than 2700 volunteers will donate in excess of 130,000 hours of volunteer service to those affected by disaster. Disciples Volunteering, a DHM movement for the wholeness of the church, *on the move*.

I sincerely hope that this abbreviated description of the Ministries of Disciples Home Missions gives you a good idea about the state of the mission we at DHM provide. I must also acknowledge the hard work of our Director of Web Site Development, Angela Herrmann, in keeping us informed through the DHM website: www.discipleshomemissions.org. Special news releases of importance as well as our personalized *Constant Contact* give you up-to-date information about the ministries of DHM as does our publication the *Home Mission Advocate*. Comprehensive reports for each of our ministries are on file at the Disciples Home Missions Office. We will willingly make them available to you upon request.

We also lift up the Scout Ministries directed by Robert Thornton; the Kentucky Appalachian Ministry directed by Lon Oliver; the Yakama Christian Mission directed by David Bell; All Peoples Christian Center directed by Sandra Bryant; the Inman Christian Center directed by Dan Saucedo; the ministry at Kansas Christian Home directed by Jim Nachtigal; the ministry at Urban Spirit directed by Deb Conrad; the Disciples Farm Workers Ministry, whose convener is Amy Cates; and, the AIDS Ministry Network directed by Joseph Grieb.

Special acknowledgements must go to our Vice-President for Finance, Lonna Owens, who keeps our financing of mission on target; to Executive Administrator/Corporate Secretary, Jennie King, who keeps me on target; and, to all those dedicated and hard-working Administrative Staff members without whom none of us could possibly do our work.

It is clear that the state of the mission of DHM is strong and vital as we go about equipping congregations for Christ.

B. Disciples Home Missions and the Four Priorities of the Church

Our single-focus is on fulfilling the four mission priorities established in the “2020 Vision” statement. In fact, as the Apostle Paul would remind us, our four priorities are as foundational to the well being of the church today as they were to the well being of the church back in the first century:

1. New Congregation Establishment

Disciples Home Missions celebrates Geunhee Yu’s 17th anniversary with us as a partner in ministry to the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples. Over the past 17 years, Geunhee has provided leadership within DHM that has grown Pacific/Asian Disciples congregations from two to approximately one hundred. In 2008, three new congregations were adopted: Filipino Christian Church, Raleigh, NC; Chin Christian Church, Syracuse, NY; and Chinese Christian Church, Palo Alto, CA. In addition, three missions have been launched. DHM recognizes the growth and expansion of new multi-cultural and multi-ethnic congregations and is determining ways to provide language-appropriate curriculum, teacher training, Bible Study, elder and deacon resources as well as consultations to enhance these diverse ministries. New collaborative efforts with Church Extension, with our multi-ethnic constituencies, and with Disciples Women, who are women of many cultures and races, promise rich hope for the future.

2. Transforming Existing Congregations for Mission

Working with general and regional staff and partnering with local congregations and ministers who have experienced transformation, DHM has launched a series of events across the country known as *God's Positioning Spirit (GPS)* seminars to provide the needed tools, resources, and *how to* handles to assist congregations desiring revitalization. Beginning with the Indianapolis Assembly in 2009, the Pension Fund of the Christian Church and Disciples Home Missions will collaborate to establish a pre-assembly event for clergy new to congregational settings. Resources for healthy ministry and clergy self care are the aim of this joint effort.

3. Leadership Development

Disciples Home Missions continues to provide scholarships to seminarians on the M.Div. track as well as scholarships for Continuing Education for clergy. In this day of ever-increasing costs associated with earning a M.Div. degree and continuing studies beyond the seminary to increase clergy effectiveness, DHM has been entrusted with funds to support those who serve the church. Many of our regions have mandated Continuing Education requirements for clergy with the expectation that their congregations will pay the expenses. In instances where the local congregation is not able to bear the financial burden of such a requirement, both Disciples Home Missions and regional entities work together to insure that clergy have the resources needed to meet all requirements. In recent months, the Presidents of DHM and HELM have started a discussion about ways in which we might work more closely together on young adult ministries and with the administering of scholarships. Needless to say, each ministry of DHM has a leadership development component which acknowledges the need in our church for leaders.

4. Becoming a Pro-Reconciling/Anti-Racist Church

Disciples Home Missions has an active Anti-Racist/Pro-Reconciliation Team (ARPRT) that meets monthly to address questions and issues that arise as we seek to become one church untarnished by the sin of racism. Our team lifts up for our mutual edification two books per year that give us understandings of different forms of racial injustice. Our Board of Directors and Staff have received Anti-Racism training and plans are being made to provide such training to our Staff and Board members on a continuing basis. During the summer and fall of 2008, outside consultants conducted a Racism Audit which resulted in an Audit Report that was received on December 13, 2008. The report has been distributed to the Board of Directors and DHM Staff. The Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Team appointed a special Task Force consisting of Executive Staff, Program Staff, and Administrative staff to make recommendations to the appropriate committees of the DHM Board for further review. Although no overt forms of racism were identified in the report, areas were identified where DHM might take a more careful look at some of its practices, potentially necessitating policy changes.

V. CONCLUDING REMARKS

I have written to you, my sisters and brothers, regarding the state of the mission of Disciples Home Missions and our work in regard to the four mission priorities of our church. Even though DHM has reason to boast, I will not speak anything except what Christ has accomplished through DHM for the well being of our church. I so appreciate the collegial spirit and attitude that permeates our life together as Disciples, the intentional partnership in mission between general ministries, regions and congregations, and the promise we have that the God of hope will fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope.

VI. PERSONAL NOTES

I would be remiss without acknowledging the dedicated service of Interim President Dan Clark ('07), Acting Interim President Lester Palmer ('08) and Interim President Don Shelton ('08) who guided Disciples Home Missions during a time of transition and change. These servant leaders have stood on the shoulder of accomplishments of those who came before, as I now stand on theirs. Their work in behalf of the whole church is dear to me and I am privileged to build on the foundation they have laid.

VII. BENEDICTION

Now to God, who is able to strengthen us by the gospel, healing our fragmentation, and joining our ministries together by the power of the Spirit, bless and keep us all both now and forever more. Amen.

All Peoples Christian Center Agency Report 2008

All Peoples Christian Center is a nonprofit, multi-service, multi- generational Family Resource Center. The agency was founded in 1942 to serve the needs of the area's residents. In the beginning, All Peoples Christian Church and Center operated as one entity. However, the church and center separated their financial resources and established separate Boards of Directors in 1964. All Peoples Church and Center maintain a covenantal relationship and work together to meet the educational, recreational, physical, nutritional, emotional and spiritual needs of the community.

The mission of All Peoples Christian Center is to provide a broad spectrum of social services to all, regardless of faith or race, and to empower the community to meet its needs by promoting equality, unity, respect and self-determination among all who participate in its programs.

Here at All Peoples Christian Center (APCC), we continue our commitment to providing employment opportunities and leadership development to community members who serve as role models for all who participate in our programs. We are proud that our leader, Executive Director Saundra Bryant, for the second time in less than a decade received the 2008 Pioneer Woman Award (Council District 9). This award was established by the City of Los Angeles to recognize annually extraordinary women during the month of March, which is National Women's History Month.

APCC, in collaboration with other service providers and public agencies, hosted again in 2007 & 2008 our Health, Resource, and Book Fair. Immunization, health screenings, vision screenings, healthy food choices and access to local agency resources were provided.

We are proud of our youth participant's ages elementary through high school that, in collaboration with fellow nonprofit agencies A Place Called Home and the Coalition for Responsible Community Development, developed and hosted a Youth Summit. The youth-run event included workshops about drug abuse and gang prevention, had guest speakers, and provided non-violent options such as supplies to create art projects.

As we have for several decades, APCC continues to send our young people to Joe Ide Summer Camp, held at Loch Leven; in 2008, 66 youngsters enjoyed swimming, archery, team building experiences, campfires, and fun.

This August, our Wee Weekend Early Education Program graduated its fifth class. There were 38 graduates, and the parents supplied the food and beverages. Thanks to the Disciples Women, blankets and socks donations were distributed with the graduation certificates and books. Over 130 people were in attendance.

We were proud to host this year's Disciples Women Spring Event. In April, almost 200 women from the Pacific Southwest Region shared in fellowship, faith, and love.

Throughout 2007-08, APCC has continued to host church mission trips. The interactions between everyone from the community and church groups is a transformational experience. A recent highlight was the 70 high schoolers and their supervisors from the joint DOC and UCC International Christian Youth Fellowship Program who spent 3 full days in July

working on projects ranging from painting the building to fundraising research. 40 students actually “camped” here at the Center!

Some Highlights of our Current Programs and Services

SCR-Ten Wee Weekend

School Readiness program for children 18 months to five years old and their parents.

After-School Programs

Services to promote personal and social development of youth, including tutoring, after school activities, sports and recreation, school support, computer learning center, enrichment activities and citizenship development. Other components include summer day camp, educational and cultural excursions. Open gym is available three days a week for sports activities and weight lifting. **Tomorrow’s Leaders** - Youth 8-17 years old participates in youth development program funded by United Way, Students receive academic assistance, social development and computer literacy training. **Start Something** is an off track 5-week social development program for youth 1st grade through 5th grade. Program does require school referral.

L.A.U.S.D. Central High-All Peoples Branch

High School for students’ ages of 16-20 years, who do not perform optimally in a traditional school environment or desire re-enrollment in school after dropping out. An accredited diploma is awarded upon completion of requirements.

Parenting Classes, Anger Management Classes, Domestic Violence Support Group

Parents improve parenting skills through classes and group activities, under the direction of the Family Social Worker. Community residents may take weekly classes to learn to deal with violence in their homes. Victims of domestic violence can receive legal assistance, emergency assistance, clothing, housing, and resources to provide them with education and economic independence. Class participants deal with the root causes of anger and violence and are taught replacement strategies and alternatives to violent behavior.

LA BRIDGES

A gang prevention program targeting at-risk middle school youth and their families. Services include homework assistance, computer instruction, transportation, leadership class, job training, sports and recreation, case management, counseling, anger management classes; youth support groups, legal services, and referrals.

Extended Daycare

In collaboration with the International Institute of Los Angeles full day childcare is provided in a group setting for parents who work. State pre-school partial day programs are also provided.

RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)

Individuals 55 years and older are recruited who wish to share their time and energy by helping others. Seniors work in public and private nonprofit agents through Southeast and

South Los Angeles, including food distribution and working alongside local law enforcement.

Supplemental Food Program (SFP)

At APCC, local individuals and families who meet income eligibility requirements receive a bag of groceries each month to supplement their existing food supply. Participants in the program also receive detailed information about other community resources for feeding their families and assistance with accessing those resources.

Board of Directors- 2008

Laura Faer, Esq., *Chair*
Denise Carter, *Secretary*

Christopher Moulding, *Vice-Chair*
Cesar Valladares, *Treasurer*

Miriam K. Brown
 Cantrell Dumas, Esq.

Gilberto Centina
 Anthony J. Tolbert, Esq.

Don Dewey

The agency conducts an independent audit annually and has had no disallowances. The agency administrative costs were 12.2% according to the 2007 audit report.

**All Peoples Christian Center
 Statement of Financial Position
 December 31, 2007**

Assets

Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents, unrestricted	\$	165,209
Restricted cash		13,558
Contracts Receivables		138,381
Other Receivables		6,361
Investments		244,739
Prepaid expenses		5,986

Total current assets 329,495

Property and Equipment, net \$ 689,767

Total assets 1,126,001

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Line of Credit	\$	-
Accounts payable and accrued expenditures		42,148
Current portion of notes payable		-
Deferred Revenue		5,080

Total current liabilities 53,268

Commitments

Net assets:

Unrestricted 1,008,359

Temporarily restricted	-
Permanently restricted	208,414
<u>Total net assets</u>	<u>1,216,773</u>
<u>Total liabilities and net assets</u>	<u>\$ 1,264,001</u>

Our website is www.allpeoplescc.org

Our e-mail is allpeoples@allpeoplescc.org

Christmount Christian Assembly, Inc.

Michael P. Murphy, Executive Director
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Web site: www.christmount.org

Mission Statement: Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, Christmount is the camp, conference and retreat center for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Its mission is to serve God by providing opportunities for life-changing and enriching experiences in faith, knowledge, leadership and personal relationships.

Christmount has served the church for over 60 years as a retreat center. Ours is a ministry of hospitality which provides not only for physical needs like food and lodging, but spiritual and intellectual needs, too. This program ministry has expanded to include eleven youth events and nine adult conferences each year, continuing our commitment to providing educational and spiritual programs for and with the Church. Programs are well-attended. The program ministry is strong and doing well. These programs offer challenges to clergy and laity of all Disciple's traditions.

Christmount's mission is directed towards leadership development and transformation, while providing openness to all Christians regardless of race, national origin, or economic circumstances. Christmount provides scholarships for youth of all ages to attend camp, with a philosophy that turns no child away for economic reasons. Christmount's Patrons Association provides the financial support to carry this out. In 2008, Christmount hosted the SERF Youth Leadership Event for regional youth cabinets, helping to train CYF delegates to better serve their regions. Disciples men from Georgia and North Carolina, North Carolina CWF, and South Carolina Ministers and Mates were here for their 2008 retreats. Christmount will continue to work with regions and general units to be a host for Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism training events. Hispanic churches are using our facility on a regular basis now. Several ministers have used Christmount for their sabbaticals. All of these things strengthen the local church, since participants take home what they have learned and put this knowledge to work in the communities where they live. All of these point to Christmount's continuing to be a strong advocate and participant in current mission priorities of the Disciples of Christ.

Youth and adult Work Camps not only provide labor for tasks on our grounds, but evening programs inspire groups to return home and educate other members about Disciples-related missions and to find ways to become involved in mission in their local communities. In 2009, Christmount begins a mission element to programs as youth and adults are asked to bring components for medical supply boxes to be sent to the Democratic Republic of Congo through Week of Compassion. Christmount continues to educate elders and deacons during the annual Elders and Diaconate Workshop, co-sponsored with Lexington Theological Seminary. A new Arts and Spirituality retreat will teach specific skills while incorporating liturgical elements and relate these to one's personal spiritual journey. Other programs emphasizing leadership development or church transformation include Gigabytes for the Gospel (web site design for local churches), Discovery Weekend Women's Retreat, College Retreat, Oreon E. Scott Clergy Conference, and Christmount Week.

DISCIPLES CARE NETWORK, INC.

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History—Disciples Care Network (DCN) grew out of eighteen health and social services care providers meeting at the 2005 Portland General Assembly. DCN is grateful to the National Benevolent Association board for a generous grant in 2007 for the organizational phase of the Network. Before DCN used up the NBA grant in January 2008, DCN applied to the General Church and some foundations for operating fund grants, all of which were declined. For the past year, DCN has operated solely on membership dues paid by eighteen of the various care ministries.

Now, **87 social and health ministries**, in covenant with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), have agreed to be part of DCN Resource Directory. These ministries have **215 ministry sites** (different physical locations to serve) and serve more than **41,000 persons annually, on your behalf**. Such ministry is worthy of heartfelt celebration within our Church! The upcoming Resource Directory will include program codes as well as listings by state.

DCN Purposes are to:

Increase awareness and encourage celebration among Disciples of the significant compassionate care provided.

Help shape the future direction of social and health care services among Disciples. **Be a team member** in discussing and determining the reorganization of Disciples structure for social and health care ministries.

Call ourselves, as leaders and organizations, to a life with responsibility and accountability.

Encourage members of our Church to act as catalysts in the formation of new ministries of care to meet needs.

Provide collegial consultation to congregations, regions, DCN agencies and groups of churches considering programs to address unmet needs.

Provide support, consultation and improve communication among all Disciples care ministries.

Offer training to aid DCN agency leadership and others to remain current in every changing service delivery environment.

Provide opportunities to Disciples throughout the US and Canada to support Disciples Care Network and its ministries.

Accomplishments—The 2007 Fort Worth General Assembly voted to accept Disciples Care Network as a "Recognized Organization" of the Christian Church. From input of persons meeting during the Fort Worth Assembly, DCN implemented priorities leading to: (1) a website: www.disciplescarenetwork.org, (2) a membership sliding fee scale, to make membership equitable to ministries of all sizes, (3) incorporation and bylaws, with the least possible organizational structure, and (4) leadership training sessions at the DCN annual meetings open to persons outside social and health service delivery and our denomination.

DCN role in fulfilling 2020 Vision Priorities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)—Through Scriptures, God requires **new, transformed and all other congregations** to "...care for the orphan and the widow" and be "...devoted to good works and acts of charity." DCN contacted a diverse group of clergy to get their views of the **value to the congregation of relationships with Disciples care ministries**. The survey input bolsters the thoughts of DCN board and membership and will help guide our future work. The responding Disciples clergy believe relationships with Disciples care ministries **help congregations: (1) understand the conditions of others** in challenging circumstances, many of whom are outside the church fellowship, **(2) have hands-on approaches to ministry**, filling a need to make ministry tangible and, through such, develop "ownership," satisfaction and motivation to partner with Disciples care ministries, which is seen by the respondents as greater than with other deserving ministries not conducted by "our church," **(3) connect with the larger church** by being involved in ministry beyond the congregation and local community, **(4) live out the Gospel** and put into practice the

teachings of Jesus, stay grounded and involved, and prevent worshipers from escaping from the pains of the earth in focusing on heaven, and (5) *receive some direct benefits*, such as being *transformed personally*, becoming residents, or clients, which carries an increased trust and security feelings for those users of service. When members are invited to be volunteers and board members of Disciples care ministries it gives the congregation an increased level of understanding and feeling of participation.

How has DCN collaborated with other expressions of the church and general ministries?—This past year, in keeping with the Mission Alignment policies and process and with the suggestion of Dr. Sharon Watkins, DCN Board of Directors initiated conversations with Disciples Benevolent Services to determine ways our two organizations might collaborate to reduce duplication and maximize compassionate care delivery. At the 2009 General Assembly on Saturday, August 1, Dr. Fred Craddock will speak at the DCN dinner at the Marriott Hotel on the theme “The Church’s Role in Social and Health Services.” DBS (a member of DCN) will co-host this event along with other member ministries.

In 2010, DCN and DBS will jointly sponsor a national leadership training conference to help meet the needs for congregations, regions and care providers to maintain current competence in services delivery. Other ways to work together are part of ongoing discussions. It is the positive conviction of DCN Board that the last chapter of Disciples social and health services should not be the NBA bankruptcy. As painful and damaging as that was, DCN believes it is time to focus on the future and assure continuation of the justifiably proud history of Disciples meeting human need wherever it is.

DCN is in consultation with Disciples Home Missions regarding services to congregations providing social services as a part of their ministries.

Since 2006, DCN has piggybacked its annual meeting with the Christian Church Foundation and Pension Fund sponsored Disciples Development Conference. This arrangement helped save travel and accommodation expenses.

Leadership—BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elected and confirmed at DCN Annual Meeting in San Antonio, January 25-26, 2009: (term ending year)

Ralph Allen, Vice President Mission Advancement, Christian Care Communities, Louisville, KY (‘10)

Bob Mooty, Board Vice President, The Summit, Lynchburg, VA (‘10)

Sue Cherney, Executive Director, Southern Christian Services for Children & Youth, Jackson, MS (‘12)

Bob Cooper, President, Tennyson Center for Children at Colorado Christian Home, Denver, CO (‘10)

Kay Ellis, President, Juliette Fowler Homes, Dallas, TX (‘10)

Wanda Gottschalk, Chief Development Officer, Child Saving Institute, Omaha, NE (‘11)

Linda Hill, Director of Development, Kansas Christian Home, Newton, KS (‘11)

David Lundeen, CEO, Cleveland Christian Home, Cleveland, OH (‘12)

C. Mark Palmer, CEO, Woodhaven, Columbia, MO (‘11)

Don Stump, President, Christian Church Homes of Northern California, Oakland, CA (‘12)

Karen Wardlaw, Administrator, Disciple Homes, Gladewater, TX (‘11)

2009 CORPORATE OFFICERS

President, Bob Cooper, Denver, CO

Vice President, Sue Cherney, Jackson, MS

Secretary/Treasurer, Don Stump, Oakland, CA

STAFF—Don D. Brewer, Director

Ministries paying 2008 DCN membership dues:

Child Saving Institute, Omaha, NE

Christian Care Communities, Louisville, KY

Kansas Christian Home, Newton, KS

Kentucky Appalachian Ministries, Berea, KY

Christian Church Homes, Oakland, CA
Christian Manor, West Palm Beach, FL
Cleveland Christian Home, Cleveland, OH
Disciple Homes Management Group, Gladewater, TX
Disciples Benevolent Services, St. Louis, MO
Florida Christian Center, Jacksonville, FL
Inman Christian Center, San Antonio, TX
Juliette Fowler Homes, Dallas, TX

Manistee Manor, Glendale, AZ
Serra Center, Fremont, CA
Southern Christian Services for Children & Youth,
Jackson, MS
Tennyson Center for Children at Colorado Christian
Home, Denver, CO
The Summit, Lynchburg, VA
Woodhaven, Columbia, MO

Future—There is much yet to do to reach the potential of the Network. Many in the pews say they never heard of most of the Disciple care ministries. Most of the providers think and feel their work is unnoticed and unappreciated by the whole church.

What barriers hinder DCN Ministry?—Coordinating the Network solely on the level of dues that ministries can take from their stringent budgets is difficult in these economic times with increasing demand for services and care.

Thank you!—It is our humble privilege to serve the whole Church in trying to fill the gaps in understanding and service delivery with and for persons with needs. Thank you!

PLEASE join DCN for dinner on August 1, in Indianapolis and visit the DCN website www.disciplescarenetwork.org.

Inman Christian Center 2009 Annual Report



Mission Statement

The Mission of Inman Christian Center is to empower the children, youth, families and elderly to develop to their full physical, mental and spiritual potential within the communities that Inman serves.

As Inman Christian Center continues into its 96th year of service in San Antonio, Texas, the Center still focuses on the inner city families and elderly who need sustainable income, affordable housing and employment opportunity. During the program year that ended on June 30, 2008, Inman offered programs in four areas.

The **Childcare Program** served 208 infants and young children with care, educational and nutrition services. The Center collaborated with the Family Services Association *Smart Start* program to maximize and enrich early learning opportunities for the program's young participants. The family incomes of most of the participants are under \$18,000 yearly.

The **Children, Family and Youth Program** provided summer day camp for 25 neighborhood children. Families in crisis or who have lost employment received emergency supplies to feed and care for their infants. Disciple churches donated formula, supplies and organized the supply room that gave supplies to 429 infants. Additionally, 954 persons were helped with referral information for rental and utility assistance, housing and various health services.

Inman Housing Services continued to operate at capacity throughout the program year. Four of the apartment complexes served 256 elderly residents whose income averaged \$767 monthly. The other two apartment complexes served 43 adults with disabilities whose monthly income was \$788. The ethnicity of the residents over the past year was as follows:

Elderly citizens in residence were 66% Hispanic, 14% White / Non-Hispanic, 14% African-American, 5% Asian and 2% other. Disabled residents served were 33% Hispanic, 37% African-American, 26% White / Non-Hispanic, 5% Asian.

Support services and transportation services were part of each complex's activity.

Inman Mission Volunteers in Service welcomed ten volunteer Disciple groups throughout the spring and summer. Volunteers shared their talents and skills with participants and enhanced Inman's aging facilities. These mission partners provided 3,519 hours of service.

Additionally, three local volunteers gave 4,500 hours of service to help manage and administer the Center. Board members volunteered 300 hours. The Inman Board is ecumenical and diverse in its structure.

Disciple churches and Community Organizations gave \$27,260 worth of new goods to the Center in the 2008 program year.

The Center continues to carry on the mission tradition of Dr. Samuel Guy Inman to lift up education and opportunity and to serve those in need.

Recommended Action:

The General Board receives the reports from Disciples Home Missions, All Peoples Christian Center Agency, Christmount Christian Assembly, Inc., Disciples Care Network, Inc. and Inman Christian Center.