

NEWSLETTER



"A helping hand for people"

50 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Join us to our Gala/Dinner Celebration on June 22, 2023.

MISSION



The ABCD, Inc. is committed to improving the quality of life of people through Economic Community Development, Energy Conservation, Housing Development and Transportation.

VISION



The ABCD, Inc. strives to become a self-sufficient Community Development Corporation, which utilizes innovative and creative approaches to reduce poverty, to foster self-reliance and to bring about the empowerment of the communities that we serve.

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HIGHLIGHTS APRIL-MAY

I. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- 50th Anniversary keynote speaker will be Keith B. Key

II. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Stark County Minority Business Association (SCMBA) has been selected to serve as a Minority Business Assistance Center and to work with the Akron Urban League to provide services to several counties in the northeast Ohio.

III. COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Crystal Park Revitalization Program

- Ohio Finance Fund approved \$75,000 grant
- The City of Canton has previously approved grants of \$300,000 and \$100,000
- The County Land Bank provided a \$40,000 grant to assist with the demolition costs

IV. ENERGY CONSERVATION

- 13 Furnaces repair
- 9 hot water replaced
- 2 furnace repairs

V. HOUSING

- Partnership with MVAH Development
- Liberty Lofts: the construction of 43 multifamily units tailored to seniors is in progress in Liberty Township.
- LIHTC were recently awarded to Roberts Station: 50 units of senior housing 26th & Roberts Canton Pivotal Development (Partners)
- The Pointe at Walker Mill: 50 units of senior housing

VI. TRANSPORTATION

- Kisha Cunningham, our Trainer at ABCD, has dedicated nearly six years to our organization. During her tenure, she has successfully trained 25 drivers and counting.

WILL DENT

ABCD'S CEO & PRESIDENT

MR. DENT WAS AWARDED AS THE CLASSIC MAN OF THE YEAR BY HD PRODUCTIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT Co. AND THE INTERGENERATIONAL LEGACY AWARD BY THE OHIO COLLECTIVE



On May 20th, 2023, Mr. Dent received recognition as the distinguished recipient of the prestigious "Classic Man of the Year" award. Throughout his esteemed career, Mr. Dent's exemplary leadership qualities have garnered numerous awards and commendations, each serving to enhance his already impressive legacy. ABCD, Inc takes great pride in adding yet another distinguished title to Mr. Dent's exceptional repertoire



The ABCD, Inc



VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



Volunteer experience:

- ✓ Enzo, a junior student from Walsh University studying Organization Development and Leadership, interviewed our Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Pender, at ABCD's office about his leadership position and ABCD's impact in the community. Enzo also gained practical experience by volunteering in our Transportation program, where he rode along with experienced driver George to understand the program's day-to-day operations.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AND LEARN MORE ABOUT ABCD, INC?

Call Find Us
(330) 455-6385



For More Information
www.theabcdinc.com





THE ABCD, INC

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE OUR

50TH ANNIVERSARY

June 22, 2023

Check out our new Linktree and get your tickets. We will have cocktails, delicious food, a dynamic speaker, music and more.



GALA/DINNER TICKETS

Get your tickets today and join us to celebrate our 50th Anniversary

GUEST SPEAKER FOR OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY: KEITH B. KEY

KEITH B. KEY IS THE CEO & PRESIDENT OF KBK ENTERPRISES

We are honored to announce that Mr. Keith B. Key, the CEO of Keith B. Key Enterprises and Omni Management Group, will be our guest speaker for the 50th-anniversary Gala/Dinner. Mr. Key has an extensive track record in real estate development, having been involved in projects worth more than \$1 billion. His expertise is across various types of developments, including residential, commercial, and religious-oriented projects



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**JOIN US ON JUNE 22, 2023 TO CELEBRATE ABCD's
50th ANNIVERSARY. GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

We will have cocktails, delicious food, a
dynamic speaker, music and more.





UPDATES: CRYSTAL PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Renovations are underway at the former Rotunda Bank Branch which will become the new headquarters for ABCD

Facilities Committee

- **Will Dent**, ABCD CEO, Chairman
- **Lydia Lee**, ABCD Board Chairperson
- **Latoya Jones**, ABCD Board Secretary
- **Tomier Daverpont**, ABCD Board Vice-Chairperson
- **John Cihon**, ABCD Board Treasurer
- **Ray Sales**, ABCD Planning Committee Chairperson
- **Kent McClelland**, ABCD Past Chairperson
- **Homaundre Pender**, ABCD COO
- **Darlene Knott**, ABCD CFO
- **Eugene Norris**, ABCD Development
- **John Ramos III**, ABCD Board Member
- **John Picard**, Architect
- **Dean Olivieri**, Construction Manager
- **Gary Barton**, B+G Masonry General Contractor
- **Brock Walter**, Financial Advisor



TRANSPORTATION

Our transportation program continues to provide exceptional service to the community. We would like to acknowledge the dedicated efforts of all our drivers who make everything possible. We want to specifically recognize two individuals who have made valuable contributions to ABCD in different capacities.



George Hunter Driver

Mr. Hunter has always had a passion for helping people. He fondly recalls his Boy Scout days, where the motto "make the best better" became ingrained in his work ethic.

Mr Hunter has been happily married to Debra Hunter for an impressive 21 years, and their partnership has provided him with unwavering support and encouragement.

Debra, being a constant source of motivation, frequently reminds George to work hard and stay safe, often sharing a verse from the Bible that invokes blessings for each day.

Sonia Oviedo Driver

Ms. Oviedo is originally from San Antonio, Texas, and she moved to Canton 10 months ago. She has been working with ABCD for over 8 months. Sonia is fluent in Spanish and has traveled to Mexico and Ireland. Her job coach recommended ABCD, Inc. to her. She particularly enjoys meeting new people and engaging in conversations about cultural differences. Sonia also appreciates the weather in her new location.



MOTHER'S DAY STAFF CELEBRATION





BOARD SPOTLIGHT

DR. CHRIS SMITH

Background

- Graduate of McKinley High School
- Doctorate Degree, Master's Degree, and Bachelor's Degree from the National Institute of Cosmetology (Washington, DC)
- National Beauty Culturists League
- Manpower Training Clerical & Banking
- Graduate of Gerber Beauty School (Canton, Ohio)
- Owner of Chris Talk of Town Beauty Salon



ABCD's Board Member

Dr. Smith has been a board member since 2002 and also holds a role on the community relations committee. We are honored to have Dr. Smith, as her exceptional leadership legacy is greatly respected. , Dr. Smith has been re-elected for her eighth term in a row on the Canton City Council, and she is approaching her 17th year of service.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

STACY FRAZIER

DRIVER

Stacy, one of our top drivers, joined our team in November 2022 and has consistently displayed exceptional performance. She has been happily married to Bryan for two decades, and they have a daughter together. Stacy's admirable quality is her passion for helping people, and her dedication has been remarkable. On one occasion, she played a crucial role in saving a customer's life. While transporting the customer to a medical appointment, he suddenly experienced breathing difficulties. Stacy promptly dialed 911 and provided assistance, utilizing the training she received, which emphasized the importance of ABCD's. We take great pride in knowing that our drivers are well-equipped to handle and respond to any kind of emergency situation.





The ABCD, Inc

A HELPING HAND FOR PEOPLE

ABCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Lydia Lee, Chairperson
- Tomier Davenport, Vice-Chairperson
- LaToya Dickens-Jones, Secretary
- John Cihon, Treasurer

ABCD BOARD MEMBERS

Evelyn Byrd
Nate Chester
Mike Farmer
Natalie Haupt
Lisa Johnson
Kent McClelland
Yvonne Parks
John Ramos III
Ray Sales
Chris Smith
Jenny Terrell
Ron Young

ABCD MANAGEMENT TEAM

Will Dent
President & CEO
Homaundre Pender
Chief Operating Officer
Darlene Knott
Chief Financial Officer
Vivica Williams
Dir. of Energy Consv. & Office Mgr.
Ashley Herring
Transportation Manager
Katherine Rivera
Social Media Intern



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