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**HISTORY**

In 1942 Edna Martin founded EMCC as the East Side Christian Center on Arsenal Street on the near northeast side of Indianapolis. She simply saw a need in the neighborhood for the children and worked to meet that need. In 1965, the Center moved to its present location at 1970 Caroline Ave. The Rev. Frank Alexander became Director of the Center in 1974, and it was renamed the Edna Martin Christian Center. The Rev. Dick Padrick was named Director in 1980, and was succeeded by Dr. Larry Lindley in 1989 who recently retired. Tysha Hardy-Sellers is the new Executive Director.

In 1992 the center was instrumental in the formation of the Martindale-Brightwood Community Development Corp., and played a similar role in the establishment of the Community Resurrection Partnership in 1996. The center became a United Way agency in 2004.

**NEIGHBORHOOD**

We serve the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood on the near northeast side of Indianapolis. This is a very low-income, predominately African-American community. It comprises over two and a half square miles containing a population in 2000 of 6,500 and a median annual household income of \$15,260.

**AFFILIATIONS**

American Baptist Churches/USA; American Baptist Churches/Indiana-Kentucky; American Baptist Churches/Greater Indianapolis; United Way of Central Indiana

**MISSION**

To bridge cultural, racial, and economic differences in order to support and nurture the people in the community by providing holistic programs that empower, encourage, and engender a vision of hope.

**MINISTRIES****Programs –**

- *After school* (3:30-6:00, Monday-Friday; no charge): average 55 children/day, total served = 100 – Tutoring, field trips, Christian education, recreation, drug abstention, conflict resolution, computer lab, gymnastics, evening meal
- *Summer day program*: (7:00-4:00, Monday-Friday; \$25/week, scholarships available): average 85 children/day, total served = 104 – Breakfast, devotions, recreation, garden, drug abstention, lunch, gymnastics, swimming, library, conflict resolution; camp at a Baptist Camp
- *Seniors*: (10:00-12:00, Monday - Friday; bingo \$.75): average 35 seniors per day, total served = 57 – Sewing, bowling, exercise, Bible study, bingo, pitch-in lunch, shopping trips  
Commodities distribution
- *LOAVES*: free meal for the community twice a month

### **Christmas –**

- Presents for 80 children
- Presents for 60 seniors
- Food, clothes, toys for 120 families in neighborhood
- Toys for Tots: additional 566 children
- United Christmas Service, 51 families
- Second Presbyterian Church Christmas program, 10 families

### **Community involvement –**

- Narcotics Anonymous (2 groups)
- *Martindale-Brightwood Neighborhood Coalition* – neighborhood resident leaders
- *Martindale-Brightwood Community Development Corporation* – housing construction
- *School #37 Bridges To Success Team* – community elementary school
- *Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Citizen Task force* – IMPD community policing
- *Community Choice Federal Credit Union* – neighborhood based credit union
- *Weed & Seed* – US Justice Dept. funded anti-crime program
- *Community Resurrection Partnership* – neighborhood ministerial association

### **Edna Martin Outreach Center –**

10:30 – 3:00, Monday – Friday: average 12 families/week

• *Services: needs assessment; Client advocacy; emergency food; rent & utility assistance; United Christmas Service; referrals (TANF, mental health programs, substance abuse programs, child care providers, legal services, senior activities, Welfare-to-Work, Pre-employment training, and employment)*

2007: assisted 288 families with food, representing 1,188 individuals; 83 families with emergency rent and utility assistance; made 149 referrals for jobs, training, education, and other services

### **FUNDING**

Total budget for FY2008 is \$378K. Sources of income: ABC Churches mission giving - 40%; Individuals - 14%; ABC/USA/IN/GI - 4%; Grants - 28%; United Way – 10%; Other - 4%

### **STAFF**

The Executive Director is Tysha Hardy-Sellers. The Assistant Executive Director is Ms. Evelyn Stewart. Outreach Counselor is Ms. Evonne Brown. The staff also includes a Secretary, a Receptionist, a Maintenance Associate, and eight part-time staff with the children's ministries.