DEAR CCDA FAMILIA

Have you ever had a season in your life that you know is necessary but you wish that you could just leapfrog it in search of calmer seas? As we prepared for the Resilience Conference in Detroit, we were learning the lessons of resilience internally as well. There was no denying that 2017 ushered in a new season for Christian Community Development Association.

With a view towards sustainability, the management team worked to restructure our Membership Structure, focused on developing Local Networks, created our first online curriculum, Immerse, and instituted stronger operational systems. The anticipation for the Detroit Conference grew every month as the host team, led by Lisa Johanon of Central Detroit Christian and Ron Spann, one of the original CCDA Board Members, put the pieces together for an outstanding, sold-out conference.

Many of you joined us for the Resilience Conference where we were inspired and challenged through the powerful plenary speakers, the outstanding Stage II artists, practical workshops, and much more as we explored the city of Detroit. We also introduced our new leadership structure at the Conference as Ava Steaffens was named as Chief Executive Officer to lead CCDA in partnership with our visionary leader, Noel Castellanos, as President. You, our members, partners, and supporters, are the glue that holds CCDA together! On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff, we thank you for your resilience in the work of Christian Community Development. We are grateful for each of you, whether you have recently joined this journey or have been here since CCDA’s inception. May God’s love and grace continue to keep you and equip you to live out the whole gospel that is for all people.

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE,

NOEL CASTELLANOS, PRESIDENT
AVA STEAFFENS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
John Booy
The Potters House

Rudy Carrasco
Partners Worldwide

Mark Charles
5 Small Loaves

Dr. Kit Danley
Neighborhood Ministries

Rev. Gerald Davis
Texas Baptist

Sami DiPasquale
Ciudad Nueva

Dr. Kathy H. Dudley
Imani Bridges

Ginny Giles
Amachi Pittsburgh

Rev. Dominique
Evangelical Covenant Church

DuBois Gilliard

Dina Gonzáles-Piña
Fresno Pacific University

Dr. Wayne
Lawndale Community Church

“Coach” Gordon

Rev. John Liotti
Able Works

Dr. Robert D. Lupton
FCS Ministries

Mayra
Lake Avenue Community Church

Macedo-Nolan

Michael A. Mata
Azusa Pacific University

Cheryl Miller
Perpetual Help Home Inc.

Q Nellum
Colorado Uplift

Dr. Mary Nelson
Parliament of the World’s Religions

Steven Park
Little Lights Urban Ministries

Dr. John M. Perkins
John and Vera Mae Perkins Foundation

Charles Robinson
The Red Road

Rev. Harold C. Spooner
Covenant Retirement Communities

Rev. Althea C. Taylor
Bronx Bethany Church of the Nazarene

Sandra Maria Van Opstal
Grace and Peace Community Church
### 2017 Sources of Revenue

- National Conference: $751,974 (60.9%)
- Grants: $265,112 (21.4%)
- Membership: $82,733 (6.7%)
- Contributions: $68,286 (5.5%)
- Other Events: $51,545 (4.2%)
- Other: $15,930 (1.3%)

Total: $1,235,580

### 2017 Expenses as a % of Revenue

- Program Direct Personnel: $386,492 (31.6%)
- Program Direct Expenses: $390,586
- Fundraising: $114,982 (31.3%)
- Communications: $62,744
- Occupancy: $15,035
- Management & Admin: $223,735
- Increase in Net Assets: $42,006

Total: $1,235,580
Each year at CCDA’s National Conference, speakers, workshops, site visits, and conversations with like-minded people cultivate an environment where attendees are inspired and retooled. The theme for 2017’s National Conference in Detroit was “Resilience.” We explored what it means to grow in the resilience needed to sustain a call to practice Christian Community Development.

Total Attendance = 2,929

Attendee Demographics

- First-time attendees: 44%
- 20–30 yrs participants: 57.25%
- 30–40 yrs participants: 22.5%
- 40+ yrs of participants: 30.75%
- Work in non-profit sector: 44.6%
- Work in a CCD organization: 25.5%
- Volunteer for orgs implementing CCD principles: 48.5%
- From an urban context: 75%
- Live in the communities where they do ministry: 76.75%
- Other: 25%

As we sold out our plenary room capacity, we added overflow registrations for a total of 2589 regular registrations, 269 overflow registrations, 19 streaming registrations, and 52 youth registrations for the National Student Leaders Intensive. We offered:

- 94 workshops
- 08 Go & See opportunities
- 38 Networking sessions

(over 53% of participants were between ages of 20 and 40)
“Hearing, once again, the necessary reminder to me that when I am tempted to take shortcuts — the work of loving a neighborhood takes time, patience, intentionality, and a lot of listening. I need to hear that over and over again.”

“So amazing to be in a community of believers that is doing similar things with their lives and be [among] so many infused with Jesus and wisdom and love! We have been alone in our ministry for 13 years. No longer alone!!! Thank you!!!”

“The most meaningful part of the National Conference was seeing the body of Christ as God desires it to be... black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American, young, old, middle-aged all worshiping and learning together.”
CCDA provides cohort-based intensive leadership development training over a 2-year period. Participants gain personal leadership strengthening, national peer relationship building, theological reflection on the time-tested principles of Christian Community Development, training in advocacy and community organizing, and exposure to best practices within successful models of Christian Community Development organizations.

In 2017, Cohort 6 completed their 2-year program and Cohort 7 continued their program with a retreat in Baltimore as well as at the National Conference in Detroit. Evaluations have been conducted, programmatic adjustments have been made accordingly to strengthen the content and overall experience, and dynamic leaders have been produced who continue to have lasting impact at the grassroots level. As we entered our 9th year of the CCDA Leadership Cohort, we are pleased to report that we have developed a total of 149 leaders from diverse backgrounds and have not only watched the leaders flourish, but have seen their communities flourish as well.

In addition, the association has benefitted from nearly a decade of intentionally trained leaders. The participants in these seven cohorts continue to demonstrate high levels of engagement with CCDA and are the best ambassadors for its philosophy. These seven Cohorts have and are contributing the following leadership to CCDA (these numbers grow with each new Cohort):

• 5 national office staff (3 served in 2017)
• 12 board members (5 served in 2017)
• 55+ committee members
• 40+ Train-the-Trainer participants
• 33 National Conference mainstage participants (speakers, MC’s, worship leaders)
• National Conference workshop presentations by Cohort members are in the hundreds

Participating in CCDA’s Leadership Cohort Program placed me alongside some of the nation’s top CCD leaders. This gave me confidence that ‘I belong,’ facilitated critical conversations to sharpen my knowledge, encouraged me to weave my life into the tapestry of my city to pursue its well-being, and connected me to a community of people that would inform the work in my city the rest of my life.
CCDA regularly conducts a variety of experiential learning opportunities in the time-tested principles of Christian Community Development. In 2017, these offerings included:

• 1 Intensive (Charlotte, NC)
• 3 Cafés (Peoria, IL; Springfield, IL; Washington, DC)
• 1 Immersion (Northern Alabama United Methodist Church)

In October 2017, CCDA launched its CCDA Institute Online platform and inaugural online study series, Immerse, a curriculum for training community and church leaders in the time tested principles of Christian Community Development. With a thoroughly biblical framework as the foundation for CCDA’s principles, fortified by daily devotions corresponding with the unit’s scripture passages, each user is spiritually formed as they consider ways to make Kingdom impact in vulnerable communities. The goal of Immerse is to develop a hunger and passion for Scripture alongside a practical plan for neighborhood impact. At the close of 2017, there were 116* participants moving through the curriculum (*as some of these participants were study group leaders utilizing the curriculum with their group members, the actual number of those receiving the training is higher).

“...The Immersion gave me a vision of what the church can be when it lives out the whole gospel. [It] helped me to see the sacrificial, incarnational, joyous love that is foundational to CCD.”
CAMINO DE SUEÑOS

Leaders in our CCDA communities who are living out their call to love and welcome immigrants continue to daily bear witness to the broken immigration system and its impact on individuals, families, and the fabric of their communities. With immigration reform as one of our top advocacy platform issues, CCDA seeks to provide opportunities for informed, dynamic, and collective engagement.

Because of CCDA’s commitment to immigration reform and to supporting individuals like DREAMers, Camino de Sueños was launched at our national conference in Detroit on October 5th as a response to the rescission of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals).

In the spirit of CCDA’s 2016 El Camino del Inmigrante, the day began with devotions in English and Spanish, prayer, song, and walking along the Canadian/United States border. Later that day, our President, Noel Castellanos, invited our association to join together on behalf of DREAMers to use art and stories as a call for engagement. Sharing his own art which was painted on a canvas container, people wrote their “dreams for DREAMers” on cards and placed them in the container to be delivered to legislators in DC. This was the first of many containers as community leaders all across the country created art, shared stories, and invited their community to engage in the collective efforts.

Over 4,000 cards were collected in nearly 30 local community events between October 5th and December 5th. On December 4th and 5th, these cards were delivered to Congress by both grassroots and national leaders led by DACA recipients.

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As CCDA seeks to strengthen the association’s awareness and education around mass incarceration, we have developed **Locked in Solidarity (LIS)**, an annual awareness and action day around the issue of mass incarceration.

The purpose of LIS is to create space in a church, public venue, or community center during the second week of February each year. People directly impacted by incarceration are encouraged to share their stories and experiences to educate others and to support and strengthen the voices of those directly impacted. These events are open to the entire community, and invitations are sent beyond the faith community and can include: police officers, school leadership, and elected officials at local, state, and federal levels.

Locked in Solidarity continues to grow every year. **From the very first LIS events held in 2014, we have grown to 56 sites in 2017.**

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Thank you so much for your guidance, resources, and information on LIS. It was an honor to be a part of such an important cause.
To more successfully fulfill CCDA’s mission to inspire, train, and connect Christians who seek to bear witness to the Kingdom of God by reclaiming and restoring under-resourced communities, we recognize that the CCDA “family” learns best when we are able to practice, encourage, and collaborate with one another in smaller, more localized settings. We believe that a strong localized and grassroots presence, supported by local networks, is key to successfully cultivating this need around our diverse community of CCD practitioners.

The purpose of a Local Network is to connect CCDA practitioners to each other in their local communities by creating safe spaces for connecting, strategic networking, training, mutual support, and promoting CCDA’s 8 Key Components as the preferred strategy for ministry in under-resourced communities.

Our projected local network strategy provides necessary support for those in our membership association and expands capacity to fulfill CCDA’s national mission by increasing practitioners’ access to networking and training, increase membership and participation in CCDA initiatives, organizational, partner and individual memberships of the association and communicate local movement activities to the national office.

In 2017:
• Local Network Handbook developed and made available on website.
• Ended 2017 with 7 Local Networks and 4 additional groups in the beginning stages of becoming Local Networks.
In 2017, after over a year of listening, gathering information, and writing, a team of 10 education practitioners within CCDA finalized our Education Equity white paper spelling out our unique perspective of the limitations within our education system and the approach we believe people of deep faith should take when confronting the inequities of our current system. In addition to the white paper, in collaboration with practitioners and partners, we developed a resource list that provides people interested in learning about the issue a broad array of resources to strengthen their understanding of the systemic nature surrounding education equity with the hopes to deepen their engagement on the issue. Both of these resources are now available on our website and are the starting point to our education equity platform and lay the framework for our next steps of collective engagement.

With 270 paid members at the start of 2017, survey results showed that most people didn’t really value or understand membership with CCDA.

As a result, we revamped our membership structure to make it simpler, scalable, and sustainable. We added more benefits and more ways for people to access those benefits. With a tiered system based on two simple questions: “Which benefits do you want?” and “How many people need to access those benefits?” our membership team has been able to take us from 270 members at the beginning of 2017 to 1245 members in December 2017, a 450% increase in paid memberships.

With the support of our donors and partners, we were able to invest in new tools to manage our membership program, deliver innovative new benefits, and automate many processes that were previously manual, allowing our team to be more responsive to member needs than ever before.
MISSION
To inspire, train, and connect Christians who seek to bear witness to the Kingdom of God by reclaiming and restoring under-resourced communities.

VISION
Wholistically restored communities with Christians fully engaged in the process of transformation.

STATEMENT OF FAITH
The Lord Jesus Christ, God’s son, redeems us through his death and resurrection and empowers us by the Holy Spirit. The Bible is God’s Word, and through it we are called to live out justice, reconciliation, and redemption. The church nurtures God’s people gathered in a community to carry out God’s Word.