



A Capital Campaign of the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance to re-open the Brighter Detroit Community Center in Detroit's Gratiot Woods Community [\(Raising Hope Webpage\)](#)

The Vision

Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance is launching a \$2.5 million campaign to continue its 22 year history of Raising Hope in the Gratiot Woods Community. Through a new partnership with the Brighter Detroit Community Center, and with the support of community members, we seek to re-open the Brighter Detroit Community Center. The BDCC will offer programs that will empower future generations, while creating a safe haven for the community. We also seek to expand our current youth programs to include an after school program, life skills program, and instruction in graphic design, audio and video recording, and an introduction to the skilled trades.



About the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance

Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance (DCPA) is a faith-based Community Development Organization in the Gratiot Woods Community on Detroit's east side. The DCPA is devoted to serving the needs of the community through human and physical development. In addition to offering training, workshops and youth programs, we have developed over 100 units of affordable housing in a city in dire need of affordable options. [DCPA Mission Statement](#). With the help of the Kresge Foundation, the Ford Foundation and other community partners the Alliance continues to raise hope for another generation in Gratiot Woods.

Brighter Detroit Community Center

The Brighter Detroit Community Center originally opened in 1946 as the Nativity Parish Activities Center, and has a long history of serving as the center of activity in the Gratiot Woods neighborhood. In 1973, the building housed the only 4H Club in an urban city in the United States. The 4H center quickly became the hub of safety and opportunity for the young people in the community. After 37 years of successful programs, low funding and the declining health of its long-time director finally took its toll on the 4H center; it closed in 2010. In 2015, Terry



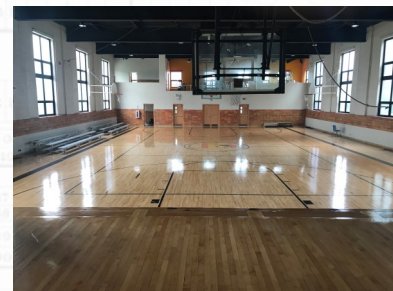
Payne, a former resident of Gratiot Woods and member of the 4H Club, purchased the center in hopes of making it available to the community again. He used his personal money to begin renovations in 2017, with the replacement of the floor and upgrading of the lights in the gym, and the addition of a weight room. These three projects were completed in 2018. Due to our extensive community outreach and history of successful programming, Terry approached the DCPA in 2019 to assist him with getting the doors opened and taking over the operations of the center,



1959



2011

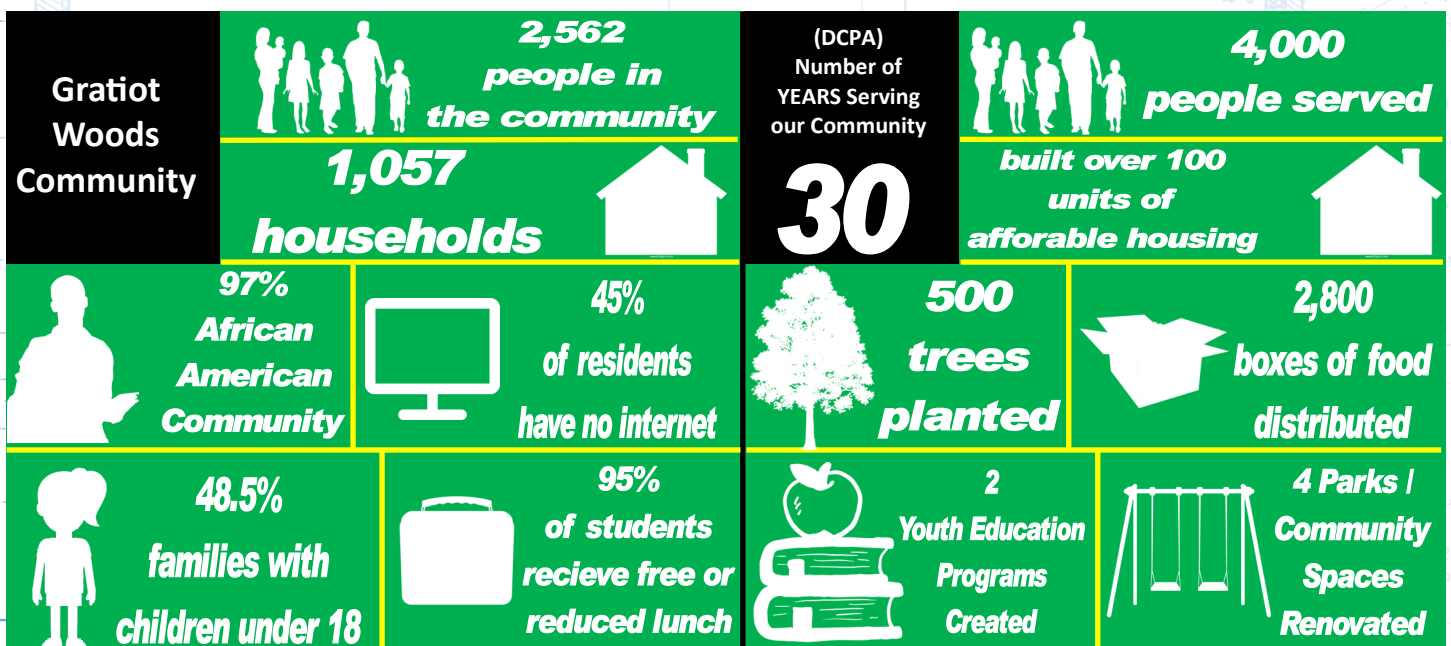


2018

About the Gratiot Woods Community

The Gratiot Woods Community is a twenty-block area surrounding the DCPA's offices on the Detroit's east side. Through a series of planning sessions with community residents, the DCPA Housing Program has developed and implemented a plan to stabilize and strengthen the community through affordable housing development and community development activities. Together, we have expanded community involvement in affordable housing development so that low-income residents can give input on planning, designing, and managing projects. We have also facilitated non-housing community development strategies such as neighborhood beautification, public safety awareness, and neighborhood-based economic development.

Although Detroit has recently seen in a series significant efforts to revitalize the Downtown area, the areas beyond the city center have not seen the same attention. Many neighborhoods like Gratiot Woods have not received the financial support needed to move them from surviving to thriving. The next step in our revitalization process is to provide an opportunity to make resources more accessible to our most valuable assets: our children, teens and seniors. This is our vision in reopening the Brighter Detroit Community Center.



STAFF PROFILES



John J.F. Thorne, Executive Director

- Lifelong Detroit
- Servant leader who looks at situations for the benefit of the people
- Community Advocate
- Father



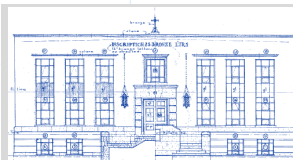
Cleophus Bradley, Director of Operations

- 21 years of Community Development work with the e DCPA
- Years of resident relationships
- Father of two



Joyce Francois, Youth Coordinator

- 26 years of youth work in the City of Detroit
- Passion is in youth leadership development
- Wife/Mother/Grandmother



USES OF FUNDING

Elevator (needed for Accessibility)

Bathroom Renovations

Electrical Upgrades

New Roof

Security Doors

Security System (Camera/keyless door system)

Center Staff (Salaries)