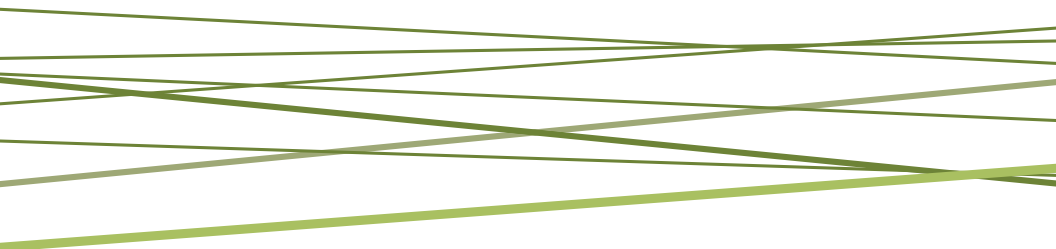


lakewood**alive**

2008 Annual Report



President's Letter

The year 2008 signaled new direction and growth for Lakewood Community Progress, Inc. (LCPI). A strategic planning session held in April reaffirmed our commitment to the Main Street program and identified housing as a second focus of the LCPI organization. Discussions began in the summer with representatives of LakewoodAlive to determine how the two organizations could work together more closely, and these discussions culminated in their merger in October. "LakewoodAlive" was officially adopted as the name of the newly created organization. A second staff member, a Marketing and Development Director, was added in December.

This Annual Report highlights the many accomplishments of LakewoodAlive over the past year. None of these accomplishments could have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of our Board of Trustees, our numerous volunteers, our business and financial partners, and our staff.

LakewoodAlive is committed to facilitating economic stability and growth in the City of Lakewood in 2009 and beyond. If you are not already a supporter, I urge you to get involved. Join a committee, attend a forum, sign up for our e-newsletter, visit our website, or participate in any or all of our special events throughout the year. You can join us in creating a better Lakewood for all who live, work, shop and play here.

Sincerely,

Mikelann Ward Rensel
President

About Us

History: Lakewood Community Progress Inc. (LCPI) was founded in 2002 by the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Lakewood to provide an additional resource for facilitating local economic development. LCPI was granted 501-c(3) tax-exempt status in March, 2004. In October 2008, LCPI merged with LakewoodAlive, a resident-based organization that advocates citizen engagement in economic development issues. The merger strengthens the capacity of both organizations to protect and enhance Lakewood's economic future. The 2008 focus of the organization was the continued revitalization of Downtown Lakewood's commercial district, using National Main Street principles. The new organization uses the name LakewoodAlive and maintains tax-exempt status. LakewoodAlive is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation Trust and Heritage Ohio, which is the oversight organization for the Ohio Main Street Program.

Mission: LakewoodAlive is an economic development corporation whose mission is to improve the quality of life of residents by creating alliances with community leaders, leveraging community assets and expanding the pool of available resources in order to facilitate economic stability and growth in the City of Lakewood.

Board Structure: LakewoodAlive is led by a volunteer board and a full-time, salaried executive director. In 2008 activities were guided by 4 committees using the National Main Street Four-Point Approach™.

2008 LakewoodAlive Board

Executive Committee

Mikelann Rensel – President
Jack Gustin – Vice President
Mary Sue McGorray – Treasurer
Curt Brosky – Secretary
David Shaw – Past-president

Committee Chairs

Jenni Baker – Promotion
Paul Beegan – Design
Chas Geiger – Economic Restructuring
Steve Ott – Organization

At Large

Kathy Berkshire
Steve Clark
Randy Doi
David Estrop, Ph.D.
Erin Fach
Mayor Ed Fitzgerald
Jay Foran
Nathan Kelly
Tim Laskey
Mary Louise Madigan
Tom McConnell
Michael Summers

Staff

Mary Anne Crompton
Executive Director

Shannon C. Strachan
Marketing & Development Director

Downtown Lakewood

Downtown Lakewood is a volunteer-based program of LakewoodAlive dedicated to the revitalization of Lakewood's historic commercial district located on Detroit Avenue between Arthur Avenue and Bunts Road. Our purpose is to facilitate investment in downtown Lakewood by working to create an environment where residents, employees and guests want to come to live, work, shop and play. Using the National Main Street volunteer-based Four Point Approach, Downtown Lakewood's revitalization marked significant progress in 2008.

Organization involves getting everyone working toward the same goal and assembling the appropriate human and financial resources to implement a revitalization program. This committee worked to diversify LakewoodAlive's funding streams, facilitated the LCPI & LakewoodAlive merger, and created policies and procedures adopted by the board to assure the organization uses best practices in all its activities.

Design involves improving our downtown's image by enhancing all aspects of its physical appearance. The committee operated as two sub-committees in 2008.

Design Guidelines - This subcommittee is working with the City of Lakewood Planning & Development Department to create design guidelines for downtown. These volunteers anticipate that their work will ultimately become the model for design guideline legislation for the entire city.

Signage & Wayfinding Design - Using Heritage Ohio grant award funds matched by the City of Lakewood, this subcommittee is guiding the efforts of design consultant Studio Graphique to create a wayfinding plan and new signage design for the downtown district, starting with a new logo (below). A public meeting was held on October 2 to gather community input on the project. This work is an incremental step in implementing the Detroit Avenue Streetscape plan, a 2007 community-based project funded by NOACA and approved by Lakewood City Council in November, 2008.



Downtown Lakewood

Promotion involves marketing the downtown's unique characteristics to shoppers, investors, new businesses, tourists, and others. This extremely active committee brought 3 new events to Downtown Lakewood in 2008:



Walk+Roll™ Lakewood offered a unique car-free experience in downtown Lakewood. Residents and visitors explored Lakewood's lakefront park, its new #1-rated library and its vibrant downtown by foot, bicycle, wagon, stroller, wheelchair or other non-motorized methods. Free programming included aerobic classes, yoga, break dancing demonstrations, fencing, square dancing, bike safety instruction and more.



Band2gether provided a much needed venue for middle and high school rock bands in the heart of downtown Lakewood on Friday nights in July and August. Fourteen bands performed at Sinagra Park to the delight of parents, friends and passersby.



Spooky Pooch Parade attracted 200 costumed dogs and 400 humans to march in downtown Lakewood on October 18th. Registered participants paraded Detroit Avenue from St. Charles to Arthur Avenue providing many laughs and great photo opportunities for spectators. Celebrity judges awarded prizes and the event raised \$1000 for the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

Downtown Lakewood



Walk + Roll Lakewood
Photo by Rhonda Loje

The Promotion Committee was also responsible for expanded programming for:

Downtown Lakewood Blossoms, in collaboration with merchants and support from Lakewood-Rocky River Rotary, brought 30 low-maintenance flowering Earth Boxes to the district. This committee also worked with the City and Keep Lakewood Beautiful volunteers to bring hanging flower baskets and seasonal plantings to Sinagra Park.

Lakewood Walks Main Street promoted downtown's walkability and healthy living by encouraging residents and area workers to explore shops in the area on foot. All participants were entered into a drawing for prizes donated by generous merchants.



Light Up Lakewood, in addition to the lighting ceremony on the Lakewood Hospital green, expanded its programming to include 9 school groups, seniors and The Beck Center for performances at the Masonic Temple and Lakewood Library. Street entertainment by a professional juggler and ice carving added to the holiday atmosphere enhanced by snow and horse-drawn carriage rides.

Downtown Lakewood

Economic Restructuring involves strengthening the existing economic base of the downtown while diversifying it. This committee came into its own in 2008 and has established itself as a valuable point of contact for developers with interests in investing in Downtown Lakewood. This group serves as a valuable neutral liaison between developers, the City's Planning and Development Department and community interests. The committee is participating in discussions concerning development activity at the Discount Drug Mart strip, the INA Building, the Detroit-Warren Building, the Wholesome Development Building, and others.

In calendar year 2008, property owners reinvested \$2,197,122 million in building improvements in the Downtown Lakewood district.

Notable among downtown investments was the completion of the \$7 million critical care renovation project at Lakewood Hospital. This project includes the new \$1.4 million Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at Lakewood Hospital and the \$2 million completion of the final phase of the Intensive Care Unit. Lakewood Hospital also invested \$120,000 in Cleveland Clinic/Lakeland Eye Center in 2008.



Light Up Lakewood
Photo by Rhonda Loje

Community Engagement

LakewoodAlive presented forums on topics of critical interest to the community in February, April and October of 2008:

Making “Cents” Of Lakewood’s Finances – Part 1 featured a panel of regional and local experts who reviewed the challenges of municipal finance. The speakers also directly addressed Lakewood’s current financial position, challenges and opportunities.

Making “Cents” Of Lakewood’s Finances – Part 2 focused specifically on Lakewood’s 2008 city budget.

A Healthy Partnership: Lakewood Hospital’s Impact on Our Community featured regional and local speakers who discussed the history, importance and economic impact of Lakewood Hospital in the Lakewood community, healthcare trends, the hospital’s lease agreement with the City of Lakewood, and the outlook for Lakewood Hospital.

DVD’s of these forums, recorded courtesy of Lakewood City Schools, are available at Lakewood Public Library.

2009 Events:

Let’s Wine About Winter - March 7

LakewoodAlive Cornhole Tournament - June 27

Band2gether - Fridays in July & August

Walk + Roll Lakewood - July 18

Lakewood Walks Downtown - August 19

Spooky Pooch Parade - October 17

Light Up Lakewood - December 5



Spooky Pooch Parade : Photo by Rhonda Laje

Volunteers

LakewoodAlive is a volunteer-based organization. Over 100 residents and stakeholders contributed an estimated 3,546 hours to LakewoodAlive activities in 2008. These hours are valued at \$63,828. While every volunteer is highly valued, there are several residents who deserve recognition for extraordinary contributions of time and talent:

Downtown Lakewood Blossoms

Kathy Haber — Earth Boxes
Sandy Gates — Sinagra Park

Design Committee

Paul Beegan — Design Guidelines
Sean McDermott - Signage & Wayfinding

Light Up Lakewood

Jenni Baker
Jen Raynor
Kelly Jablonowski

Band2gether

Ruthie Koenigsmark
Chris Vance

Spooky Pooch Parade

Debbie Baker
Katy Davis
Rhonda Laje

Website

Mark Dubis
Jonathan Morgan

Cornhole Tournament

David Shaw
Leslie Favre

Financial Supporters

Institutional Partners

City of Lakewood
City Council
Citizens’ Advisory Committee
Cleveland Clinic Health System
Lakewood Hospital
Discount Drug Mart
First Federal of Lakewood
Warren-St. Charles Investments
Giltz & Associates
LSC Service Corp.

Downtown Merchants

Aladdins
Geiger’s Clothing & Sports
Hotel & Leisure Advisors LLC
Huntington Bank
Phoenix Coffee Lakewood
Rozi’s Wine House
The Melt Bar & Grilled

Individuals

Joel & Teresa Andreani

Gary & Maureen Arbeznic

Jenni & Tom Baker
Paul & Karen Beegan
Kathy Berkshire
Shirley Breisch
Curt Brosky
Craig & Monica Brown
Tom Bullock
Kevin & Catherine Butler
Ted & Anne Calabrese
Joanne Calkins

Financial Supporters

Individuals (cont.)

Bill & Mary Lou Call

Katharine K. Carr

Pat & Bonny Carroll

Lynda Carter & Mark Niemi

Bryan Chin

Steven Clark

Hal & Connie Cooper

Byron & Mary Anne Crampton

Dawn & Ray Cushing

Tom & Peggy Demitrac

Sue & Ed Denk

Randy Doi

Chuck & Cathie Drumm

Maureen Duffy

Dennis & Pam Ehren

Tom & Cindy Einhouse

Bill & Mary Pat Ellert

David & Virginia Estrop

Erin Fach

Larry E. & Rosemary Faulhaber

Ed & Gladys Favre

Matt Fish

Paul & Katie Franks

Deborah Gaebelein

Chuck & Eileen Garven

Sandra & Ralph Gates

Chas & Patti Geiger

Jeanine Gergel & Adam Jusko

Ruth Gillett & Sam O'Leary

Chris Gordillo & Hugh Campbell

Charles & Marie Grossman

John & Liz Guscott

Ken & Kathy Haber

Woody & Marcia Hall

Jim Hampshire

Peter & Shirley Henderson

Bobbie Hendrick

Phil & Heidi Hilty

Katrina & Thomas Holmes

Carolyn Hufford & Thomas Yanks

Chris & Jane Johnson

Nathan Kelly

Joe & Alicia Kerrigan

Eugene & Joann Kramer

Mickey & Patty Krivash

Carly Kuhn

Tony & Wendy LaCerva

Jeff & Heather Lambert-Shemo

Kim Langley & William Fichter

Tim & Patti Laskey

Carolyn Leitch & Dick Castele

Jeremy & Allison Copeland Levine

Robert & LaVerne Lugibihl

Mary Louise Madigan

Paula Maeder Connor & David Connor

Karen & Robert Malec

Mary Matthiesen

David & Christina McCallum

Thomas McConnell

Mary Sue McGorray

Lou & Lynn McMahan

John & Nancy McMillan

Nora McNamara

Kevin & Melissa Meehan

Wally & Lauren Mueller

Thomas Mulready & Carol Hunt

Larry & Shelly Napolitan

Tessa & John O'Donnell

Ed & Joann Oliveros

Matt & Ellen Ospelt

Katharine & Steven Ott

Jennifer & Michael Pae

Tom & Kathy Pahys

Jacob & Anne Palomaki

John & Judy Pyke

Daniel & Jennifer Raynor

Mikelann Ward Rensel

Scott & Jill Richardson

Bob & Judy Riley

Sean & Sheila Riley

Michael Riley & Margaret Stiner

Sue & Jeff Ritter

David & Laura Sangree

Matt Sattler

Hilary Schickler

Carolyn Seelbach

Wally & Joyce Senney

Doug & Kelly Shaulis

David Shaw

George & Beth Shiekh

Thomas & Pam Smith

Joe & Elizabeth Stewart

Robert & Joyce Strommen

Mike & Wendy Summers

Tom & Colleen Sutton

Paul & Judy Szentkiralyi

Bob & Diane Thomas

Ellen Todia

Financial Supporters

Kevin & Stephanie Toole

Anita Tucker

Bill & Susan Wagner

Thomas C. Wagner & Malinda Smyth

Ken & Suzanne Warren

Sue Wiedemer

Walter & Judy Wright

Grant Awards

Heritage Ohio

Lakewood-Rocky River Rotary

In-Kind

City of Lakewood

Lakewood Police Department

Public Works

CSDS Inc.

Dubis Group

driddleDesign

Jenn Gula Design

KC McKenna

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce

Lakewood City Schools

Lakewood Equities

Lakewood Observer

Lakewood Masonic Temple

Omni Lakewood

PromoRock

Program Sponsors

Around the Corner Cafe

Cerny Shoes

City of Lakewood

Coral Company

Cox Cable

Cuttin' Loose Hair Salon

Discount Drug Mart

Detroit-Warren Building

First Federal of Lakewood

Geiger's Clothing & Sports

Giant Eagle

Heritage Ohio

Hinkley Lighting

Lakewood Animal Shelter

Lakewood City Schools

Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood Hardware

Lakewood Hospital

Marketing & Community Outreach

Operations & Technical Systems

Lakewood Masonic Temple

Lakewood-Rocky River Rotary

Lakewood Observer

Lion & Blue

Pet's General Store

Phoenix

Rozi's Wine House

Sam Ash

Target

The Exchange

Vance Music Studios

YMCA

Community Partners

Boy Scouts of America

Girl Scouts of America

Help to Others (H2O)

Kiwanis

Lakewood Catholic Academy

Lakewood City Schools

Lakewood Hospital

Lakewood Junior Women's Club

Lakewood Is Art

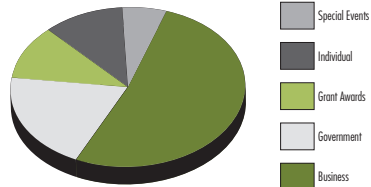
Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood United Methodist Church

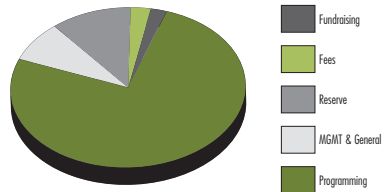
St. Edward High School

Finances

Income	\$136,682
Business	71023
Government (CDBG)	27500
Grant Awards	15080
Individual	15286
Special Events	7793



Expenses	\$136,682
Programming	104048
Mgmt & General	10354
Reserve	15080
Fees	4250
Fundraising	2950



Contact Information:

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