

## **2003 Annual Report Executive Summary**

### **City of Bowling Green Enterprise Community**

The Bowling Green Enterprise Community conducted a public forum in February, 2003. This meeting was the culmination of the restructuring of the Board of Directors. The previous structure for the EC included the Service Provider Council, the elected Resident Council and the appointed Board of Directors. The Resident Council was abolished and several of the elected representatives were selected for the new Board of Directors. The Board size was increased from 11 to 15 with eight being elected during the annual public forum. The remaining seven members were appointed by the Mayor. This new structure has proven to be very effective and more closely represents the diverse population in the EC.

The BGEC continues to offer Youth Development and Child Care Assistance. The Youth Development program assisted 64 individuals during the calendar year with a variety of activities, including sports registration fees, enrichment programs, school field trips and many more. The Child Care program funded 22 applications for temporary assistance with child care. With the freeze on Audubon Care for day care, we saw a big increase in the applicants for this program. The Indigent Drug Program, which was implemented in early 2001, assisted 48 individuals with prescription drug costs.

This program is administered through the Bowling Green Warren County Primary Care Center and is used as a supplement to the drug program offered by the pharmaceutical companies. The set-aside for school assistance was also continued. This money is given to all the schools serving the students of the EC, to be used for emergency needs of the school children. The program is administered through the Family Resource and Youth Service Centers at the schools. Two high school seniors were awarded \$500 scholarships for their first year at a post secondary institution. Both students are attending Western Kentucky University.

A fourth round of NOFA's was sent out in June. Nineteen grant applications were submitted and 16 were funded for a total of \$140,500.60. The applications covered nine different benchmarks. A transportation grant was renewed to provide free vouchers to social service agencies for their clients to utilize the local public transportation system. Another transportation grant was awarded to the Housing Authority to cover the costs of transporting children from the schools to the after school program at the Learning Center. Education Grants were issued for the purchase of library books for a local elementary school, partial funding for a Family Literacy program, funding a tutoring program a local elementary school. Equal Opportunity Grants were funded for immigration assistance and for a full time caseworker to assist low income individuals through the Housing Authority.

Youth Development grants were awarded for a Preventing adolescent pregnancy program and for a youth leadership program. Affordable Child Care grants were issued for a summer program through the Housing Authority and child care for children of parents attending classes. A Public Safety grant was awarded to continue the overtime patrol and neighborhood group development in the EC. A Public Facilities grant was awarded to install benches at the playground of a newly remodeled apartment complex. Housing Grants were awarded to assist first time homebuyers with down payments and security deposit assistance for Section 8 voucher holders. A Health Care Grant was awarded for assistance with specialty care through the Primary Care Center.

The money allocated for the Neighborhood Cleanup Benchmark was earmarked for an entire EC wide cleanup. In the spring of 2004, a cleanup for all three census tracts will occur. Plans are still being formulated, but will include such things as trash pickup, tire pickup, small homeowner repairs and graffiti removal.