

# HOUSING NEEDS IN MILWAUKEE

## Possibilities for Collaboration

Most non-profit neighborhood and housing development organizations have limited staff and financial resources. Many individuals contacted were very creative in the types of collaborative possibilities they suggested. Below is a list of six ways that various organizations envisioned collaborating with departments at UWM, specifically within the School of Architecture and Urban Planning (SARUP).

**Collect and assess data on the effectiveness of past development efforts.**

Several housing and neighborhood development organizations discussed the need to collect and assess data on the effectiveness of past development efforts. They suggested the vital role that UWM and SARUP might play in these types of assessments. These organizations did not have the time, money or staff resources to take on these types of assessments. However, these types of assessments and documentation were seen as very important in order to establish credibility with potential new funders.

**Helping distressed neighborhoods.**

Several neighborhood organizations mentioned that the consensus-building skills and planning resources available in the School of Architecture and Urban Planning could be utilized to help distressed neighborhoods plan the best ways to redevelop vacant properties in their neighborhoods.

**Student internships in neighborhood and housing development organizations.**

Various organizations mentioned the possibility of having student interns work in their offices doing a variety of tasks, from housing surveys to helping with construction drawings for remodeling. The organizations saw this as beneficial to students and to the non-profits because it would provide students with the opportunity to see real world issues first hand and would provide additional skilled person-power for the non-profit organizations.

**Assisting with solutions to innovative housing needs.**

Several organizations had very specific housing issues which were not addressed by the housing available in the market currently. These organizations saw the possibility of design and planning expertise being used to provide solutions to, for example, neighborhood housing for women leaving treatment, and barrier-free housing for persons with progressive disabilities.

Survey of Milwaukee Non-profit Organizations Assessing Needs, Efforts and Possibilities

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## Research and technical assistance.

Several organization mentioned the possibility of benefitting from research and technical assistance on specific housing related issues, such as getting equitable access to City housing funds.

## Partnerships for design/development of affordable housing.

Some of those organizations involved in neighborhood and housing development indicated a desire to work with the teams from the School of Architecture and Urban Planning, and other schools at UWM, to develop comprehensive proposals for neighborhood and housing development projects.