

### **Mission/Goal**

NeighborhoodLink's mission is to promote access to information, enhance knowledge of community resources and to support citizen efforts to improve Cleveland neighborhoods.

### **History**

The NeighborhoodLink project began in January 1994 as an online community network specifically targeted to Cleveland area residents. It was initiated by the Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association (a local nonprofit agency) in collaboration with three other community partners- the Center for Neighborhood Development at Cleveland State University, the City of Cleveland and Ameritech.

Initially, the NeighborhoodLink project focused on providing access to useful online resources about Cleveland and its neighborhoods for Cleveland area residents as well providing them with access to computers through community computer centers. An original goal was to increase the effectiveness of citizen involvement in their neighborhoods by providing links to information about key community issues.

In 2009, efforts were undertaken to update and expand the site. Through a new partnership between the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University and The Center for Community Solutions, considerable time and resources have been invested in updating and adding new data, engaging participation from local experts and potential users and investigating new web based technologies.

### **Resources**

NeighborhoodLink is an information portal that contains data and selected links for a variety of subjects. NeighborhoodLink lets you explore your neighborhood, learn about how to become a homeowner, find available housing in Cleveland, get a job, obtain information about current community issues and more.

Some special features include:

- Cleveland area datasets – Current data include demographic (population, age, income, poverty, employment), housing

(home sales and median sales price) and other neighborhood characteristics, as well as mapping.

- Community Events – Local neighborhood-based activities are listed on a monthly basis, including festivals, free workshops, fundraisers, and more.

### **Engaging the Community**

Through a user survey and suggestions from local businesses, community service providers, social service agencies, educational institutions, government entities and Cleveland residents, the site continues to develop, addressing the ever changing needs of our community.

### **Contact**

For further information please contact Sharon Bliss. She is the Manager of Community Information Services for the Northern Ohio Data and Information Service (NODIS) at Cleveland State University's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs. She can be reached at 216.687.2210 or [s.bliss@csuohio.edu](mailto:s.bliss@csuohio.edu).