**2016 Goals**

Identify a developer and have funding in place for developments of vacant housing in Mount Clare and Franklin Square

Identify focus areas for development in Pigtown and Hollins Roundhouse

Develop and distribute a Tenant’s Rights Booklet

**How Did We Decide on the Goals?**

During the **summer of 2015** the Housing Committee discussed where the biggest needs were for **housing development** in the Southwest Partnership area. **Mount Clare and Franklin Square** have some of the highest rates of vacant homes, and not much outside development. The Committee met with the neighborhood associations to determine where the best blocks would be for development and what type of housing the associations wanted to see in their communities. Both associations decided on rent-to-own homes for **low to middle income home buyers.** The Committee discussed the current housing markets in each of the seven neighborhoods and decided that once the projects in Franklin Square and Mount Clare were completed they would focus on Pigtown and Hollins Roundhouse.

The Committee also discussed the importance of protecting the rights of **current tenants, landlords, and homeowners** during these and other housing developments. They decided to create a booklet that could be distributed to all residents of the Southwest Partnership area, especially those that would be affected by developments.

**What We’ve Done**

**Identified vacant homes** in Mount Clare and Franklin Square that will be developed

**Researched, met, and interviewed** architects and developers

Selected **Unity Properties**, the non-profit development arm of **Bon Secours** as the developer for the Franklin Square and Mount Clare projects

Researched and discussed **funding mechanisms** and **applied for funding** for the project

Worked with the city to **assign tax sale certificates** of **vacant houses** in the development areas to the SWP

Worked with the city to **transfer city owned vacant houses** in the target areas to the SWP

Began drafting **Tenant’s Rights Guide** with information from legal resources

Worked with **HomeFree USA** to obtain the opportunity to renovate the vacant houses in the **1000/1100 blocks of W Fayette Street** for new homeowners

**Next Steps**

**Work with Unity Properties to create a detailed development plan for the housing developments**

**Develop a financing plan and finance the project**

**Acquire the vacant houses and begin work**

**Work with the neighborhood associations in Pigtown and Hollins Roundhouse to identify development areas and goals**

**Complete the Tenant’s Rights Guide and distribute throughout the Southwest Partnership area**

**About the Committee**

The Housing Committee is made up of community members, neighborhood representatives, and others who are interested in housing development, issues, and rights.

It meets the **second Thursday** of the month at **7pm** at **1 N. Poppleton St.** All are invited to attend.

The Chair of the Committee is Jamie Pitts