



Cleveland Central

PROMISE

Neighborhood

On the move.

Highlights of opportunities underway in the neighborhood

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**“Education is the most
powerful weapon
you can use to
change the world.”**

— NELSON MANDELA

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, convener of the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood, thank all of our partners for their time, talents and inspiration throughout this past two-year journey.

The Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood has a shared vision of a strong Central built on empowered citizens, effective support systems and educated youth.

A strong Central makes a strong city.

The following pages offer a glimpse of what's already started in Central.

Stay tuned for more.



Promise Ambassadors Serve Central

Servant leaders, affectionately known as the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood Ambassadors, are restoring grassroots leadership in Central. Twenty-nine residents, including adults and youth, have committed their time and made personal sacrifice to complete a leadership development program coordinated by Neighborhood Leadership Institute so they can support, build and sustain the implementation of the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood. Their approach to leadership in the community is through building relationships, making connections and leading activities.

Throughout Central, ambassadors can be found coordinating after-school meals for children at Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority, engaging and educating parents on how to advocate for their children and work positively with the partner schools, reviewing grant requests submitted to the Cleveland

Central Promise Neighborhood Connections Grant program, mentoring young boys at Carl & Louis Stokes, preserving Central's history, connecting adults to resources and contributing to the Campus District Observer newspaper.

A new class of residents, primarily parents, is currently participating in the leadership development program. They will soon join their fellow ambassadors, bringing their gifts, talents, love and commitment for children and community to the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood.



Early Learning Impacts Children Forever

Early childhood education can change lives. Research shows that the first five years are particularly important for the development of a child's brain.

Children learn more quickly during their early years than at any other time in life. By 18 months, vocabulary disparities between low-income families and high-income families begin to appear. These children enter kindergarten behind and sometimes never catch up.

Students not reading at grade level by third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school.

That's why it's so important for Central children to be involved in quality early learning programs and opportunities.

In addition to the menu of options that are provided to children and families in Central through Invest In Children, ranging from home visiting to universal pre-kindergarten; a new opportunity for children in Central is SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids). SPARK is a family-focused kindergarten-readiness program that works collaboratively with families, schools and the community.

Each month, each child involved in SPARK receives a new book, a lesson activity and educational supplies, and participates in learning opportunities at home or in groups—all with the goal of increasing the child's success in school and life.





Promise School Partners

Marion-Sterling (372 students) and Carl & Louis Stokes Central Academy (427 students)

These two pre-kindergarten through eighth grade schools are community “wrap around” schools under the Cleveland Metropolitan School District’s transformation plan. A community wrap around school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources.

Using public schools as hubs, community wrap around schools bring together many partners to offer a range of supports and opportunities to children, youth, families and communities.

Partners work to achieve these results:

- + Children are ready to learn when they enter school and every day thereafter. All students learn and work to achieve high standards.
- + Young people are well prepared for adult roles in the workplace, as parents and as citizens.
- + Families and neighborhoods are safe, supportive and engaged.

+ Parents and community members are involved with the school and their own life-long learning.

George Washington Carver (478 students)

Research shows that a negative interest in science begins in elementary schools where about 33% of girls and boys in fourth grade express negative attitudes toward the subject. By eighth grade, almost half express negative attitudes.

Schools across the country are working to turn that number around. In the Promise Neighborhood, George Washington Carver, a kindergarten through eighth grade school, is a STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering and Math — school.

There, teachers receiving professional development, coaching and support to engage, motivate and improve students’ interest and ability in these important subjects and to integrate technology into the classroom.



School-based Parent Resource Rooms

The Family Resource and Welcome Centers at Marion-Sterling and Carl & Louis Stokes Central Academy are designed to make the school more accessible to parents and to encourage families to become engaged in their children’s education.

The centers provide support and supplemental materials for parents to help their children achieve more in the areas of reading, math and other core areas of academics. They offer educational resources, games, and activities to stimulate and excite students. They also act as welcome centers for parents.

Parents have access to computers in the rooms for career and employment searches and G.E.D. practice exams. There are books, family magazines, brochures, trainings, workshops, and study materials to reinforce and support skills taught in the classroom.

These are also welcoming meeting places for school staff, students, parents, grandparents and community members to build relationships. The resource rooms are supported and organized by the School Parent Organization volunteers, school staff and community members.





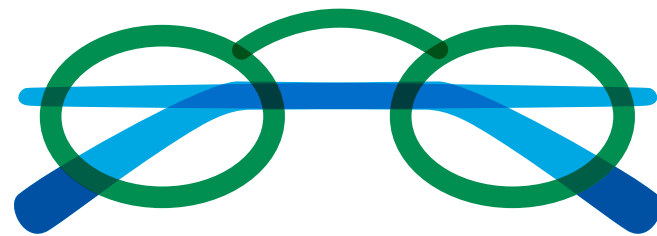
Carson Reading Room

In celebration of its 15th anniversary, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland provided \$15,000 to fund a pleasure reading room at Carl & Louis Stokes Central Academy students. The foundation established the room through the Carson Scholars Fund, a charitable organization founded in 1994 by world renowned pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin S. Carson and his wife Candy to encourage academic excellence.

The reading room at Stokes offers a nurturing environment for children to feel safe and secure as they develop their reading skills. The Carson Reading Project is dedicated to

combating illiteracy and promoting leisure reading as a key to unlocking a child's potential. The reading room is filled with hundreds of books from a variety of authors, topics and genres for students to explore.

The reading room is decorated with eye-catching artwork based on Dr. Carson's "THINK BIG" philosophy. The cozy environment encourages students and their families to come together to recognize the importance of reading.



A New School in Central

Stepstone Academy, a new charter school in the Central Neighborhood, opened its doors to 125 kindergarten and first grade students on August 20, 2012.

Guidestone Ohio (formerly Berea Children's Home) opened Stepstone to offer Central families a high quality education alternative to the neighborhood public elementary schools, which are in academic emergency as designated by the State of Ohio.

This is the first charter school in the neighborhood. A key component of the school is keeping students and their family supported in all aspects of their lives.





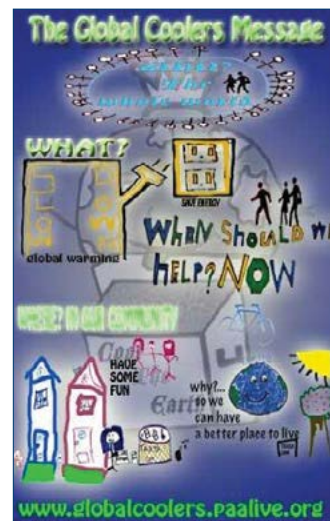
After School and Summer Opportunities

Minds are expanding and lives are being enriched through the education exposure strategy of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland. Sixth to eighth grade students who attend Marion-Sterling, George Washington Carver and Carl & Louis Stokes Central Academy are being linked to and engaged in age-appropriate after school and summer programming.

We know our students do better when they are involved in quality enrichment opportunities, both in and outside of school. Infusing these programs and working with partners like A Cultural Exchange, Beech Brook, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland, Boy Scouts of America, Golden Ciphers, Progressive Arts

Alliance, Urban League of Greater Cleveland, and Voices for Ohio's Children transforms the lives of young people.

Quality after school and summer programs keep young people safe and engaged in activities they enjoy and help them reach their future goals.



Student poster designs



A Healthy Community

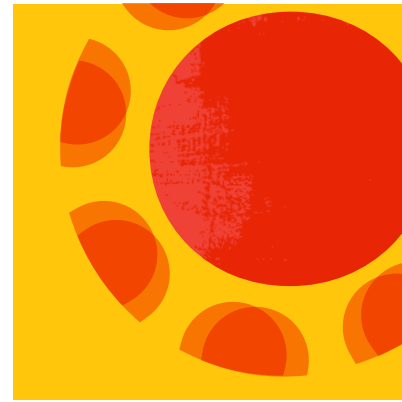
Healthy eating and active living is more common in Central. After three years of strategic investment by the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland and other collaborating partners like Building Healthy Communities, Children's Hunger Alliance, Ohio State University Extension and YMCA, there is evidence of a community in transformation. The neighborhood is changing from one that is burdened by poor health and limited opportunities, to one that promotes health and has greater access to healthy food and physical activity.

More than 2,800 residents, particularly children, are participating in healthy eating and active living programs. Such programs connect participants to healthy snacks and meals through interactive cooking classes and urban gardening. They also help participants become more physically fit by engaging in ballet, double-dutch, biking, swimming and training for the We Run This City Youth Marathon.

In addition to promoting health, partners are working to change the landscape in Central too. New businesses are coming to the neighborhood and thus increasing local food access, creating new jobs and stimulating the local food economy (Bridgeport Café, Green City Growers and Rid-All Green Partnership). Also, vacant land is being repurposed for playgrounds, community gardens and learning gardens. And, corner stores are offering healthier food options.

All of these things are working together so that all residents in Central have the opportunity to live their healthiest and fullest lives.





Choice Neighborhoods



CEO Jeffery Patterson

The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) was selected as one of 13 communities nationwide to be awarded a \$300,000 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of

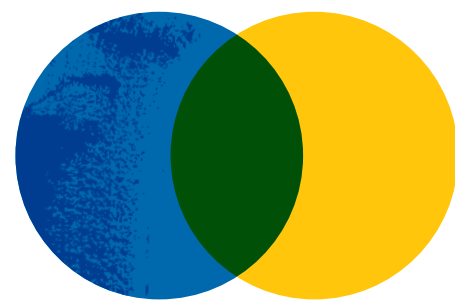
Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The planning grant will focus on redeveloping and revitalizing the 125-unit Cedar Extension within the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood.

CMHA and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, which is the lead applicant for the Promise Neighborhood, have been working closely to envision and plan a truly revitalized community in Central that integrates great schools; a new public health clinic and services; safe streets; recreation; and affordable, mixed-income housing for families. The Choice Neighborhoods program is a key part of the Obama Administration's interagency Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative, which is a collaboration between

HUD and the Departments of Education, Justice, Treasury, and Health and Human Services.

In fact, CMHA's plans for Central and the Promise Neighborhood initiative are each integral to the other's success.

Choice + Promise



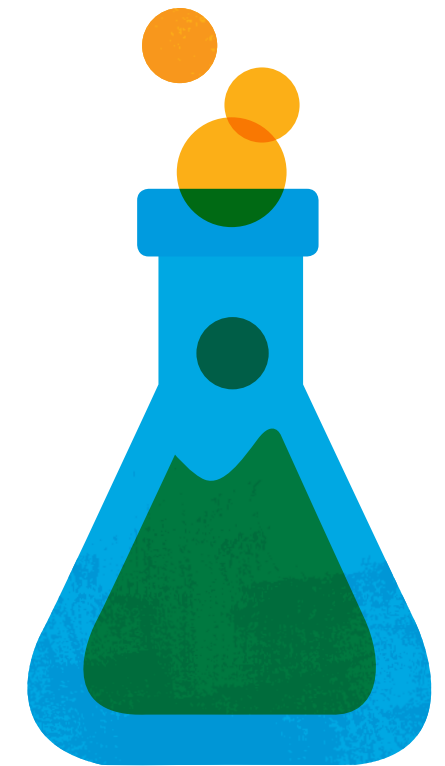
= Ideal Neighborhood



A Learning Lab for the Neighborhood

A brand new Promise Learning Lab opened in Cedar Estates in January. The new 26-station lab came about through a partnership of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, OneCommunity's "Connect Your Way" project (which provides training, equipment and support for low-income households), the Cleveland Housing Network and the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority.

Free adult computer class have been offered, graduating more than 60 students thus far. Because many households in the Central Neighborhood don't have home computers, the daily open computer hours at the lab have drawn hundreds of students and adults for schoolwork, job searches and fun.





Promise Staff



Sonya Pryor-Jones is the Promise Neighborhood director. Sonya is responsible for the oversight and coordination of the initiative, including nurturing collaborative relationships among partners for the successful implementation of the initiative. Additionally, she is responsible for moving the effort forward to ensure all students in the Promise Neighborhood attend quality schools, have access to supportive services and go on to college.



Pam Scott is the Promise Neighborhood site coordinator at Marion-Sterling school. She works with families, children, school staff and organizations that offer programs and services to the children. Pam, who started in January 2012, is responsible for carrying out the community wrap around model by coordinating in-school and out-of-school programs that help improve student academic achievement, and expanding their experiences.



Neal Hodges, Promise Neighborhood engagement coordinator, is working throughout the neighborhood to collaborate with families, Promise Ambassadors and other community members. He is responsible for connecting families with programs and opportunities and engaging community members in the Promise Neighborhood.

Cleveland Central PROMISE Neighborhood

Advisory Board

Danny Williams (chair)
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland

Dr. Giesele R. Greene, M.D. (vice chair)
Sisters of Charity Health System

Kyra Alexander
Central Neighborhood resident

Lisa Bottoms
Cleveland Foundation

Pamela Bradford
Center for Families and Children

Terry Butler
Cuyahoga Community College

Eugenia Cash
Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Joanne Clark
St. Vincent Charity Medical Center

Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland
Cleveland City Council, Ward 5

Jennifer Davis
Cuyahoga Community College

LeRoy Carter
Central Neighborhood resident

Rebekah Dorman
Cuyahoga County Office of Early Childhood/
Invest in Children

Marcia Egbert
The George Gund Foundation

Sierra Foster
Central Neighborhood youth

Representative Marcia Fudge
U.S. House of Representatives
(honorary member)

Chief Andres Gonzalez
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority

Jimeka Holloway
Central Neighborhood resident

Lillie Hunter
Central Neighborhood resident

Richgina Jeff
Friendly Inn Settlement House

Joy Johnson
Burten, Bell, Carr Development Inc.

Robin Johnson
Central Neighborhood resident

Susanna Krey
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland

Vida Lock, Ph.D.
Cleveland State University

Samira Malone
Central Neighborhood youth

Mary Louise Madigan
Cuyahoga County

Jeffery Patterson
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority

Monyka Price
City of Cleveland

Bobbi Reichtell
Campus District Inc.

Noriel Brooks-Short
Central Neighborhood youth

Don Slocum
Neighborhood Leadership Institute

Senator Shirley Smith
Ohio Senate

Senator Nina Turner
Ohio Senate

Byron White
Cleveland State University

Representative Sandra Williams
Ohio House of Representatives



Board Chair
Danny Williams

Partners

A Cultural Exchange
 Applewood Centers Inc.
 BeechBrook
 Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland
 Boy Scouts of Greater Cleveland
 Burten, Bell, Carr Development Inc.
 Care Alliance
 Catholic Charities Community Services
 Case Western Reserve University
 Center for Families and Children
 City of Cleveland
 City Year Cleveland
 Cleveland Metropolitan School District
 Cleveland Public Library
 Cleveland State University
 Coalition for a Better Life
 Peace in the Hood
 College Now Greater Cleveland
 Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland
 Cuyahoga Community College
 Cuyahoga County
 Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority
 Environmental Health Watch
 Foluke Cultural Arts Center Inc.
 Friendly Inn Settlement House
 Guidestone-Stepstone Academy
 Help Me Grow
 Invest in Children
 The Literacy Cooperative
 MYCOM
 Neighborhood Connections
 Neighborhood Leadership Institute

NewBridge
 Partnership for a Safer Cleveland-STANCE Project
 The Phillis Wheatley Association
 Progressive Arts Alliance
 Sisters of Charity Health System
 St. Vincent Charity Medical Center
 Starting Point for Childcare and Early Education
 Third Federal Foundation
 Urban League of Greater Cleveland
 Towards Employment
 Vocational Guidance Services
 Youth Opportunities Unlimited
 YWCA

Funders

City of Cleveland
 Charter One Bank
 Cleveland Foundation
 Cuyahoga County
 Dominion
 Eaton Corporation
 Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation
 The George Gund Foundation
 The Huntington National Bank
 KeyBank
 Martha Holden Jennings Foundation
 Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation
 PNC
 RPM International Inc.
 Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland*
 United Way of Greater Cleveland
 US Bank

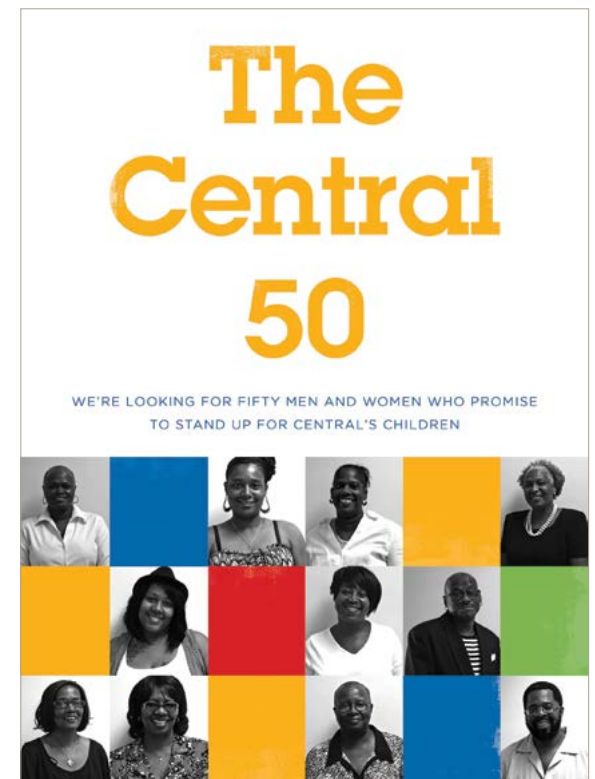
**The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland serves as the lead convener of the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood initiative.*

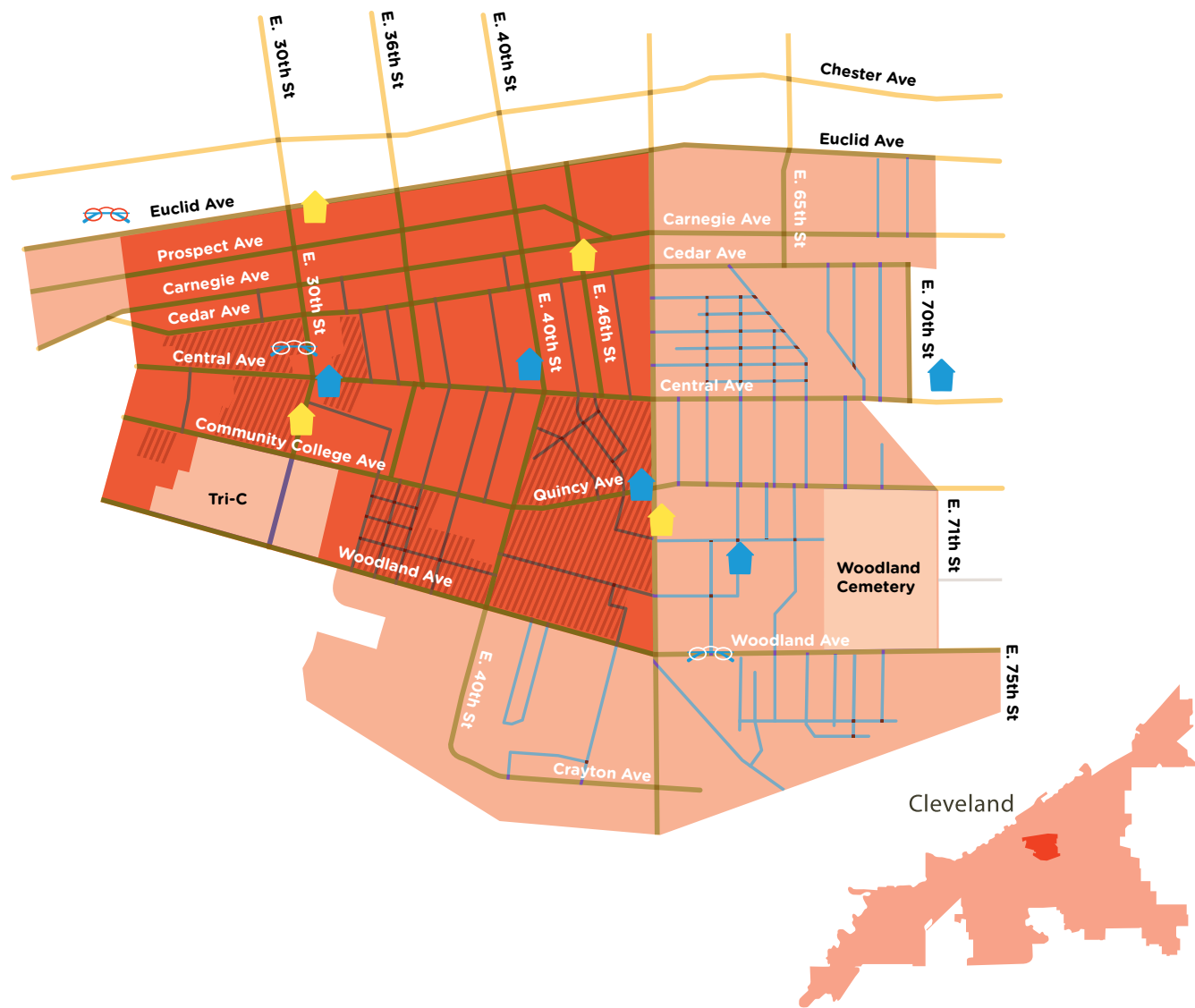
Ambassadors

Kyra Alexander
 Darcel A. Arrington
 De'Etta (Resee) Brown
 Jerome "Romeo" Baker
 Louise Buchanan
 Dava Cansler
 Antoinette Monique Edrington
 Renee Evans
 Dawn Glasco
 Annie Glover
 Delores Gray
 Lillie Hunter
 LaSandra Johnson
 Royce Johnston
 Larry Jones II
 LaShunda Lee
 Carol Malone
 Fred Seals
 Malfert Shaw
 Quiana Singleton
 Greta Stakely-Humphrey
 Reverend Dr. Taylor Thompson

Youth Promise Ambassadors

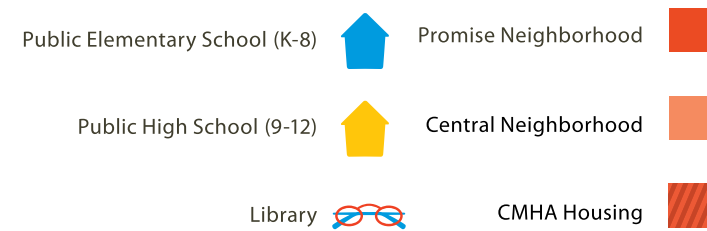
Dash'a Allen
 Shalawn Bowman
 Brenda Brown
 Alexander Jackson
 Veronica Lacy
 Samira Malone
 Juan Miller
 DéAngelo Walker





The Neighborhood

The area highlighted in red defines the boundaries of the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood. A little more than 1.2 miles and encompassing eight census tracts, the section runs from Euclid Avenue to Woodland Avenue and from East 22nd to East 55th streets.



Ward 5 Cleveland Councilwoman
Phyllis Cleveland



SISTERS *of* CHARITY
FOUNDATION
OF CLEVELAND

Cleveland Central
PROMISE
Neighborhood

CLEVELAND CENTRAL
PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD
c/o Sisters of Charity
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