The Renee Jones Empowerment Center (RJEC) celebrated its grand opening on September 7th with a standing room only crowd.

RJEC relocated from a tiny storefront in the Gordon Square Arts District and expanded its service area to Cleveland’s Brooklyn Centre neighborhood. RJEC is now located at 3764 W. 25th St. on Archwood on the second floor of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul building (the Brookside Hunger Center). Councilwoman Jasmin Santana was one of the first to welcome RJEC to the neighborhood. “We support agencies, like Renee’s, that empower individuals that have experienced the worst of humanity by giving them renewed hope and helping them heal and move forward with their lives.”

Distinguished guest speakers included: Lindsay Kuhn, Cleveland’s Regional Director for Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, who presented a proclamation; on behalf of State Senator Nickie J. Antonio, a Senatorial Citation was presented; RJEC Board trustees Sr. Cecilia Liberatore and Carla Lovejoy, St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Board President Ed Leszynski, Supt. Pastor Brice Nash and SVDP Spiritual Advisor John Travis. Survivors had the honor of cutting the red ribbon which symbolized starting anew. President and CEO Renee Jones acknowledged, “Unfortunately, human trafficking and sexual assault exist in every community and lure too many youth and young adults under false pretenses into a dark, dangerous world. We’re here for anyone who wants to get out.”

RJEC offers a nurturing safe place to help survivors rebuild their lives. RJEC also strengthens communities by engaging and educating others in anti-trafficking and anti-violence efforts.

RJEC is hosting its 7th Annual Gala on Saturday, November 9th. For ticket or other information about RJEC, visit rjecempower.org or call 216-417-0823.
We’re in your neighborhood!

Visit www.lasclev.org for a list of FREE upcoming legal advice clinics.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
Cleveland Public Library Fleet Branch
7224 Broadway Avenue

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
9:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
Fairhill Partners 12200 Fairhill Road

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22
2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.
El Centro
2800 Pearl Avenue, Lorain

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23
2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.
Cleveland Public Library - Main Branch
325 Superior Avenue East

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
U.S. Veterans Only
2:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. VA Community Referral and Resource Center, 7000 Euclid Avenue
Call 216-391-0264 for an appointment.

2019 Brief Advice and Referral Clinics
First-come, first-served.
Bring important papers with you!
Questions? Call 216-687-1900 or visit www.lasclev.org for updated clinic listing.

MLB, Cleveland Habitat Partner for Local Event
Volunteers gather to make improvements around Clark-Fulton community

On July 5th, Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity led a Spruce Up Day on Roehl Avenue, assisting existing residents with exterior home repairs and completing work on the homes they are rehabbing on the street.

Thanks to the generosity of Major League Baseball and 75 volunteers from various organizations and schools, seven residents on the street were assisted with repairs, and great progress was made on the six homes Habitat is rehabbing on Roehl. In addition, volunteers planted thirty butterfly bushes around the perimeter of St. Rocco Church school’s playing field. This field was one of two that received a major clean-up from the volunteers that day. The event was part of the many All-Star festivities that took place in Cleveland that week, and we’re happy and excited that it could take place in the wonderful Clark-Fulton neighborhood.

The Spruce Up Day is just one part of the revitalization happening on Roehl Avenue.

This year, Habitat is rehabbing six homes on the street, and on August 24th, a dedication ceremony was held to celebrate the completion of the first three homes. These homes will soon be purchased by three families in the Habitat for Humanity homeownership program. Work continues on the other three homes and construction will be finished over the next few months. This comprehensive revitalization project is the result of many different organizations coming together including churches, corporate sponsors, banks and others that have all dedicated their time and resources to making an impact.

Please join us for Family Wellness Wednesdays!

You and your family are invited to join NFP for a series of fun evenings this fall.

Enjoy a healthy meal, learn to cook meals together, and get tips for staying active as a family!

Family Wellness Wednesday sessions will be held from 6 – 7 p.m. on:

October 23
October 30
November 6
November 13
November 20

Ann B. Reichsman
Community Health Center
3545 Ridge Rd., Cleveland
across the parking lot from the NFP Ridge Community Health Center

Each session will feature different meals and information, so please plan to attend all five! Sessions are free to families, but advance registration is required.

To RSVP or for more information, please call Michelle at 216.281.8945, ext. 294.

Neighborhood Family Practice
3545 Ridge Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44102

www.nfpmedcenter.org

Enjoy a healthy meal, learn to cook meals together, and get tips for staying active as a family!
Library to Renovate or Rebuild Neighborhood Branches

As the Cleveland Public Library celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, it is also embarking on a $100 million project to renovate or rebuild all of its 27 neighborhood branches over the next 10 years.

That includes three libraries in Ward 14 — South Library at 2704 Clark Ave., Fulton Library at 3545 Fulton Rd., and Brooklyn Library, 3706 Pearl Rd.

Phase 1 of the project — estimated at $39.3 million — will begin next year with the building of a new Martin Luther King Jr. branch on Euclid Avenue in University Circle.

The first phase will also see the rebuilding or renovation of five more branches — Hough, Walz, Woodland, West Park and Jefferson.

Phase 1 is scheduled to be completed by 2024. All 27 branches in Cleveland will be renovated or rebuilt by 2029.

Funding for the project comes from an increase the library’s property tax levy approved by Cleveland voters in 2017.

“Libraries are vital assets for any neighborhood, whether rich or poor,” said Councilwoman Jasmin Santana who represents Ward 14. “By investing in libraries we are opening our minds to many worlds, many ideas. We are investing in our humanity.”

The poet, Maya Angelou, often spoke of the importance of libraries for our children. She once said, “...From the time I found myself at home in that little segregated library in the South, all the way up until I walked up the steps of the New York City library, I always felt, in any town, if I can get to a library, I'll be OK. It really helped me as a child, and that never left me.”
REPORTING CRIME

When you are the victim of a crime it is important to notify the police as soon as possible.

The calls into the police are important because they:

- Are used to determine where officers are deployed
- Provide the police with accurate crime trends
- Provides a paper trail for declaring locations a nuisance

If the Crime is currently in progress, Call 911!!
If the crime has already occurred call 216-621-1234.
If you are unsure, call either number and dispatch will assist accordingly.

Keep in mind that all of these calls and civilian interactions are recorded. If the police are not treating you in a respectful manner, there are several options to address the issue.

We are here to help, Metro West provides technical support from the first time criminal activity is noticed, through the conclusion of the court process.

The earlier in the process that you can contact Metro West, the more impactful we can be in supporting you.

You can contact Adam Gifford 216-961-9073 x 205 or Agifford@metrowestcle.org

Metro West provides the following services:

- Collection of and organization of information to give to law enforcement around chronic issues
- Follow up on existing issues
- Connection to law enforcement programming for victims and prevention
- Organization of court watch
- Education around crime prevention and effectively working with law enforcement
- Provide technical support when filing a complaint against a member of law enforcement

Contact Kristyn Zollos
Economic Development Director
216.961.9073 Ext. 269
kzollos@metrowestcle.org

City of Cleveland
Community Relations
Michael McDonald
Second District Community Relations Representative
216.534.4163
MMcDonald2@city.cleveland.oh.us