



 **redeemer center for life**  
INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT NORTH MINNEAPOLIS



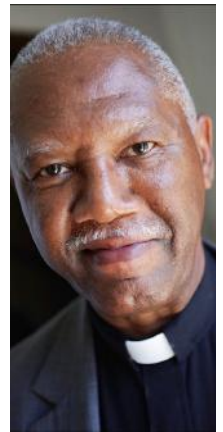
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Redeemer Center for Life is a neighborhood anchor dedicated to healthy community in North Minneapolis. When you walk through Redeemer's campus and visit Venture North Bike and Coffee Shop, Health Commons, Milda's Café, or the community garden, you might feel as if you were in small town or village. That is the feeling of community Redeemer Center for Life has established. Redeemer is increasingly a place where "everybody knows you and everybody knows your name." In the Health Commons, where residents participate in Healing Circle, yoga, massage, and health consultation, Northsiders get to know one another. In Milda's and Venture North, in addition to quality service, people get to know one another. In our 26 housing units, in addition to having a safe and affordable place to call home, people have a sense of being known. It is that sense of being known and cared for that says my life matters.

There are many stories of the positive impact we have when we work together. Perhaps at the top of the list is the difference we can make with young men growing up in North Minneapolis. To share just one recent story, Daman (name changed) participated as a mechanic trainee three years ago while in high school. The following year, he worked as a summer employee along with twenty-four other high school youth. Last year, he returned seeking a job here. Daman is a wonderful worker and we asked why he did not seek more permanent employment? He stated he liked the sense of community and belonging he experienced at Redeemer. What we later came to discover is the difficult environment Daman lives in. He brother was murdered last year, and another brother recently went to prison. Daman is an exceptional worker. He doesn't just need work, he needs a safe and secure place to live and call home. He needs a place of hope. Thanks to your partnership and support, Redeemer Center for Life offers more than programs, we offer hope. Each bike and cup of coffee sold at Venture North is a measure of hope. Every youth trained and employed, apartment filled, and encounter is hope for a better future for Daman and for us all. Thank you again for your partnership and support! Peace,

*Kelly Chatman*



## Remembering Kirk Washington Jr.



In April 2016, the Northside lost a pillar of the community when Kirk Washington Jr. was killed in a tragic accident. Kirk was a poet, activist, and community leader. Kirk lived with his partner Aster and their two daughters in Redeemer housing. Kirk's passion and community leadership over the years was one of the many inspirations for what has become the Northside Leadership project. Together Kirk and Aster hosted The Breakfast Club which became a crucial gathering place for Harrison and Northside neighbors to build relationship and vision for change. Kirk's legacy will continue to shape the Northside and Minneapolis through the impact of his work and in the generation of new leaders with whom he partnered and mentored.

## Housing and HAT

Fifteen Housing and Transition residents all maintained progress toward education and employment goals, with an additional six families and twelve single adults in supportive housing at RCFL. Our resident Northside Leaders volunteered 1800 hours in community collaborations, most with youth support, and three were elected to leadership positions in the neighborhood association.

## Community Planning & Engagement

RCFL continues as part of the Health Equity & Engagement Cohort (HEEC), in work with Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis to ensure that the Bottineau light rail extension will both benefit and help retain Northside residents. The first major milestone of the community process came with the release of initial Station Area Plans in 2015. In 2016, we updated input with door to door surveys and worked with graduate students at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs to complete a paper "Moderating Gentrification in the Harrison Neighborhood of North Minneapolis." Station Area Plans for Harrison and Near North will continue to evolve in 2017. Meanwhile, summer cookouts and the annual Redeemer Block Party both grew in 2016. We supported organizers of a new Northside Greenway and hosted creative collaborations including the international Carnival de Resistance performance residency, and H-Cubed: Harrison, Harmony and Healing, an artist-led performance, open-mic and community conversation series,



## Venture North

Venture North celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2016 and continued to grow as both a business and an anchor of neighborhood activity. We saw a six percent sales growth and nine youth apprentices were trained and refurbished 37 bikes for use in summer camps. Venture North also served as a host site for the new H-Cubed performance series.

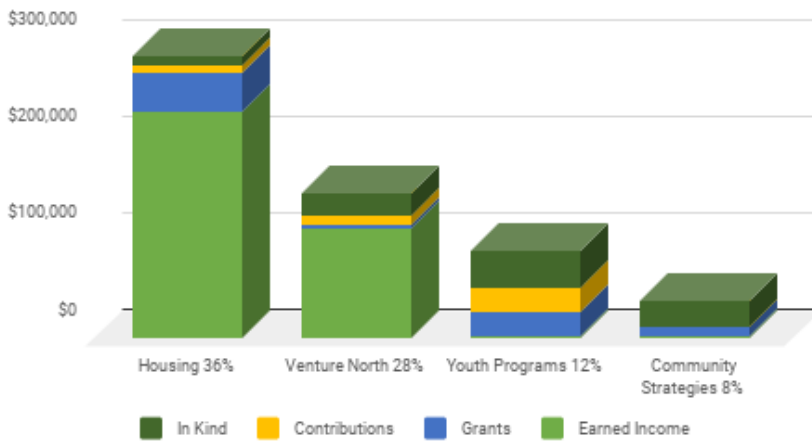
## Health Commons

Our Harrison Health Commons collaboration with Fairview and the University of Minnesota saw a 50 percent increase in participation with drop-in hours, nurse consultations, free massages and yoga filling the Living Room with activity, and Thursday's popular Zumba class expanding to the church's Fellowship Hall for more room to move.

## Youth Leadership

Redeemer Center involved 55 youth in out-of-school-time programs, provided 25 STEP-UP and EMERGE! summer internships, supported 20 youth and young adults in leadership and job skills development, and 30 youth in interchanges with college campuses. Youth-led entrepreneurship included Redeemer Youth Handmade and Fashionistas projects, where youth created fashion accessories and engaged as vendors at Northside events. Redeemer joined a metro-wide group of youth organizations in 2016 for skill and resource sharing to support youth in civic leadership. Entrepreneurial activity continues with our new "YouthBank" youth-led funding for youth-led projects, Stitching Love Enterprises creating traditional and contemporary clothing, and evolving projects to create retail items for sale in Venture North and other venues.

## 2016 Funding by Program Area



## Statement of Financial Position as of Dec. 31, 2016

### Assets:

Assets	<b>\$134,578.00</b>
Receivables & Prepaid Expenses	<b>\$36,336.00</b>
Inventory	<b>\$21,836.00</b>
Land, Buildings, Equipment (Net)	<b>\$1,931,696.00</b>

### Liabilities & Equity:

Current Liabilities	<b>\$141,091.00</b>
Long Term Liabilities	<b>\$353,407.00</b>
Unrestricted Net Assets	<b>\$1,605,448.00</b>
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<b>\$24,500.00</b>

**Note:** Program costs include allocations for fundraising, management and general expenses which together account for 16 percent of Redeemer Center for Life's total 2016 expenses of \$730,084.

**\*\*These are audited figures. The full audit report is available upon request and at our website: [www.redeemercenter.org](http://www.redeemercenter.org).**

### \$5,000 and Over:

Anonymous  
Kelly & Cheryl Chatman  
R. Michael & Sharon Conley  
Kala J. & Don Keefe, Jr.  
Neisha Reynolds

### \$1,000 - \$4,999

Gerald & Kathleen Albanese  
Dennis Skovsted & Jill Griffin  
Mary Simonson & John L. Clark  
Carrie & Brian Determan  
Tootie Martin  
Mikyoung Park  
Karis Thompson & Matt Trefz  
Jeff Stutzman

### \$500 - \$999

Yolanda Denson-Byers  
Eric Hagestuen  
Nathan C. Johnson  
Walter E. Jr. & Nancy A. Meadley  
William Mullen  
Kirk Nelson\*  
Kent & Linda Schwitzer

### \$100-\$499

Anonymous (x 2)  
Samuel & Martha Bardwell  
Todd Benson  
Dianne & Robert Bonfiglio  
Jill Chamberlain  
Babette Chatman  
Curtis & Mary Coats  
Irene Fernando  
Thomas Fiebiger  
Randy Gatzke

## Givers

Bob & Barbara Griffin  
Charlotte "Shoonie" Hartwig  
Ruby & Don Heiden  
Cynthia Hoffer\*  
Rev. Eva Jensen  
Nancy Landau  
Jeannette Laven  
Joe Lees & Katy Ross  
Hannah Lichtsinn  
Jean C. Lindahl  
Nancy Lindau  
David M. & Meredith Litsey  
Mark Lueck  
Stephen & Mary Patnode  
Delores Peterson  
Margaret Dexheimer Pharris  
Brandon Rothe  
Maja Sahlberg  
Dale Simonson  
Michael & Barbara Stadie  
Gabriel Steinmetz  
Bruce Waugh & Family  
David & Denise Werden

### \$0-\$99

Julie Anderson-Smith  
I. Shelby Andress  
Anonymous (x 18)  
Andrea Barnett  
Lorna Jean Bell  
Rachel Birkedal  
Sarah & Paul Bliss  
Angela Bonfiglio  
Cheryl E. Branch  
John Bueche

Joy McDonald Coltvet  
Jenney Egertson  
Stephanie Coltvet Erdmann  
Elaine Eschenbacher  
Genevieve Finseth  
Chelsea Forbrook  
Amanda France  
Kelly Schumacher Fuller  
Richard & Shirley Fulmer  
Mike Grosso  
Justin Halvorson  
Andrew Harris  
C. John Hildebrand  
Larry Kaatz  
Charles Larson  
Naomi Loges  
J. D. Mechelke  
Scott Moen  
Ray Pickett  
Alyssa Schwitzer  
W. D. Schwitzer  
Matthew Seltzer  
Thomas Siberg  
Brian Sostek  
Sarah M. Stadie  
Eileen Supple  
Jess Swanson  
Peter VanKoughnett  
Susan Verrett  
Alexis Watts  
Peter G. Wemeier  
Bob Wood

*\* these gifts also generated employer matching funds*

### Organizations

Augsburg College  
Calvary Lutheran  
Chapin Consulting  
City of Minneapolis  
Deb Garvey Communications  
Downtown Congregations  
to End Homelessness  
Edina Community Lutheran  
ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant  
Fairview Health Services  
Faith Lutheran of Waconia  
Headwaters Foundation  
Immanuel Lutheran  
Mercy Seat Lutheran  
Nexus Community Partners  
NiceRideMN  
Otto Bremer Foundation  
Redeemer Lutheran  
St. Barnabas Lutheran  
St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran  
Sam & Vera Fund, Mpls Fdn  
Sundance Family Foundation  
Sundet Family Foundation  
University of Minnesota Extension  
Wedge Community Co-op  
Youthprise

### Designated giving through Thrivent Choice and others:

Bonnie Campbell  
Mark Morton  
Caroline Nelson  
Kirk Nelson  
John Schwehn  
Peter Wemeier  
Dan Yetzer  
Laurie Beckman Yetzer