

## Why do we partner?

By working together, we believe we can help our neighbors build community in the Allied neighborhood, and improve the spiritual, physical and mental health of the residents. We recognize the opportunity to strengthen race, class and cultural relationships in the Allied area.

In response to needs identified in this community, the Partners support the following projects:

### Allied Wellness Center

The Allied Wellness Center is a neighborhood center that promotes health and wellness of the mind, body and spirit of people living in the Allied, Dunns Marsh, Belmar neighborhoods. The Wellness Center philosophy is one of care and respect, and encourages participation, leadership and the building of community. The center is staffed by a community parish nurse who offers health assessment, education and wellness programming. By connecting people with needed community services, health care access is improved.

The center is host to several groups and programs, such as HIV testing and education, physician consultation, drug and alcohol counseling and women's support groups.

### Eviction Prevention Fund

This fund enables families to keep their homes when income is disrupted by a sudden emergency such as sickness or loss of a job. Prospective recipients are screened by the Joining Forces for Families (JFF) social worker. Grants average \$150. For the past few years we have been able to help 7 - 8 families per month.

### Food Pantry

The food pantry, located in the Allied Boys & Girls Club building, distributes emergency food to families in the area. We have increased the amount of food given by soliciting contributions of both food and money. Allied residents volunteer in the pantry.

- The pantry provides food to over 1800 families annually.
- Two days meals for each family member are given.
- Families may visit the pantry once every four weeks.

### The Children and More...

Allied Partners raise funds and recruit volunteers to assist with special needs that arise. Volunteers assist with community meals and other special occasions in the neighborhood. At the end of summer, when school and agency staff members are on vacation, volunteers from Allied Partners congregations provide lunch for the children. Our monthly meetings become a problem solving forum where we become aware of needs and find ways to address them.

