

January 22, 2003  
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Academy of Arts Lecture Hall  
The Learning Corridor  
Hartford, Connecticut

# Acknowledgments

**The Neighborhood Leadership Training Program is a partnership of:**

Hartford 2000  
Hartford Economic Development Commission  
Leadership Greater Hartford

**The program was funded by:**

State of Connecticut's Economic and Community  
Development Department

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's  
Catalyst Endowment Fund

January 22, 2003

Dear friends,

The journey began in late September with a reception and opening retreat. We didn't know each other, and it's fair to say that we may have had as many fears and suspicions as we had hopes and dreams.



Four months and 10 sessions later, we find ourselves celebrating the completion of the first-ever class of the Neighborhood Leadership Training Program. Much of what concerned us in the beginning has diminished; much of what excited us has been fueled.

Together, we traveled this path with the 25 members of the inaugural class. As much as we learned ourselves, we awed by what they learned. They were as open to new possibilities, and as willing to take risks to explore those possibilities, as any group we've encountered at Leadership Greater Hartford. They showed up consistently, and absorbed an amazing amount of information and insights in a short period of time.

We believe the Members of this pioneering group have learned many of the skills necessary to initiate and direct revitalization efforts in their neighborhoods. LGH and its team of consultants provided training in such areas as running effective meetings, resolving conflict, working with the media and public speaking. Now that they have completed the program, we expect these graduates will work with their Neighborhood Revitalization Zone to tackle neighborhood problems like crime, housing, and traffic.

Just as importantly, however, we believe these individuals will continue to learn and grow. We sense in them a genuine desire to become all they can be, and to share their gifts so that others in Hartford and beyond may benefit. As they do so, they inspire us to learn, to serve and to pursue our own hopes and dreams for the capital city. They do this because that's what leaders do!

Please join us in saluting the leaders we recognize this evening!

Sincerely,

Ted Carroll  
President

Jeannette Rivera  
Program Assistant

**January 22, 2003**  
**Commencement Exercises for the Inaugural Class**

5:30 pm ----- Reception

6:15 pm ----- Program Begins

Opening Remarks ----- Ted Carroll, President  
Leadership Greater Hartford

Keynote Salute ----- Dr. Robert Painter, Member  
Hartford Court of Common Council

A Video Tribute to the Class ----- Jeannette Rivera  
LGH Program Assistant

Reflections ----- Class Members

Presentation of Pins and Diplomas ----- Joseph Barber and  
Edie Lacy, Co-chairs, Community Economic  
Development Committee, Hartford 2000 and  
Glenn Geathers, Project Manager, Hartford  
Economic Development Commission

Closing Remarks ----- Ted Carroll

7:15 pm ----- Dessert and Coffee

## Class 1 - Neighborhood Leadership Training Program



**Lillian Abdullah**  
133 Cleveland Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06120  
522-3001

*"My vision for Hartford is to be a model for the world on freedom, justice and equality of all."*

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**Ana Sanchez-Adorno**  
75 Park Street (SAMA)  
Hartford, CT 06106  
278-5825

*"Leadership is the energy that inspires you to make a change...and that helps others realize the change they want to make."*

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**Gertrude Banks**  
2 Jonathan Place  
Bloomfield, CT 06002  
243-9011

*"Leadership is about challenging the process, inspiring a shared vision, empowering others to act, modeling the way and encouraging the heart."*

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**Cureene Blake**  
276 Collins Street, #104  
Hartford, CT 06105  
525-2444

*"My vision for Hartford is that the people will remain dedicated to the vision of Hartford being 'New England's Rising Star' while we are working toward Hartford regaining its former glory."*

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**Carolyn Coleman**  
239 Martin Street  
Hartford, CT 06120  
242-0735

*"My vision for Hartford is to witness a growth in education, morals and wisdom. I want to see drugs and guns abolished from the streets, and I want to see children learning to respect, love and care for their lives."*



**Evelyn Figueroa**  
56C South Prospect Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
246-1807

*"Leadership is being able to envision a change in our lives and those of others and being willing to take the risks needed to bring about these changes."*

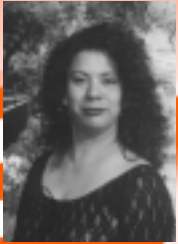
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**Sabrina Flintroy**  
166 Collins St., Apt. 204  
Hartford, CT 06105

*"My vision for Hartford is to make sure all children get the best education possible. If they don't, we can not be "the Rising Star of New England".*

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**Lourdes Fonseca**  
228 Cleveland Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06120  
527-2800

*"My vision for Hartford is a place where everybody will like to come to visit and live, a secure place where all citizens work together to make Hartford a Rising Star."*

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**William Fournier**  
121F Dutch Point  
Hartford, CT 06106  
247-6940

*"Leadership is the ability to take authority, go out front and inspire others to follow."*

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**Katherine Jones**  
One Gold Street, 16-G  
Hartford, CT 06103  
278-5419

*"As a Hartford leader, I commit to develop other leaders to lead, build strong ties between residents and businesses, and to approach people with respect,"*



**Norma Jones-Irving**  
192 Affleck Street, Apt. 2N  
Hartford, CT 06106  
246-2651

*"Leadership means being trustworthy, dependable and positive. It means standing up for equal rights and opportunity. Most of all, it means serving others so that they may achieve their goals."*

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**Philip Knecht**  
100 Executive Square  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
930-5027

*"Leadership is getting a group of people to attempt to accomplish common goals in the best interest of the community."*

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**Sam McClure**  
43 Hungerford Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
548-1294

*"As a Hartford leader, I commit to give my best effort to be a positive force for change in Hartford, in my neighborhood and on my street."*

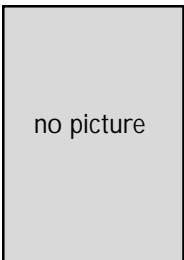
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**Ida McGhee**  
211 Martin Street  
Hartford, CT 06120  
278-4077

*"My vision for Hartford is to eliminate abandoned and boarded-up buildings. I'd also like to have more home ownership so that people would be more responsible and feel more empowered to act."*

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**David Mesite**  
5 Marina View Drive  
Chester, CT 06412  
547-1205

*"Leadership is about building relationships, fostering communication and coordinating people and ideas to reach a common goal."*



**Steve Mirsky**  
3 Mortson Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
547-1205

*"My vision for Hartford is that racial and economic isolation are eliminated and that all communities are tightly interwoven with downtown."*

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**Wadell Muhammad**  
447 Cornwall Street  
Hartford, CT 06112  
206-4095

*"My vision for Hartford is like my vision for our country. We have risen to the top, and it may seem that the only place to go is down. But there is an ever-higher level for us all to elevate to. Heaven is high enough for us all to strive for."*

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**Kathy Reid**  
404 West Preston Street  
Hartford, CT 06114  
956-9474



**Tenell Rhodes, Sr.**  
60 Allen Place  
Hartford, CT 06106  
293-2793

*"My vision for Hartford is that it become a clean, vibrant, thriving city that has first-rate education, services and communities and where people from around the world desire to live and visit."*

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**Raquel Rivera**  
43 Ashley Street  
Hartford, CT 06105  
560-1824

*"As a Hartford leader, I commit to dedicate my time, effort and abilities to develop a common vision to make Hartford the "city of hope" it was once called."*

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**Luz Santana**  
24 Ledger Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
951-0415



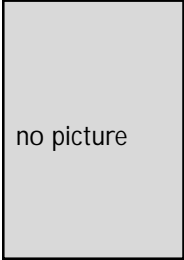


**Erica Stanislaus**

293 Enfield Street  
Hartford, CT 06112  
560-9039

*"My vision for Hartford is respect, racial equality and social justice."*

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**Nicola Taylor**

73 Wyllys Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
524-1821



**Dore Thomas**

94 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105  
231-8259

*"As a Hartford leader, I commit to being enthusiastic about Hartford and all it has to offer, to be optimistic about future growth and development in the city, and to inspire others by my vision."*

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**Beulah Williams**

101 Cromwell Street  
Hartford, CT 06114  
296-7380

*"As a Hartford leader, I commit to be a better secretary to the Southend NRZ, to take on a specific neighborhood improvement strategy and to get more people involved."*

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**Betty Wright**

15 Washington Avenue  
East Hartford, CT 06118  
565-3893

*"Leadership is to empower and encourage others to be the best they can be. Leadership is where you are driven to achieve, but yet have the capacity to care. And leadership means being a forward thinker willing to risk out-of-the-box approaches."*







**Class 1**  
**Neighborhood Leadership**  
**Training Program**  
September 2002 - January 2003