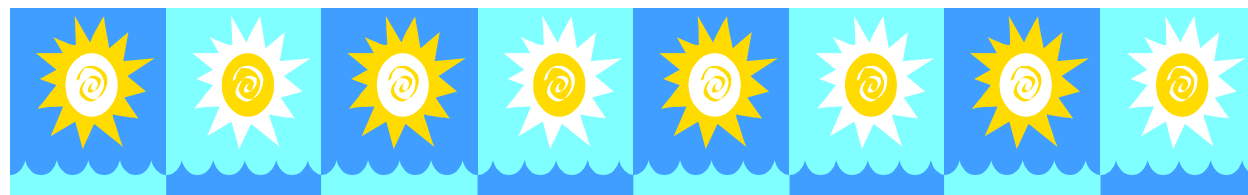




NorthWest Initiative
1012 N. Walnut St.
Lansing, MI 48906

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May/June
2010
NorthWest
Initiative
Newsletter!



May/June Calendar 2010 (May/June Events see P3)							
Title	Day	Time	Location	Title	Day	Time	Location
Programs				Meetings			
				ARRO General Meeting Linda Archer	May 5/ June 2	5:30pm	NWI
Young Phoenix & Young Athena Programs	Saturdays	9:00 am- 12:00 noon	NWI	Hull Ct. Park Neighborhood	May 5/ June 2	For info call 267-9848	
Senior Coffee Hour	Thursdays	10:00 am- 12:00 noon	NWI	Genesee Neighborhood Assoc.	May 6/ June 3	7:00pm	Grace Lutheran Church
Photography Class for Children	May 8/ June 5	11:00am- 12:30pm	NWI	Food Systems Project	May 3/ June 7	4:00pm	LC
National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Group Sessions	Thursdays	7:00 pm- 8:30 pm	NWI	NWI Board Meeting Rudy Wilson	May 4/ June 1	5:30pm	NWI
				Cherry Hill Neighborhood	May 20/ June 17	For info call 351-1389	
Location Addresses and Phone Numbers				Old Forest Neighborhood Kevin Webb	May 20/ June 17	For info call 372-8649	
BCFI= Black Child and Family Institute, 835 W. Genesee, 487-3775	MMLA = Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy, 730 W. Maple, 485-5379			Westside Neighborhood Don Clearwater	May 20/ June 17	7:00pm	LC
CADL= Capitol Area District Li- brary, 401 S. Capitol, 367-6300	NWI= North West Initiative, 1012 N. Walnut St. 999-2894			Knollwood/ Willow N'hood Walter Brown	May 20/ June 17	5:30pm	WE gym
LC= Letts Community Center, 1200 W. Kalamazoo, 483-4311	SH= Scott House, 125 W. Main, 999-2894			Edmore Park Neighborhood Dayle Benjamin	May 21/ June 18	For info call 372-1455	
WE= Willow Elementary, 1012 W. Willow St., 325-6886	TLC= Trinity Lutheran Church, 501 W. Saginaw St. 372-1631			Downtown Neighborhood Monica Zuchowski	May 27/ June 24	6:00pm	CADL
				Walnut Neighborhood Kenetha Gibson	May 27/ June 24	For info call 267-0453	

News for people who live,
work, and play in Lansing's
grand neighborhoods- the
City area bounded on the
north, east, and south by
the Grand River.

Grand Happenings is
produced by
NorthWest Initiative

Page 1

ARRO Hosts Healing Circle For
Spouses/Partners Of
Incarcerated Individuals
NorthWest Initiative Summer
Enrichment Program
Summer Garden Camp At 4
Locations!

Page 2

Kindergarten Round-Up
Knock, Knock, It's The NWI's
Outreach Team
NWI-Site For Free Summer
Food Program For Children
Join Our Ex-Offender
Advisory Board
Volunteer Canvassers Needed

Page 3

Look At Them Move
Attention Ingham Health Plan
Member
Caring And Learning Group
Ban-The-Box

Page 4

May/June Meeting
Calendar

NorthWest Initiative
North Neighborhood Center

1012 N. Walnut St.
Lansing, MI 48906
Phone: (517) 999-2894
OR (517) 999-2895
Fax: (517) 999-2897
www.nwlansing.org

Submit an Article!

Send July/August newsletter
submissions by June 5th to
peggy@nwlansing.org

May/June 2010

Grand Happenings

ARRO Hosts Healing Circle For Spouses/Partners Of Incarcerated Individuals

NorthWest Initiative's ARRO Program will be hosting a support group for partners and spouses of currently incarcerated men and women. The group will focus on giving helpful tips on how to successfully advocate for your incarcerated loved one and be a support system for you. It will be a great place to learn about services that can help you and your loved one upon re-entry. The first healing circle will be held on **May 6, 2010 at 1012 N. Walnut St., Suite 107 from 5:30-6:30.** The group will be held every other Thursday until November 18, 2010. Linda Archer, ARRO's Advisory Board Chairperson, will be coordinating this support group. For questions or comments Linda can be reached at 999-2895 or email Maria at maria@nwlansing.org



NorthWest Initiative Summer Enrichment Program

For youth ages 9-16
Monday, June 14, 2010 - Friday, August 20, 2010
Every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

A variety of sessions such as arts and crafts, photography, gardening, financial literacy, cooking, community service projects, and educational field trips.

**FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM
FOR ALL SCHOOL AGE YOUTH**

Summer Garden Camp At 4 Locations!

Gardening, cooking, games & crafts - Ages 7+

Where: Riddle Elementary; 221 Huron St, Lansing, MI 48915
When: June 15 - July 1; Tue., Wed. & Thurs. from 12pm-3pm

Where: Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy; 730 W. Maple Street, 48906
When: July 6 - July 22; Tue., Wed. & Thurs. from 12pm-3pm

Where: Cavanaugh Elementary; 300 W Cavanaugh Rd Lansing, MI 48910
When: July 27 - August 12; Tue., Wed. & Thurs. from 12pm-3pm

Where: Willow Elementary; 1012 W. Willow Street, Lansing, MI 48915
When: August 17 - Sept 2; Tue., Wed. & Thurs. from 12pm-3pm

Contact Joy Baldwin to enroll @ (517) 999-2894.

Board of Directors
Cindy Carlano Margaret Groves Michael Flowers, Vice President Joe McDonald Nick Lynch Carol Skillings, Treasurer Vennisha Smith Rudy Wilson, President Angie Zamora, Secretary
Staff
Jeana-Dee Allen VISTA Community Building Assistant Joy Baldwin Food Systems Project Coordinator & Webmaster Rick Bennett Program Assistant Janine Boylan Americorps FSP Volunteer Coordinator Stephanie Campbell FSP Nutrition Education & Physical Fitness Coordinator Elizabeth Collins-Jones Office Assistant Lori Eva VISTA Program Development Assistant Renee French Office Assistant Steve Harmon Community Outreach Worker Kathy Hollister Community Outreach Specialist Monica Jahner ARRO Outreach Worker Maxine Mills Receptionist Diane Rethamel Office Assistant Laymon Risper Jr. Program Assistant Qosmon Sagataw Food Systems Project Assistant Nikki Schippel WCA Assistant Ramona Spencer FSP Garden Coordinator Peggy Vaughn-Payne Executive Director Jessica Yorko Westside Commercial Association Manager Maria Zavala Outreach Manager
The Mission

The NorthWest Initiative is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization working to strengthen and sustain healthy communities in Lansing's grand neighborhoods- the City area bounded by the Grand River on the north, east, and south. The Ingham County Health Department and the City of Lansing sponsors the Initiative. Program partners include residents, neighborhood organizations, local nonprofit organizations, human service agencies, and units of Michigan State University.

Kindergarten Round-Up

The Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy is hosting their last Kindergarten Round-Up event on Friday, June 4, 2010 between the hours of 8:30am and 2:00pm. Bring in your pre-kindergarten child for activities and learn about our free, full-day Kindergarten program! Contact (517) 485-5379 ext.1000 for more information. The Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy is located at 730 W. Maple Street, Lansing.



Knock, Knock It's The NWI's Outreach Team

Canvassing season is upon us. Starting April 20, 2010, a team of Outreach Workers will be visiting your neighborhood and going door-to-door in order to help you apply for health programs such as: Ingham Health Plan, Healthy Kids, Food Stamps, Medicaid, and many more services! We can also help connect you to other services not provided in the community such as food access programs: Food Movers, Food Pantries, Angel Food Ministries, and many others. If you are in need of such services prior to some one coming to your door, do not hesitate to call Maria or Monica at 999-2895. You can visit our office at 1012 N. Walnut St., Suite 106.

NWI - Site For Free Summer Food Program For Children

NorthWest Initiative in collaboration with the Lansing School District's Free Summer Food Program will once again host free breakfast and lunch for neighborhood children. The food program will start Monday, June 21st through Friday, August 20th. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 - 9:30 am and lunch from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. Please call 999-2894 to register your child(ren) to participate with this free program!

Join Our Ex-Offender Advisory Board

ARRO is seeking ex-offenders and community members interested in joining the advisory board. This Advisory Board will determine the program that will be helpful for people reentering the community after serving time in a correctional institution. If you or someone you know has ever been incarcerated please call Maria or Monica at 999-2895. If you do not wish to serve on the board, Maria and Monica would still appreciate hearing your comments, and suggestions.

Volunteer Canvassers Needed

The Outreach team needs highly motivated and enthusiastic volunteers to go door-to-door and connect the neighborhood members to quality resources in our community that can help with transportations, food access, housing assistance, employment services, and many other services. If you can volunteer for 2 to 3 hours a week please call Maria at 999-2895 or email her at maria@nwlansing.org.

Look At Them Move

We are at it again! The group, otherwise known as the Fitness Newbie's is on the move! We'd like to invite you to join us on Wednesday nights for a little fun and fitness! Every week varies as to what exactly we are doing and what time. We could walk, dance or strike a new Yoga pose! Either way, we have loads of fun and get fit in an easy way! If this sounds like something you'd like to do, please contact Stephanie for times and events. She can be reached at (517) 999-2894 or you can e-mail her at stephaniec@nwlansing.org. We look forward to getting fit with you!

Attention Ingham Health Plan Member

Have you had your first Doctors Appointment? If not, we can help you get established with your assigned doctor or clinic. Did you also know that if you don't use your card you might loose your benefits. So let us help you get your doctors appointment scheduled. Call Maria for an appointment at 999-2895 or email her at maria@nwlansing.org.



Caring And Learning Group

Are you a relative care provider or day care aide enrolled with DHS? Do you care for an infant or toddler (birth to 36 months)? Is the child's behavior upsetting or hard to handle? Does it worry you? If so, check out this opportunity! The Caring and Learning Group, lead by a child care consultant will provide you with a chance to meet people and share ideas and concerns about the children you care for. The group will assist parents and child care providers with ways to help infants and toddlers with behavior problems. Problem behaviors can get in the way of learning. The sooner we find out what is causing a problem behavior, the easier it is to help the child. Then the child can get back to his "job" - playing and learning! For more information please contact Annette Stamm at 517-999-2895.

Ban-The-Box



For the past few years, A.R.R.O has tried to get some momentum going for a city ordinance called "Ban the Box". Many other cities have attempted to adopt it. Kalamazoo has been the first city in Michigan to do so. The ordinance requires the removal of the box on job applications that asks if you have ever been convicted of a felony. This ordinance would eliminate the practice of applications being automatically thrown into the trash with out proper consideration, a practice that discriminates against ex-offenders. This ordinance would allow a fair consideration of an individual based on work experience and education rather than just on their previous convictions. Once selected for a job interview the ex-offender can let the employer know of their past record and how he or she has been rehabilitated. At this point, the employer can choose to run a background check on the person and negotiate terms of employment if he or she is the best candidate for the job. We all make mistakes, some worse than others, but we all need a job to make a living and not be a burden on society. Without the support of our community, we can't get these laws and ordinances changed without you. To find out how you can help please call Monica at 517-999-2895.

Upcoming Events

World Day at Hunter Park: A Joint Celebration of World Refugee Day And The Hunter Park Music Fest

Join us Saturday, June 5th, 2010, for a full afternoon of music and dance performances (Salsa, Tai Chi, Step, Eastern Dance); Arts and Crafts; tours of the Hunter Park etc. For more information please contact The Allen Neighborhood Center @ 517-367-2468

Let's Garden Lansing

For a full calendar of gardening education events, visit: www.lets gardenlansing.org or call 272-4146.

Save The Date!

Westside Summer Fest Is July 24, 2010 For more information or to help with planning this year's event, please call Jessica at 999-2894.

Food Resources

Panera Bread Distribution Every Thursday from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm NorthWest Initiative 1012 N. Walnut St., Room 106 517-999-2895

Angel Food Ministries Place orders in the middle of the month and pick up at the end of the month. Call Julie @ (517) 485-0174 (Must enroll prior to distribution)

Great Food for All Place orders at the beginning of the month and pick up in the middle of the month. Call Jack @ (517) 374-2650 (Must enroll prior to distribution)

Food Movers Distribution May 12th and June 9th from 11am-12pm Black Child and Family Institute 835 W. Genesee St. Lansing, MI 48915 517-487-3775 (Must enroll prior to distribution)