

Brief Mission and History of the Organization

In The City For Good is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to facilitating collaboration between inner-city, community-based organizations and other external entities or individuals who are seeking to revitalize the inner-city. Founded in 1998, the organization has expanded to be an independent 501(c)3. Its primary focus is the South Dallas/Fair Park community. Currently, In The City For Good builds relationships and leverages the talents of a variety of groups in South Dallas including St. Philip's School and Community Center, Circle of Support, Mount Olive Lutheran Church Food Pantry, Park South YMCA, Hope Restoration, Vision Regeneration, and Outcry In the Barrio.

The structure and operation of In The City for Good (ITCFG) is different from most charitable organizations. We are a group of individuals who partner with the leaders of growing charitable organizations in South Dallas. The experienced business leaders of ITCFG work as assistants alongside the neighborhood leaders of the inner city who have dedicated their lives to addressing some of society's most devastating problems. In The City For Good's goal is not to recreate the good works their partners are doing, but to enhance their efforts by providing services not readily available to grassroots neighborhood organizations. ITCFG does this by serving on the boards of their partners, preparing financial reports, providing technical assistance, providing transportation or mobilizing volunteers when helpful, and offering occasional financial assistance.

In The City For Good has a history of providing logistic, financial, and volunteer support to organizations in the inner-city that have a proven track record of impacting their community. This has included supporting and expanding current hunger relief programs, providing mentors for a program working to end predatory teen violence, as well as funding and building a state-of-the-art 50 bed home for men that are addicted to drugs and/or alcohol.

Some of the non-profit partner organizations and projects ITCFG has been involved with include the following:

- Outcry In The Barrio is a faith-based substance abuse ministry and facility that helps substance abusers. Once an individual completes the program they are reintegrated into society and reunited with their families and children. ITCFG board members raised almost \$400,000 to construct a new facility which houses over 40 men currently. ITCFG continues to provide ongoing monthly support for Outcry In The Barrio's operations.
- Circle of Support is an eight week summer learning and enrichment program for girls and boys in South Dallas. Over 325 children are attending this program at the Joseph J. Rhodes Learning Center this summer. ITCFG has provided funding for teachers, lunches, and other costs associated with the program over the years. ITCFG currently shares a board member with Circle of Support.
- Park South YMCA is providing an array of services including teaching over 2,000 inner-city children to swim for the first time and providing daily preschool education to over

50 children. ITCFG is an Urban Swim partner that helped provide funding for these children's swim lessons and is building a teaching garden and safe area where the children can play and learn.

- Mt. Olive Food Pantry provides meals for the homeless and food for needy families. Many of the recipients of these services are children. ITCFG has provided funding for food donations and volunteers to this important charity.
- Hope Restoration seeks to restore hope in the community through job training, counseling services for ex-offenders, addicts and the grief stricken; and providing assistance to the homeless, senior citizens, and working parents. ITCFG is a major sponsor of the Summer Of Hope children's camp each year.
- St. Philip's School and Community Center enhances the lives of children regardless of economic background, but with particular emphasis on low and moderate income families, through educational excellence, Christian principles, and compatible community services.

Amount Requested (Current Fundraising Goal & Specific Purpose for Funds)

We are requesting \$20,000 toward the renovation and expansion of an existing building in order to more efficiently provide the hunger relief services currently being offered. The City of Dallas has donated an existing building and property at no cost. Total budget is \$286,528. \$95,709 for the renovation of the interior of the existing building, \$72,819 for the renovation of the exterior of the existing building, \$68,000 for environmental remediation services and roughly \$50,000 for coolers/freezers/interiors. ITCFG has taken on the responsibility of renovating this property but the daily operation of the facility, including food and staff budgeting, will be the responsibility of St. Philip's Community Center. We are requesting these funds for renovation by See attached exhibits.

Description of Proposed Program and Community Need

In The City For Good, on behalf of St. Philip's School and Community Center, is collaborating with the City of Dallas, Quorum Commercial, The Trammell Crow Company, and Bodman Law to provide hunger relief to families in Dallas County. St. Philip's School and Community Center has an existing hunger relief program that is serving over 700 families in zip codes 75210, 75215, and 75216, all of which are in Dallas County. Though the program has been very successful, the number of families needing assistance is ever growing and the facilities are not adequate to serve this swelling population. Because of these inadequate facilities, children and the elderly have to wait in the hot sun or pouring rain to receive their pre-packaged food assistance bags. Tragically, there have been several occasions where clients have been unable to wait for their food in these extreme conditions and have not received food because they either left early or chose not to brave the elements and wait in line at all.

In an effort to better meet the needs of the community, In The City For Good has proposed the renovation of an abandoned liquor store located at 1502 Pennsylvania Ave, Dallas, TX, 75215. This property is adjacent to the current food pantry facilities. The building has been an abandoned blight in the neighborhood for over a decade. In The City For Good intends to renovate the facility and provide a food pantry that is equipped with state of the art equipment

and allow clients to shop for foods that will best meet their family's needs. What was once an eyesore in the neighborhood can now be a facility that brings dignity and prosperity to its neighbors.

St. Philip's food program differentiates itself from other food programs in a few key areas:

- This food program is uniquely targeted towards "working poor" families with children and senior citizens, most of which are not homeless, but in poverty no less.
- The development of the new facility will allow this program to grow into a model that allows clients to choose the food that will best suit the dietary needs of their family.
- This will be a nutrition based food selection system that will incorporate the recommendations of the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans published by the U. S. Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services.
- Clients will receive a food credit tailored to their family's unique needs and be allowed to shop for their groceries in a state of the art facility.
- This program will also provide a variety of foods from a variety of sources. It will not be limited to a handful of canned products, clients will have access to a variety of foods much like a local grocery store.
- Obesity rates increased by 10 percent for all U.S. children 10- to 17-years old between 2003 and 2007, but by 23 percent during the same time period for low-income children (Singh et al., 2010a). This national study of more than 40,000 children also found that in 2007, children from lower income households had more than two times higher odds of being obese than children from higher income households.
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- This cutting edge model not only addresses the health concerns among low-income families, it has been successful in other major cities including the Detroit, Michigan area. Food pantries utilizing the client choice model have reported an increased sense of dignity for clients, their families and a higher satisfaction with the food they are able to choose. This ultimately results in less waste and lower operating cost per family. This method also educates families in the area of healthy diet and helps battle a growing problem of obesity and diabetes among low-income families.
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- Providing a hunger relief program is an ongoing effort, because, according to the 2010 census data, this community has a median household income of \$20,240 for a family of four. St. Philip's food pantry has been serving the community for several years but has seen an increase of approximately 40% since 2009. A method of service must be implemented that not only provides a temporary solution to the problem but acts as a resource to sever the root cause of the problem. To this end, families receiving services will be provided access to fiscal responsibility workshops and health screenings. These services will be provided to families at no cost in an effort to empower them in making financially sound budgetary decisions.
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- Because most of our clients are living in a *food desert* (neighborhoods where nutritious food is either unavailable or unaffordable) and most are considered *food insecure* (they have

experienced the emotional and physical impact of running out of food before the end of the month), this is a necessary project for the revitalization and empowerment of this community.

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