

HOPE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SEEKING THE PEACE OF THE CITY

Special Report February 2006

Hope CCF exists to serve donors & ministries in the Mid-South in order to facilitate the building of God's kingdom in our community and throughout the world

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Seeking the Peace of the City



CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

HOPE CCF SPONSORS BIG IDEAS FORUM

On February 21, 2006, Hope Christian Community Foundation hosted its first "Big Ideas" Forum. Eight community leaders were invited to present their next big idea. We defined a big idea as a program that could have a transformational impact on the city. While some of the ideas were not necessarily new, we believe them to be new to Memphis. We greatly appreciate the participation of these leaders, and we are excited by the quality of the ideas presented and thoughtfulness of those presenting the ideas.

If you are interested in these ideas, please contact us for more information. Hope CCF intends to pursue one or more of these ideas either financially or otherwise. We would welcome hearing from you if you share that desire.

We have summarized these ideas in this special report as shown below:

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Dr. Rick Donlon, Medical Director, Christ Community Health Services

Summary: Establish an integrated, long-term development program targeting the youth of the Binghampton neighborhood by forming a partnership of area faith based non-profits including Christ Community Health Services (CCHS), SOS (Service Over Self) and Eikon Ministries.

Details: The Binghampton neighborhood of Memphis is located in the geographic center of Memphis with Poplar and Summer bordering it on the north and south, respectively, and east and west borders of Holmes and Parkway, respectively. Census data indicates one-half of the area's households have income of less than \$20,000, almost 1/3 of households are headed by a female with no husband present and 60% are renter occupied. As a result, area youth are "at risk" facing issues including lack of parental involvement, deficient education programs, teen pregnancies, criminal behavior, drug use, gang involvement, etc.

CCHS, SOS and Eikon will partner to target younger kids and focus on reading skills assessment, directed tutoring, and alternative educational options serving as a bridge between parents and teachers. The program would offer community interventions including expanded year round, after-school sports programs, mentor rich activities with mentor continuity and would connect after school activities to voluntary religious involvement. Family interventions would be based on a case-management model with frequent in-home visits and increase parental involvement in schools. The program involves committed grass-roots partners using evidenced based strategies to make a significant, long term impact on the community.

Costs: To be determined

Howard Eddings, Executive Director, Memphis Leadership Foundation

Summary: In co-operation with other Leadership Foundations in the United States, establish a national initiative ("Execucorps") to build stronger communities by strengthening community based

organizations and programs through the development of a corps of volunteers with corporate leadership expertise.

Details: During January of 2006, the oldest of the Baby Boomer generation began turning age 60. Between 1945 and 1965, 77 million people included in this group were born in the United States including 178,000 in Memphis. This group represents a vast resource for non-profits as Boomers search for meaningful outlets and opportunities to use their talents developed over a lifetime. Properly harnessed and directed, this group could be transformative for non-profit organizations and our City.

Execucorp would recruit leaders/volunteers to be placed in non-profits in positions that would utilize their skill sets and life experiences to build organizational capacity. They will be trained and equipped to become change agents to help community based organizations survive and succeed. In addition, it would assist non-profits build volunteer management capacity so they will be equipped to respond to this potential resource.

Costs: Approximately \$150,000 annually

Michael Heidingsfield, President/CEO, Memphis Shelby Crime Commission

Summary: Consolidate the delivery of certain police services offered by the Memphis Police Department and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office to eliminate or reduce inefficiencies, jurisdictional debates, confusion and dissatisfaction within the public, and inconsistent application of law enforcement standards and methodologies.

Details: Certain police functions are more effectively delivered to the Memphis metropolitan area if they are offered by single authority rather than those dictated by multiple political jurisdictions. These include training academies, emergency operations centers, investigation of certain types of crime (auto theft, organized crime, narcotics and gangs which can thrive because of a lack of inter-agency coordination), tactical response teams, data-driven crime analysis and a public integrity unit. The Memphis Police Department and Shelby County Sheriff's would remain as separate entities with joint integrated

responsibility and accountability for the merged functions. Several metropolitan areas similar to Memphis/Shelby County have successfully consolidated law enforcement functions including Nashville, Louisville and Charlotte.

Costs: While this program should result in cost savings in certain areas, research does not establish that there are intrinsic savings in the consolidation of police functions. The primary measurable benefits would be seen over the long term and be reflected in lower crime rates, shortened response time, fewer citizen complaints, etc.

Dr. Carol Johnson, Superintendent, Memphis City Schools

Summary: Every Child, Every Day, College Bound.

Details: While not a specific program or idea, the Memphis City School's focus is the development of students prepared to pursue post secondary education. To achieve this goal, the schools must engage students and expose them to a technologically changing world much larger than the average student's world. Schools must tap into the student's excitement. At the same time, schools must pursue equity and excellence in educational opportunities.

Dr. Larry Lloyd, President, Crichton College

Summary: Establish a program entitled "Rising Stars" to increase the percentage of high school graduates from Memphis City Schools enrolling in College to 25% by training approximately 300 area college students to work as college counselors in every high school in Memphis.

Details: Memphis' adult population is woefully under-educated in terms of holding college degrees. Only 17% of the City's adult population holds a bachelors degree versus a national average of 25%. This needs to change if Memphis wants to compete for progressive businesses, qualified labor force and an economically sound future.

Many high school students in Memphis with ambitions for college lack critical and complicated college planning information (financial aid, college testing, proper high school course selections) they need to make informed choices on how to realize these ambitions. In

many cases, as first generation college go-ers, they also lack a role model or parent to support this ambition. Memphis City Schools employ guidance counselors who focus on other issues in addition to college but are relatively few in number due to budget constraints.

Rising Stars would place a staff of 10 college students from local universities in each of the 31 high schools in the City with the goal of motivating and enrolling students in college, community college or trade school that best suits their goals for the future. They would work with students on appropriate curriculum decisions, ACT/SAT prep or tutoring, college tours and financial aid counseling.

Costs: Approximately \$450,000 annually

Robert Montague, Executive Director, Binghamton Development Corp.

Summary: Establish a non-profit credit union as an alternative source of loans for the poor currently being exploited by predatory lenders.

Details: Memphis is the bankruptcy and foreclosure capital of the world due largely to predatory lending practices. Such lenders target a segment of the population not targeted by conventional banks. Loans from such lenders involve high fees and interest rates and are based on inflated values and fraudulent applications. This results in an inability to repay loans, followed by foreclosure and possible bankruptcy. In addition to legislative and educational efforts underway, a non-profit credit union would be established to target this sub-prime market for loans. A model for such a credit union has been successful in North Carolina for 20 years. Utilizing more flexible credit scoring, alternative funding sources and counseling for customers, this model has provided almost \$4 billion in financing at affordable costs and has experienced lower than average loan losses.

Costs: Approximately \$1 million in start-up costs. Deposits base approximately \$15-20 million. (HCCF estimates)

Dr. Scott Morris, Executive Director, Church Health Center

Summary: Establish a Collaborative Community Pharmacy (CCP) to provide needed

pharmaceuticals at low cost to low-wage, uninsured individuals as well as to those TennCare patients who exceed the monthly prescription maximum.

Details: The growing number of uninsured individuals and the reduction in TennCare coverage has caused increased demand for access to affordable pharmaceuticals. Initially, the CCP would serve patients in Shelby County as a model to eventually be replicated in other areas for eventual statewide roll-out. Uninsured persons making no more than 200% of the federal poverty level would qualify. Patients would pay a small annual fee (\$20 or so) as well as a small dispensing fee per prescription. Prescriptions would allow for medication substitution within class of drug. Medication Therapy Management will be used with patients to improve usage and benefit of medications. Medicines for the pharmacy would be supplied by Patient Assistance Programs (programs run by pharmaceutical companies to provide free medications to people who cannot afford to buy their medicine), samples and lower pricing discount programs from drug companies.

Costs: Approximately \$2 million start-up costs, self-funding thereafter

Dr. Shirley Raines, President, University of Memphis

Summary: In partnership with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, establish a School of Public Health.

Details: There are two approaches to health: clinical and public. A clinical approach focuses on the treatment of illness and diseases of individuals. A public approach promotes general health and disease prevention and is focused on the population rather than an individual. There have been many public health successes in the twentieth century such as the fluoridation of drinking water, infectious disease control, safer workplaces and food, recognition of tobacco as a health problem and others.

Memphis has significant public health issues including teen pregnancy rates 50% higher than national rates and infant death rates at twice national rates. Other local public health issues include quality of the water supply and hazard response to earthquakes, bioterrorism, etc.

An accredited school of public health in Memphis would educate professionals, conduct research, outreach through community based approaches to teaching and services and play a key role required to respond to population needs. It would also provide access to funding and resources to address Memphis health issues to which only accredited schools have access. The school would offer masters of public health in 5 disciplines (biostatic, behavioral health, environmental health, epidemiology, and health administration), doctoral degrees in at least three and certification programs meeting community needs.

Costs: Start up costs of approximately \$5 million (\$1 million annually) with self sufficiency after 5 years

ABOUT HOPE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

We were founded in 1998 to develop and encourage giving in Memphis and around the world. The focus of our donors is the inner-City. In addition, we seek out and encourage ministries that bear witness to Christ's Kingdom and work toward community transformation.

Since 1998, gifts made through HCCF total over \$56 million with more than 80% of these gifts made to Christian charitable organizations. The same percentage went to non-profits serving the inner-city of Memphis. Assets at the end of 2005 were \$48 million. We are the second largest Christian community foundation in the United States.

Hope Christian Community Foundation is a non-profit and tax-exempt community foundation. Your gifts are tax deductible.

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