

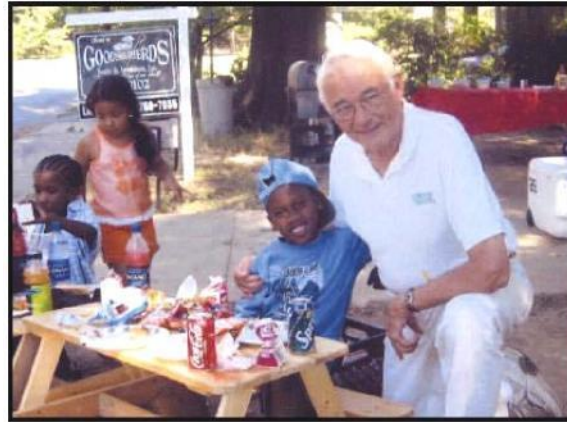
Jacob's Ladder™ has renovated or repaired 34 Beltline residences in the past five years. Many of these homes were vacant "problem properties" contributing to blight and crime in the neighborhood. Two of the renovations have become neighborhood resource centers for Beltline children.

A team of construction volunteers meets every Wednesday. Other groups composed of residents, local businesses and churches make a major contribution helping out on week-ends with painting, landscaping and general labor. Every effort is made to bring houses up to code, including adding the latest in insulation and energy-saving features. Volunteer team work dates and locations are posted in advance on our website.



Jacob's Ladder™ also owns and maintains several lots which will become future home sites. One of these lots functions as The Beltline Community Garden which provides free produce to all the neighborhood residents. The combination of eliminating blight, renovating problem properties and helping to create an active neighborhood association has resulted in a 30% drop in overall crime in the Beltline community since 2006.

2011 goals include the complete renovation of three homes, painting a neighborhood mural and completing repair work on five more homes. We welcome new volunteers and encourage you to email us or visit our website for more information.



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**Jacob's Ladder™**  
**Community Development**  
**Corporation**  
 A Non-Profit Corporation



**Our Mission:**  
**The holistic**  
**revitalization of the**  
**Beltline Neighborhood**  
**through community**  
**partnerships.**

**Rev. William D. Marler**  
**Lana W. Marler**  
**Co-Founders**

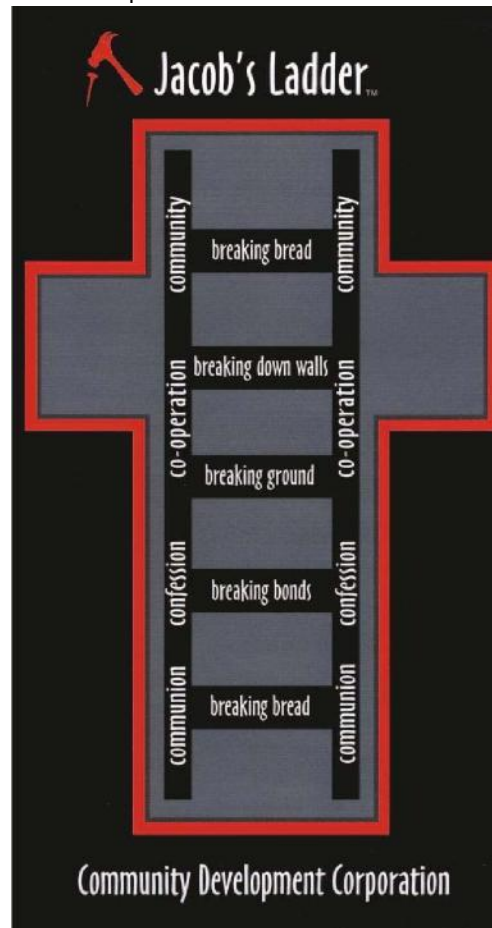
✚ Jacob's Ladder™ Community Development Corporation is committed to implement the vision of Christ for the world in the establishment of communities of neighbors. His command is "to love thy neighbor as thyself" and to share in communion with Himself and our neighbors as symbolized in His breaking of bread at the Last Supper. It is the goal of this organization to help people climb the ladder of success toward actively participating in the "establishment of a community of neighbors," by becoming more responsible citizens, homeowners and care-givers to the young and disadvantaged in the Beltline neighborhood of Memphis, Tennessee.

A participant in this program climbs the rungs of Jacob's Ladder™, which has its footings in the commands of Christ and the breaking of bread in Holy Communion. On this first rung of the ladder, we acknowledge that as God's creation, all people are connected through this relationship and are responsible to protect and nurture one another and the environment.



Next, the breaking of bonds is attained through confession as residents discover what they need to do to promote change in their lives and in the community. The specific foci of Jacob's Ladder™ are: 1) Adequate and Affordable Housing - Destructive personal habits and patterns of spending chain one to a cycle of debt and despair thus reinforcing the landlord/tenant paradigm and substandard housing and, 2) Education and Job Skills - Lack of education and job training leads to unemployability and entrenchment in a failed lifestyle. Those sponsored in the Jacob's Ladder™

program have access to construction job training, credit counseling and home ownership education. Moreover, the neighborhood youth receive tutoring to improve report card performance and life enrichment classes and mentoring to prepare them to become responsible adults.



Through mutual co-operation between local churches, neighbors and other local interest groups, the rungs of breaking ground and breaking down walls are reached, both literally and figuratively. Working side-by-side, licensed contractors, volunteers from the community, churches, and local businesses rehabilitate previously neglected or abandoned homes. These homes have been obtained far below market value, so the new home owner will have an affordable house note and equity at occupancy. In addition, neighborhood youth and teens

have the opportunity to gain necessary job skills through micro-businesses established in the community by ✚ Jacob's Ladder™, such as a children's used clothing store and seasonal work in landscaping and lawn care, local sporting events parking, and selling produce from the Beltline Community Garden to local restaurants.



Volunteers from local churches, schools, and universities nurture these youth at free after-school enrichment centers with programs designed to imbue their lives with hope, love and success. Local churches also co-ordinate providing food for the work crews, thus allowing for another important volunteer niche. Relationships between neighbors are formed and take shape through participation in this program in much the same way as the newly refurbished home takes shape through their co-operative efforts. Parents and youth care-givers are given much-needed support and encouragement through the educational component of Jacob's Ladder™.

✚ The symbol that the top rung of the ladder of success has been reached is when this "community of neighbors" comes together in the breaking of bread at celebration dinners for any number of reasons, ie., One of its neighbors has become a new home owner or; One of its residents has completed job training and secured employment and/or; A young person has graduated from high school and is now going to college. All the rungs of ✚ Jacob's Ladder™ will have been ascended from the breaking of bread in communion to the breaking of bread in community. This hammer and nail theology taught to us by Christ, the Master Carpenter and Architect of true community established in love, is becoming a reality in this community with God's help and yours!