

SDOP PROJECTS



**Self-Development of People Committee
Albany Presbytery**



**1915 Fifth Avenue
Troy, New York 12180**

In recent years, SDOP of Albany Presbytery has supported various projects to help adults and youth who are living in poverty or close to the poverty line. See where your SDOP dollars have been invested.

“Rated G” Childrens’ Theatre is an afterschool and vacation time enterprise that was funded on December 1, 2009 for \$17,693.00. It is located in Cohoes in the Good Ground Family Church.

The Theatre’s mission is to help the underprivileged and the youth living in poverty in Cohoes and surrounding areas. Through the discipline of theatre production, the Project will build self-confidence, self-esteem, and creativity. In addition, it will give youth the opportunity to experience the joy and success of achieving their goals through the performing arts.

Refugee Education and Development is a project that was funded on December 1, 2009 for \$6,905.00. It is located in Schenectady.

This project is intended to help meet the needs of Sudanese refugees and to help them build a community so they can advocate for themselves in dealing with immigration issues, learning English, finding employment and making their way with social agencies.

Weed and Seed Youth Leadership Development is a project that was funded for \$2,275.00 on December 20, 2007. It is located in Schenectady.

The participants in this project strive to become leaders, gain important social skills and realize a new sense of hope. Some of their goals are:

- To build confidence to be in front of an audience
- To learn and acquire etiquette
- To develop and accept civic responsibility
- To develop meaningful careers, etc.

The Hamilton Hill Neighborhood Association received a grant for \$7,863.00 on November 8, 2006. It is located in Schenectady.

This project is a series of workshops to teach residents of Hamilton Hill how to manage their money and get out of debt. A large number of people are living in poverty. These workshops are designed to teach financial management and a life style that will practice good spending habits.

Parent Survival Training is a program that was funded for \$4,100.00 on December 26, 2005. It is located in Cohoes.

The mission of this undertaking provides parents with spiritual principles and practical survival skills to cope with their children's relational and developmental behavior from early childhood through adolescence and into adulthood. The project teaches parents to help their children successfully navigate through these transitions.

State Street English as a Second Language was given a grant for \$5,767.00 on November 1, 2007. It is a tutoring program located in Schenectady.

The project will enable young and underprivileged children/youth to gain a better education, help them perform better in school, develop leadership skills, and become better citizens of their community.

The Tutoring Program was given a grant of \$5,000.00 on September 2, 2008. It is located in Schenectady.

The Program is a tutoring program (grades 4-12) to enable young and underprivileged children/youth to gain a better education. It is serving a section of the city where there is poverty and people have little hope for a useful, productive life. This program is helping to develop their talents, give them confidence and make them better citizens.

The Haitian Community Project, Inc. is located in Hudson. On August 18, 2004, it received a grant of \$4,350.00. In 2005, the National Committee for the Self-Development of People awarded the project another grant of \$20,000.00. In addition, the coordinator of the Project, Carline Seide-Murphy, was given a prestigious international award in Belgium and appointed to the National Committee for the Self-Development of People in Louisville.

The goal of this project is to help Haitians, Haitian-Americans and other immigrants to successfully integrate themselves into this culture in such a way that they will be able to:

- Use their skills and abilities
- Realize social acceptance and involvement in community life
- Earn salaries that will allow them to live with dignity and happiness
- Enable them to involve themselves in the arts and culture of their community as well as make significant contributions to it

Schenectady Youth Boxing Club. On November 9, 2004, a grant of \$4,220.00 was awarded to the Club.

The purpose of this club has been to provide an alternative to drug and gang involvement through boxing and physical exercise and through the development of a social support system for inner-city youth between the ages of 8 and 25. The National Committee for the Self-Development of People was duly impressed with the club and saw fit to award them an additional grant of \$20,000 in 2005.

The C.A.R.E.S. Program received a grant for \$4,625.00 on October 27, 2005. It is located in Cohoes.

The full name of the C.A.R.E.S. Program is Character and Academic Resources for Educational Success. It is an afterschool program designed to enrich children's educational achievement by teaching character development, study skills and basic academic subjects.

The NEST Prison Shuttle Project was given a grant of \$5,600.00 on March 19, 2003.

The NEST Project offers a bi-weekly shuttle bus for family members of approximately 542 inmates from Rensselaer County to visit New York Prisons located within 70 miles of Troy. This Nest project's full name is Neighborhoods Establishing Support in Troy. A few years after NEST was started, the National Committee of United Presbyterian Women funded the program with an additional \$25,0000.



PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE ON THE
**Self-Development
of People**

Together We Can!

Projects Wanted:

Projects that will benefit poor and oppressed people!

Projects Must Be:

- *Initiated by the people
- *Controlled by the people
- *Benefitting the people

The Self-Development of People (SDOP) of Albany Presbytery seeks proposals for projects initiated, controlled and benefitted by people who are economically disadvantaged and oppressed, who are trying to improve their own lives.

If your group has a project that you think qualifies to be funded, please contact the following for information:

Presbytery office: 518-273-4991 or info@albanypresbytery.org
Rev. Jim Mosher: 518-664-2681 or philooftroy@aol.com