

# COMMUNITY ORGANIZING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

# PICO NATIONAL NETWORK

- Founded 1972
- 50 Affiliated Federations
- 150 Cities/Towns
- 18 States
- Local, State, Federal Policy Change

# GOAL

- Build Community Power to Shape Public Policies that Affect Member-Institutions

# Camden Churches Organized for People

# CAMDEN CHURCHES ORGANIZED FOR PEOPLE

- 20 Years
- 30 Member-Institutions
- Diverse Constituency
- Multi-Issue
- Regional Expansion: Tri-County  
Congregational Organizing Project

# METHODOLOGY

- Build Relationships & Capacity through through 1-1 interviews
- Leadership Development
- Research & Analysis
- Action

# CAMDEN GOALS

- Move residents' priorities onto policy agenda of City, County and State
- Build capacity of City government to deliver essential services
- Bring new Public & Private investment to neighborhoods

# HOST COMMUNITY BENEFIT

- Compensation for providing sewage treatment service to region
- 4-Year Campaign
- 2 Actions with 1000+ people
- State “enabling legislation” passed
- \$3 million x 12 years = \$36 million

# HOUSING CAMPAIGN

- Link between Vacant Units & Crime
- Partnership with Non-Profit Developers
- Action with 800 people & Mayor
- Reframing: Can't afford *not* to address problem
- Housing Task Force

# REFRAMING

- One house at 29<sup>th</sup> & Mickle (3 years)
- 3 Fire Department "runs": \$6,000
- Boarded up 6 times: \$9,000
- Uncollected Tax Revenue: \$9,000
- 300 Calls for Police Service: \$30,000
- TOTAL: \$54,000

# OUTCOMES

- 2000 units sealed
- 800 units demolished
- \$2.7 million for acquisition & site prep
- Over 100 units built new or rehabbed
- Drop in crime rate

# RECOVERY CAMPAIGN

- Lack of human & financial capital
- Structural budget deficit
- City unable to deliver basic services
- 3 of 5 Mayors convicted
- State takeover looming

# RESPONSE

- Vision for the Recovery of Camden
- 8 Actions over 4 years
- 2 Actions with more than 1200 people

# OUTCOMES

- State recovery legislation passed in 2002
- 5-year recovery period
- State-appointed Chief Operating Officer
- \$175 million in new state investment
- \$7.5 million home improvement grant program