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Thousands of citizens have stepped up to the challenge to help create the Blueprint and now partners are needed to help implement the strategies.

As Blueprint Partners, organizations can make significant contributions toward improving our schools, developing our economy, raising our quality of life, eliminating racial barriers, upgrading our infrastructure and making our leadership more effective.

This edition highlights some of the many Blueprint Partners who are implementing Blueprint strategies to help make our community a better place.

FCCJ Foundation's Community Prosperity Scholarship Fund

The primary barrier to college attendance in our region is the inadequacy of discretionary income within our large population of low-income working families. Through this new program, 400,000+ JEA customers have the opportunity to have a voluntary donation to the Community Prosperity Scholarship Fund added to their monthly utility bill. This new program will operate as a true, perpetual community endowment to help citizens pursue their dream of a college education. Ultimately, most or all scholarships will be funded from investment proceeds. Funds collected by JEA as well as additional funds contributed by corporations, foundations and affluent citizens will be eligible for a dollar-for-dollar match from the State of Florida. It is anticipated that, ultimately, the Fund will become a very significant resource in helping our citizens qualify for high-wage, high demand careers in Jacksonville.

The potential benefits of the Fund are very consistent with the objectives of Blueprint for Prosperity:

- Increased high school graduation rate
 - Improved high school scholarship
 - Increased college participation rate
 - Increased college graduation rate
- Enhancement of "human capital" within the region
- Fulfillment of employer human resource needs
 - Economic stimulation from higher wages
- Increased tax revenue for local government
- Improved regional economic development
- Decreased crime and social services costs
 - Decreased unemployment rates
- Strengthened families and neighborhoods

JTA institutes "Commuter Choice" service

Public transportation was raised as an important issue in the community input phase of Blueprint. JTA is providing groups of employees working and living near each other with convenient direct transportation to and from work through "Commuter Choice," a new, subscription-based bus service that aligns with the Blueprint strategie to improve public transportation.

JTA has formed a close partnership with CitiCards to target employees at its Flagler Park facility. By 7:45 a.m. each day, a JTA coach will arrive at the CitiCards facility in Flagler Business Park, bringing employees who live in the 103rd Street and Argyle Forest areas directly from designated park and ride lots to work. This more direct route will eliminate the need for bus riders to go downtown and transfer to other buses to get to work on the Southside. It will also allow riders to enjoy the stress-free comfort of a bus ride while traveling through congestion in the vicinity of the Buckman Bridge. The general public will also be allowed to ride.

Blueprint Partner Orientations

Blueprint staff will conduct orientations to assist Blueprint Partners with developing strategy benchmarks in alignment with the Key Benchmarks. These orientation sessions will be given throughout the year in the Compass Bank room at the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce, 3 Independent Dr., Jacksonville Fla., 32202. The dates and times of these orientations are as follows:

September 15	1:30 p.m.
October 12	1:30 p.m.
November 15	1:30 p.m.

To register for these orientations, contact Harlan Stallings at 904.366.6618 or harlan.stallings@myjaxchamber.com.

Founding Partners

- City of Jacksonville
- Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce
- WorkSource

New Partners

- Associated Builders and Contractors
- Women's Council
- Beaver Street Enterprise Center
- Emergency Services and Homeless of Jacksonville, Inc.
- FMSDC
- iCare
- Jacksonville Economic Development Company
- Jacksonville University- Community Service Learning Center
- JEA
- Professional Women's Council
- The City Rescue Mission, Inc.
- Wachovia
- Waterhouse Group

Total of 143 Partners

The Beaver Street Enterprise Center

The Beaver Street Enterprise Center, at 1225 W. Beaver Street is a business incubator that supports several of the Economic Development strategies in Blueprint by serving early-stage businesses. Currently, 16 different businesses call Beaver Street home and take advantage of the common areas and technical assistance available. The incubator is an initiative of FreshMinistries with its own board of directors and professional staff. Numerous other community partners assist in providing the technical assistance to the tenants including the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration and the UNF Small Business Development Center.

Prospective tenants are required to submit a business plan to grow their business and training is available to assist in the preparation of the plans. After becoming a tenant, the business owners meet regularly with the staff concerning implementation of their business plan and attend workshops and peer group sessions. Call 265-4700 for further details or visit www.bscenter.net.

Building lives at the City Rescue Mission

City Rescue Mission continues to embrace career building and job training to help equip their students to develop long-term skills-not just survival jobs. With the escalation of crime in the city they believe that one of the solutions is to empower people with skills to ensure a better life and a future of hope. It is teaching people "how to fish," not just giving them a fish to eat.

Local apprenticeship schools, businessmen and women who have expressed a great need for skilled labor are partnering with City Rescue to further train their students in special areas upon completion of the LifeBuilders program. City Rescue Mission's LifeBuilders recovery program teaches spiritual, emotional and mental disciplines, as well as important life skills that employers want in their employees. These partnerships will open doors to such a better life. For more information please contact Valerie Wrenn, 904-421-5180 or vwrenn@crmjax.org.

City of Jacksonville launches neighborhood strengthening initiative

Launched in May, Mayor John Peyton's *Seeds of Change: Growing Great Neighborhoods* initiative is designed to drive meaningful, measurable and visible change in neighborhoods across Jacksonville through partnerships with residents, neighborhood associations and business, community and faith leaders. In line with many of the goals of Blueprint, *Seeds of Change* focuses on improving the quality of life for residents through economic uplift, enhancing beautification and infrastructure, improving public safety and increasing home ownership.

While many elements of the initiative will be implemented citywide, some programs focus on smaller areas in two pilot neighborhoods-Historic Arlington and Northwest Jacksonville.

Seeds of Change has made great progress thus far. The summer JOBS Program created more than 300 summer jobs for teens; thousands of children attended summer camps thanks to generous sponsorships; and numerous mini-festivals, concerts and events drew families to parks. In addition, residents from both neighborhoods and members of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office participated in a series of workshops entitled, "Protecting Communities," aimed at building mutual trust, collaboration and understanding.

Steering Committees have also been formed in both pilot neighborhoods to discuss beautification and infrastructure projects.

City services including debris collection and property citations have been more heavily concentrated in the pilot neighborhoods since May. In fact, during a comprehensive two-week cleanup in Northwest Jacksonville city agencies collected nearly 57,000 pounds of trash, issued more than 1,300 property safety citations, removed hundreds of junk vehicles and cleared numerous vacant lots of overgrown brush and debris.

Several other projects will also kick off in weeks to come including a revitalization of Simonds-Johnson Park and Community Center sponsored by volunteers from The Home Depot and Hands on Jacksonville. Additionally, Project Clean Slate will provide an amnesty period for homeowners to clear their properties of existing Municipal Code Enforcement Board fines and bring properties into compliance.

For more information about the *Seeds of Change: Growing Great Neighborhoods* initiative, visit www.coj.net or call 630-CITY (2489).

Blueprint for Prosperity Reaches End of Year Partner Goal

Once the Blueprint document was approved by the Executive Committee in February 2006, the process of recruiting organizations to become Blueprint Partners began. Our goal was to have 140 Blueprint Partners by the end of 2006. As of September 1st, we already have 143. Hundreds more are needed to implement the strategies in the Blueprint document. The names of the partners are listed below:

Akerman Senterfitt	Duval County Public Schools	Jacksonville Sheriff's Office- Community Affairs Division
Alderman Park Civic Association	Dynamic Corporate Solutions, Inc (DCSI)	Jacksonville Transportation Authority
Alzheimer's Association	Education Station - Supplemental Education Services	Jacksonville University- Community Service Learning Center
Ambassador Career Training Consulting Firm	Elkins Constructors, Inc	Jax Federal Credit Union
American Express Financial Advisors	Emergency Services and Homeless of Jacksonville, Inc.	JaxCare, Inc
American Legion Post #197 Youth Leadership Council	Episcopal Children's Services	JEA
American Society for Training and Development, Northeast Florida	EverBank of Florida	Jenkins Quality Barbecue
Amstaff Human Resources, Inc.	Exploring, Learning for Life	Junior Achievement
Associated Builders and Contractors Women's Council	Family Support Services of North Florida, Inc	Kemet House, Inc.
Bank of America	First Coast Asian American Chamber of Commerce	Kesler Mentoring Connection
Barcelo and Company Inc	First Coast Black Business Investment Corporation	Khmer (Cambodian) Community Services of Florida, Inc.
Baytree Communications Systems, Inc.	First Coast Construction	King Engineering
Baywatch	First Impression Business Solutions	LandMar Group, LLC
Beaver Street Enterprise Center	Florida Community College at Jacksonville	Larry Simmons Consulting
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida	Florida Technical College, Jacksonville Campus	Magnolia Gardens North Neighborhood Association
Cathedral Arts Project, Inc.	FMSDC	Magnolia Gardens North Neighborhood Watch
Catholic Charities Bureau	Fresh Ministries	Main Street America Group
Changing The Focus, LLC	Gamma Beta Boule' Chapter of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity	Miller Electric Company
City of Jacksonville	Giddens Security Corporation	Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
City of Jacksonville- Adult Services Division, Community Services Department	Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc.	Mountaintop Institute
City of Jacksonville- Agriculture Department	Gumbs Media Group LLC	Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida
City of Jacksonville- Building Inspection Division	Habijax	Northeast Florida AIDS Network (NEFN)
City of Jacksonville- Community Development Division	Health Impact, LLC	Northeast Florida Center for Community and Justice (NFCCJ)
City of Jacksonville- Community Services Department/ Office of Juvenile Justice and Offender Based Program	Help-Fil-Am	Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition, Inc
City of Jacksonville- Community Services/ Victim Services	Hip Hop Economy Network Inc	Oak Street Realty Corp
City of Jacksonville- Department of Public Works	Hipps Group, Inc.	OTAI, Inc.
City of Jacksonville- Disabled Services Division/ Community Services Department	Holland & Knight LLP	Otis Smith Kids Foundation
City of Jacksonville- Housing Commission	Hope Haven Children's Clinic & Family Center	Paragon Financial
City of Jacksonville- Human Rights Commission	Hospitality Staff	PDale Beaman Coaching
City of Jacksonville- Jacksonville Children's Commission	House of Cherry St. Bed & Breakfast and Retreat Center	Professional Women's Council
City of Jacksonville- Jacksonville Economic Development Commission	IBM	Riverside Avondale Development Organization, Inc.
City of Jacksonville- Mental Health and Welfare Division/ Community Services Department	iCare	Rogers Towers
City of Jacksonville- Military Affairs and Veteran Services, Community Services	IMPACTjax	Siddiqui Legal Enterprise
City of Jacksonville- Neighborhood Services Division (NSD)	J & M Mortgage Inc.	State of Florida Department of Children and Families
City of Jacksonville- Parks, Recreation, Entertainment and Conservation	Jacksonville Area Sexual Minority Youth Network, Inc. (JASMYN, Inc.)	Teaching Point
City of Jacksonville- Procurement/Equal Business Opportunity and Contract Compliance	Jacksonville Baptist Association	The Bridge of Northeast Florida, Inc.
Coach Jacksonville	Jacksonville Community Council Inc. (JCCI)	The Cathedral Foundation
Comcast Cable	Jacksonville Economic Development Company	The City Rescue Mission, Inc.
Community Connections of Jacksonville	Jacksonville Job Corps Center	The Fellowship at Arlington Transformations
Community Foundation	Jacksonville Network for Strengthening Families	United Way of Northeast Florida
Downtown Council- Jacksonville Chamber	Jacksonville Public Library	University of North Florida, Career Services
Drummond Press	Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce	University of North Florida, Division of Continuing Education
Duval County Democratic Executive Committee	Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce- Economic Development (Cornerstone) Department	Volunteer Jacksonville, Inc.
Duval County Health Department	Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce- Economic Inclusion Department	VyStar Credit Union
	Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce- Small Business Center	Wachovia
	Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce-Women's Business Center	Waterhouse Group
		Wilder Business Success, Inc
		Women's Giving Alliance
		WorkSource
		World Good News, Inc. d/b/a Jacksonville Youth Sanctuary
		World Martial Arts Academy
		YMCA of Florida's First Coast

To sign up as a Blueprint Partner, please visit our Web site at www.blueprintforprosperity.com or contact Harlan Stallings, the Chamber's Blueprint manager, at 904.366.6618.