

## **Announcement for the Urban League of Essex County's Community Outreach campaign for the West Ward Vacant and Abandoned Properties Project**

On December 20, 2008 Mayor Cory A. Booker, West Ward Councilmember Ronald C. Rice, other Municipal Leaders, Urban League of Essex County president Vivian Cox Fraser, Master Developer Tate George, and other community activists attended a press conference at Welcome Baptist Church to announce the launching of the West Ward Abandoned and Vacant Lot development project. The project is designed to produce new and rehabilitated housing on more than one-hundred vacant and abandoned lots during the next thirty-six months.

We are implementing the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase of the West Ward Neighborhood Revitalization Program, which will involve extensive canvassing to neighbors and local businesses. As an anchor institution in the West Ward and understanding that the community should play a critical role in this important development project, one of the Urban League's primary responsibility will be to engage as many residents in the planning and decision making process as possible through door-to-door canvassing.

The Urban League is currently looking to train at least fifty West Ward and Newark residents to assist in its door-to-door canvassing campaign. All selected **canvassers will** receive training and **will be compensated for their services**. Successful canvassers should be: **OUTGOING, ENGAGING, HIGH-ENERGY, CONFIDENT, AND PERSONABLE**. In addition to these important qualities all successful candidates should have a love for the community.

The Urban League conducts weekly canvassing training sessions at its headquarters located at 508 Central Avenue. If you are interested in participating in the exciting community outreach initiative please contact Mr. Darrin Sharif, Director of Operations and Community Outreach for the Urban League of Essex County.

**WHO:** Darrin Sharif, Director of Operations and Community Outreach / Urban League of Essex County

**WHAT:** Training for Community Outreach Canvassing

**WHERE:** Urban League of Essex County, 508 Central Avenue (Corner of South 8<sup>th</sup> Street & Central Avenue), Newark, New Jersey 07107

**When:** Tuesday, March 18, 2008

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Requirements:** 18 years or older

**Primary Contact:** Aquarius Larkins: (973) 624-9535, Ext. 116. Email: [tlarkins@ulec.org](mailto:tlarkins@ulec.org)

**Secondary Contact:** Darrin Sharif: (973) 624-9535, Ext. 104 Email: [dsharif@ulec.org](mailto:dsharif@ulec.org)

**Note:** Our office is accessible via NJ Transit Bus lines: 34, 44, and 24