

EDISON



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Annual Report for 2016



Community Events

Edison Blossoms:

We gave 881 flats of flowers and vegetables to Edison's residents to plant in their yards, gardens and on the boulevards to make Edison a beautiful, blooming place.

Edison National Night Out:

Over 250 residents attended this year's National Night Out event. Several organizations set up booths with free information. Youths enjoyed the many activities our partner organizations provided and everyone enjoyed viewing the police equipment and talking with the officers. Attendees were treated to complimentary pizza and a free television drawing.

Edison Dick Bass Award:

Jeannie Brizendine was unanimously awarded this year's Dick Bass Memorial Award in recognition of her tireless dedication and volunteer efforts supporting the Edison Neighborhood Association.



Edison Holiday Food Drive:

Businesses and residents helped by collecting over 500 food items to support families for this year's food drive.

Programs

Edison Tool Share Program:

264 tools were shared for free with Edison residents, so they could do a variety of property improvement and repair projects.

Edison Hot Spots:

178 Hot Spot sheets were received from residents and forwarded to the City for resolution.

Edison Website: edisonneighborhood.com. The Edison Neighborhood Association has a PayPal account, to make donating easier and we are now on Facebook, LIKE us and tell us why you love Edison. To date we have 586 LIKES.

Edison Voice:

Six issues of the Edison Voice Newspaper were created this year. Are you on the email list? Go to edisonneighborhood.com and sign up today!

Edison Clean-Ups:

We hosted seven large clean up events throughout the neighborhood this year.

Edison Housing Referral:

155 residents received housing information about home ownership, home repair, and homelessness programs in the area.

**Edison Building Blocks:**

Edison's Building Blocks projects were hosted on Stockbridge Avenue. 27 households participated to accomplish 55 exterior improvements in the neighborhood and they volunteered a total of 858 hours to the project. Improvements include landscaping, driveway repair, window replacements, door replacements, trash removals - just to name a few things they completed.

Washington Square:

We were able to connect with several volunteers who helped clean up sidewalks, plant flowers. We also were able to paint two buildings, add some flowering planters, much needed new signs and lights to Washington Square. We also partnered with several others to activate several family-friendly events this year.

Meetings

Edison Neighborhood Watch:

We hosted 11 Neighborhood Watch meetings this year, giving residents helpful information about crime and safety tools that can be used to make our neighborhood better.

Edison Garden Club:

During the spring, summer and fall, Edison residents met at six different locations throughout the neighborhood to admire each other's gardens, get helpful planting/growing information, and to share garden plants with one another.

Edison Board of Trustees:

The Edison Board of Trustees met 10 times this year to discuss and vote on issues that affect the neighborhood and your association. Their tireless dedication to making this neighborhood great has been crucial to the success of all the programs, events, and initiatives administered through our organization.

Community Room:

113 people used Edison's Community Room to host family activities and several non-profit organizations used the room to host various activities such as yoga, cooking, tax preparation, and homeownership classes.

Other Activities & Partnerships

This year, the Edison Neighborhood Association (ENA) partnered with the City of Kalamazoo and YOU to host two Summer Youth Employment teams, we partnered with KDPS to host a carnival in Washington Square, We partnered with the Kalamazoo County Land Bank to help host Art Hops and give our input on a new Vietnamese fusion restaurant called Pho on the Block that will be opening early 2017 in Washington Square, We partnered with the City of Kalamazoo to create temporary bike lanes to Washington Square. We partnered with Bethany Reformed Church to install new post lights on High Street, We partnered with KVCC students who created a new logo for the Edison Neighborhood Association, We partnered with Edison Environmental Science Academy to create stained glass planters for Washington Square, KVCC Culinary School has finished construction and is now open for classes, the old MRC building on Bank Street has been raised and is now a parking structure for our Farmers Market and we partnered with AARP to provide free tax preparation for resident's in the neighborhood.

This year we had 669 people volunteer 1,842 hours to better the Edison Neighborhood. We also received several grants and financial donations from all over the county. We would like to thank each and every one of you for your contributions and dedication in 2016. We know we couldn't accomplish all that we do without your support and we want you to know that we truly appreciate you all. I can't wait to see the transformations at the end of 2017.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Trustees, volunteering, making a financial contribution, or have a great idea for making Edison a better place. Please contact Tammy Taylor at 269.382.0916 or edison@chartermi.net.