

# Neighbor for Neighbor

***TULSA'S DOMESTIC MISSION***

**“For the benefit of all”**



## **Helping neighbors for 40 years**

***FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR***

**“Major events and progress at Neighbor for Neighbor”**

Dear Friends:

There are three major events proposed for Northland that will create significant long term progress for Tulsa's poor and disenfranchised. These three events are the proposed opening of the OU Specialty Clinic, Greenwood Chamber of Commerce's Village Market and NFN's Life Skills Program. These three elements – health, business and skills – will greatly enhance the community and over a period of time will be instrumental in creating a more level playing field.

In 2003, NFN purchased the 129,000 sq. ft. structure known as Northland for a two-fold purpose of building out a 40,000 sq. ft. space for NFN and providing a place for economic and community development in the remainder of the space. Last December, the University of Oklahoma announced plans to place a 40,000-60,000 sq. ft. Medical Specialty Clinic at Northland. OU's Specialty Clinic will focus on oncology, heart disease and diabetes. It will be a teaching clinic for OU students as well as provide tours and medical job related information for neighborhood schools---in the hope of opening young eyes to the possibility of employment in the medical field.

Another phase of economic development at Northland involves a Village Market concept. The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce along with a committee that calls themselves the North-South group has devised a plan to start a Village Market at Northland. Start up businesses and small ma & pop companies can sell their goods and promote their trade by leasing a cubical or office in the Village Market. The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce provides small business training sessions with the hope that many participants will graduate to occupy space at the Village Market and eventually their own shop. Both the Village Market and OU's Specialty Clinic will support NFN's goal of Northland as a place for community and economic development.

The Life Skills Program at NFN is the third major element that will make a long term difference in our community. For forty years, NFN has been continuously on the front lines in serving the poor and disadvantaged of our community. Those who have shown up at its door have been able to receive without charge, according to their needs, groceries, utility and rent assistance, and bus tokens, legal services, medical care and prescriptions, eyeglasses, and dental care. In addition to NFN's existing programs, NFN is now expanding its life skills projects into a more in depth experience. The aim is to help teach clients the basic skills of money management, healthful dietary options, meal preparation, wellness, finding and keeping a job, and the like. The goal is to help individuals become more self-sufficient and healthy citizens in the community.

Imagine---40 years from now ---when all three of these projects and programs have already helped thousands of our neighbors be on a more level playing field---when their children and grandchildren don't have to worry about adequate health care---when productive life skills are just the way a family operates. God has indeed granted us favor to be involved with such a marvelous hope for the future.

Sincerely  
Ann N. Smith

***Celebrating 40 years of  
sharing & learning***