Our Commitment to the Community

On behalf of the City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT) Board, Staff, Membership, and Stakeholders, I’m more pleased than ever before to be reporting back to the community on our organizational progress. When I took the position as the first CLCLT staff person back in 2002, I believed that the CLCLT would deliver on its community promises but really had no idea how successful the organization would become in fulfilling those promises. I find myself reflecting on how well it really is working now. Given the current challenges facing the housing market, low-income households, and the community, there is even more significance to the achievements of the organization.

Over the past six years, there has been, unfortunately, one CLCLT homeowner foreclosure. That’s the bad news. The good news is there has only been one foreclosure. That one CLCLT foreclosure equates to significantly less than 1% over six years, compared to nearly a 6% foreclosure rate in Minneapolis over the past two years. It could be a short-term anomaly, but we believe this low foreclosure rate has something to do with the “home-ownercentric” approach the organization takes with the households who have purchased CLCLT homes. Not only do we help people buy homes, we help them keep their homes.

2010 has been a significant year for many reasons. Despite the unpredictable housing market, we are on track to assist another 20 households into CLCLT homeownership in 2010. Additionally, this year we celebrated the 100th CLCLT home brought into the CLCLT and plan to end the year having served close to 120 households into CLCLT homeownership (including resales). Another exciting growth opportunity for the CLCLT this year is the purchase of a building in the Harrison Neighborhood, which will be transformed into the new CLCLT offices in early 2011.

Jeff Washburne, Director
Many Thanks to our 2010 members and partners

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