

MQVN Community Development Corporation

“Return, Rebuild, Reclaim”



About MQVN CDC

- We address the needs of our neighborhood through development of affordable housing, economic development, education, healthcare, environmental justice, social services, and community building.
- Located in Village de l'Est Neighborhood in New Orleans East
- Formed in May 2006 to address the needs of the Vietnamese American community



Main Goals

1. Develop culturally competent and language accessible affordable housing for low income seniors and working families
2. Promote ethnic business district revitalization and business development
3. Facilitate community access to human services and protect quality of life



Major Obstacles

1. Awareness and Community Support
 - a) Building relationships and small wins
2. Capacity Building
 - b) Partnership with national organizations and leadership development
3. Funding
 - c) Persistence and relationship building

Good Ideas: what has really worked for us...

- #1 Community engagement and assessment
 - Community forums/events, surveys, focus groups 1:1
 - Community support and data
- #2 Building partnerships
 - Partnering with organizations based on aligned goals
 - Technical assistance
- #3 Local capacity building
 - Awareness of CDC and leadership development
 - Permanent local staff and support



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Continual community support is essential for all neighborhood development projects.