



W I C K N E I G H B O R S , I N C .

A community coming together to build a neighborhood for creative living, working, learning and worshipping in the heart of the city.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Director for Wick Neighbors, Inc.

Wick Neighbors Inc. (WNI) announced today that Neighborhood Development Services (NDS) has been named to lead the organization.

"Rather than hire an individual, the WNI Board negotiated the services of NDS as our 'Executive Director'," said Board Chair Paul Olivier. "With this hiring, we have added the resources of an entire agency to Wick Neighbors and the city of Youngstown. This will only increase the capacity of our outstanding existing staff."

The new personnel will include: Dave Vaughan, Executive Director; Mike Bogo, Deputy Director; Ryan Landi, Development Director; Mort Webb, Director of Construction/Rehab; Erica Sadaj, Director of Marketing; Liz Atkinson, Director of Foreclosure Prevention and Karen Bryce, Director of Home Buyer Education.

WNI originally hired NDS as Infrastructure Project Manager to administer the grants WNI received from Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Army Corps of Engineers. This successful partnership resulted in the recent Harrison Commons ground breaking held in early June--a project funded, in part, by ODNR.

Presley Gillespie, Executive Director of Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation, stated, "I have worked with NDS many times over the years and they are one of the premier community development corporations in northeast Ohio. I am pleased that they are partnering with one of our local CDCs."

Youngstown Mayor Williams was also pleased with the announcement. "NDS is a chartered NeighborWorks America organization," he said. "We look forward to the expertise and resources they can add to our efforts to revitalize Youngstown. We are excited to have them join Wick Neighbors and the City of Youngstown."

Olivier said that this is an exciting new direction for WNI. "We look forward to expanding as a major development resource for the Wick District, its residents and beyond."

WICK NEIGHBORS, INC.

Wick Neighbors, Inc. (WNI) is a stakeholder-driven, nonprofit community development corporation operating in Youngstown's Wick District - the Heart of the City. It is the objective of WNI to ensure high-quality planning and development projects that restore healthy and regionally-competitive neighborhoods to Youngstown's urban core.

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