

A photograph of a residential street at sunset. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light from the setting sun on the right, which creates a lens flare effect. In the background, there are trees and a house with white siding and a window. The foreground shows a sidewalk and a street. Overlaid on the image is large, white, stylized text.

A NEW
DAY **IN**
BROOKSIDE

OUR HISTORY BROOKSIDE

College Park first came to know the Brookside neighborhood through a meeting with Steve Goldsmith, the mayor of Indianapolis in 1995. As a church, we recognized a need to not only engage with unreached people globally, but to also think about a gospel impact on our city.

In response to Mayor Goldsmith's mention of Brookside, the Kid's Church ministry was born — a group of children from Brookside meeting together every Saturday morning to learn about God, play games, and eat lunch. As this ministry grew over time, our involvement and relationships in the neighborhood were strengthened.

Today, our relationships in Brookside are thriving. The more we've learned, the more excited we are to come alongside what God is doing there.

2008

A Christmas Offering supporting formalizing partnerships with local ministries and creating new ministry opportunities in Brookside.

2009

2010

2011

2012

This Christmas Offering allowed us to invest further into selected partners in order to help them advance the gospel.

2013

2014

2015

In our last Christmas Offering we focused on partners that support the five pillars of healthy communities.

2016

HOPE **HEALTHY**
FOR A
COMMUNITY





The Brookside neighborhood has historically struggled with generational poverty, high crime, a lack of quality educational opportunities for students, and a higher unemployment rate than much of the rest of the city. Over the course of our relationships there, we have seen God do some incredible things as the gospel transforms lives.

Today in Brookside you will find stories of God's grace everywhere – a church has been planted, children have been educated, men and women have found employment and experienced discipleship relationships. Through partnerships with strategic local ministries, the gospel of Jesus Christ is bearing fruit and transforming lives, families, and the community as a whole.

Our continued relationships in Brookside represent opportunities to invest in the health of this neighborhood with the light of the gospel.

**DIGGING DEEP WITH EXISTING
RELATIONSHIPS TO EXTEND
THE REACH OF THE GOSPEL
EVEN BROADER IN BROOKSIDE
AND IN OUR CITY.**



IMAGINE

a thriving, healthy community. What comes to mind? What characteristics do the people in the community have? How does it feel when you walk down the street? What are people talking about? What does the neighborhood look like?

We've spent some time thinking about these types of questions and have arrived at five key elements we believe are integral to a healthy community:



SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING



STRONG EDUCATIONAL CHOICES



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



JESUS-CENTERED CHURCHES



A CULTURE OF PLACE & RELATIONSHIPS

Walk through a day in Brookside to learn more about the ministries and partnerships we partner with.

NAVIGATING BROOK



COVENANT COMMUNITY HOUSING

An organization that offers safe, affordable housing for qualifying women who have completed Heart Change's Mother's University program. Women and their families have a safe place to live and an unprecedented opportunity to experience authentic Christian community.



HEART CHANGE

A ministry designed to serve less privileged women in Indianapolis with the gospel of grace, equipping them to live as God intended as women, mothers, and members of their communities. Heart Change serves as an umbrella ministry that includes a preschool program for children whose mothers are involved, Mother's University (a semester-long curriculum that prepares women to get their GED and/or take a certified nursing assistant exam), Heartfelt Soaps (a small business that provides women with the gift of work), and Covenant Community Housing.



THE OAKS ACADEMY

A Christ-centered school that provides a rich, classical education to children of diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. Students at The Oaks receive an education that cultivates their spiritual, social, and emotional maturity, preparing them to succeed in their secondary education and beyond.



PURPOSEFUL DESIGN

A furniture business that offers men an opportunity to experience the dignity and calling of work in an atmosphere of discipleship and intentional relationships. Through this discipleship environment, men are building skills and becoming more equipped to biblically lead their families, while also providing a stable source of income.



NEHEMIAH BIBLE CHURCH

A church plant from College Park that has its roots in the Kid's Church ministry that initially connected us to Brookside. The church is growing as they serve the community.



ENGLEWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A church that has a rich history of community development on the Near Eastside and is eager to partner with others for the sake of the gospel.



BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

A small church connected to Northview Church that has become a light in the neighborhood through their work helping former convicts re-enter life outside of prison.

SIDE



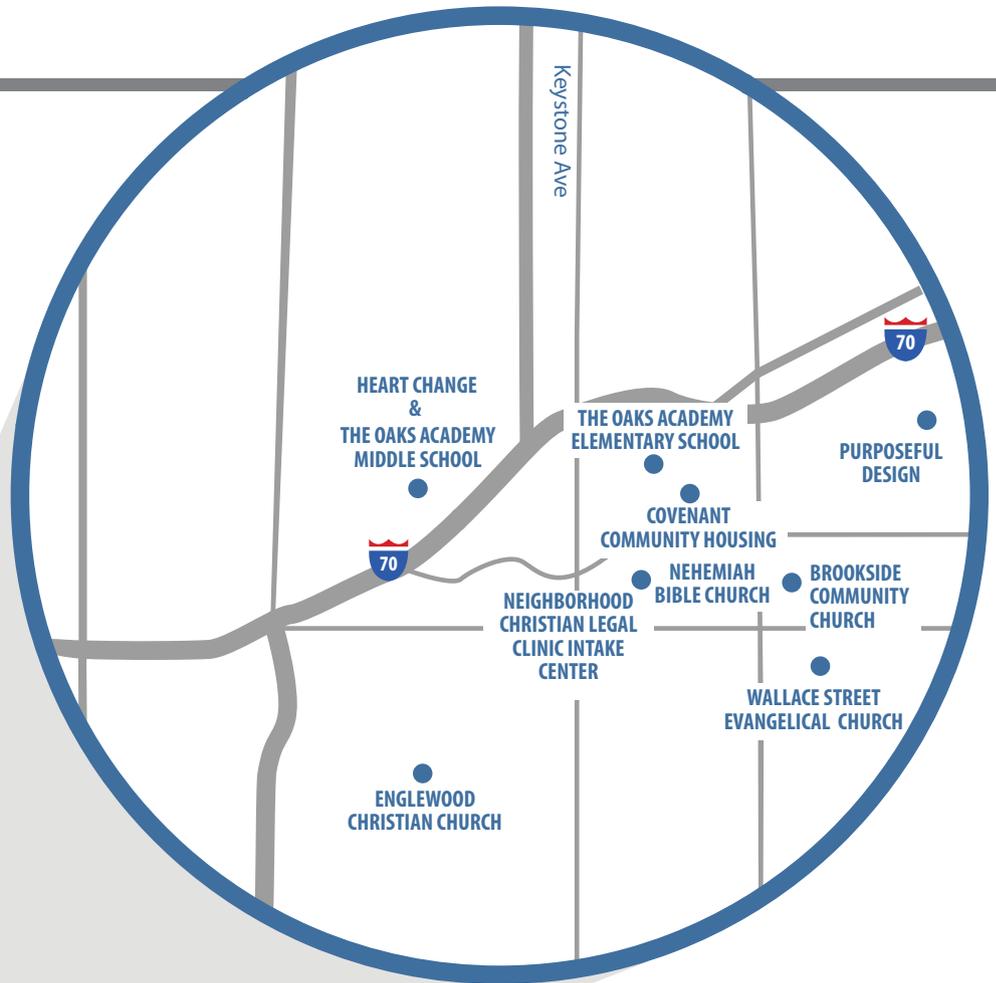
WALLACE STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Located on the edge of the Brookside neighborhood, this church is growing in its vision for reaching their neighbors with the gospel.



NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTIAN LEGAL CLINIC

The Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic offers pro bono legal representation and preventive legal education to low-income families, including immigrant families, at an intake center on Tuesday evenings.



7 A.M.

COVENANT COMMUNITY HOUSE



We start the day at Vincent and Daphney's house. Their family was the the first family to move into Covenant Community Housing in 2013. Daphney was introduced to Heart Change ministries through her sister, who was also attending Heart Change. After completing the initial program where she learned about what a walk with Jesus looked like, she went on to the Mother's University program and became a Mother's University graduate. This qualified Daphney to become a member of Covenant Community Housing.

In the midst of learning about how Jesus transforms lives, Daphney and Vincent got married. Right away, this newly-formed family needed safe, affordable housing with a fair lease and a reliable landlord. Finding just that combination can sometimes be challenging in Brookside, and Covenant Community Housing was a total answer to prayer.

The house is great, but the neighbors are what really sweeten the deal. One of the benefits of Covenant Community Housing is the opportunity to experience authentic Christian community. Just down the street are a handful of other moms who've been involved with Heart Change, as well as some of the mentors Daphney met through Heart Change.



Safe, affordable housing is vital for healthy communities, and it has been a joy to see women and their families flourish in the intentional community that Covenant Community Housing provides. Many of these women have already experienced significant life change through their involvement with Heart Change and Mother's University, and we're excited to see what's in store for their futures.

Covenant Community Housing is serving a growing number of families, and in a neighborhood where everyone has a front porch instead of a backyard, community with other believers has been really influential in continued spiritual growth.

We are encouraged as we see families respond positively to healthy, safe, structured environments. We have even been privileged to witness the Lord orchestrate marriages amongst Covenant Community Housing families!

Several College Park families have inquired about moving to Brookside and some have been led to move and live and serve in the neighborhood.



IMAGINE

WHAT MORE COVENANT COMMUNITY HOUSING COULD MEAN FOR THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

*Each home represents a mother
who needs a safe place to tuck her
kids in at night.*



9 A.M.

THE OAKS ACADEMY



The day is just getting under way in Mrs. Vaughn's pre-K class. Vincent and Daphney drop Ke'Vauri off at school just before 8 a.m., and by 9 a.m. the students in his class have greeted their teachers, played with colored tiles while the rest of their classmates arrived, and participated in lauds (i.e., corporate Scripture reading and a song of worship) with the rest of the school.

Now they're gathered on the carpet to sing about and discuss what month of the year it is, what day of the week it is, and what the weather's like outside. Mrs. Vaughn's class has fourteen students and each one listens intently to her directions, eager to see what's next.

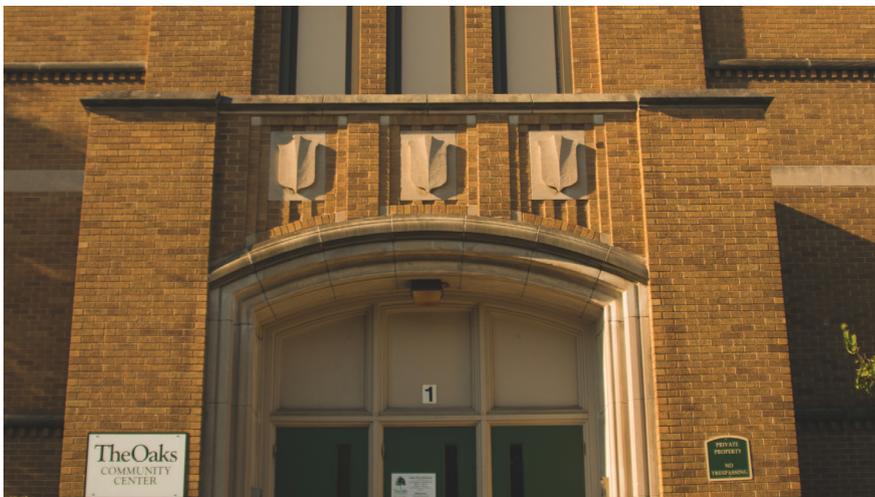
Ke'Vauri loves The Oaks Academy.



Strong educational structures provide children with the knowledge and tools they need to be successful and to make wise choices for their future. The Oaks is exceptional at preparing students for success.

The Oaks Academy was founded in 1998, here in Indianapolis. In 2012 (partially helped by a College Park Christmas Offering) they opened a second campus to serve elementary and middle school students in the Brookside area. The Oaks is especially well-known in Indianapolis for two particular reasons:

- 1. An intentional approach to recruiting a socioeconomically diverse mix of students.** Kevin Chavous, a National Education Reform Leader, commented on the mix of students: “It is exceedingly rare to see a school with such a diverse socioeconomic mix of students. It is more rare to see school community so dedicated to preserve that mix.”
- 2. Outstanding ISTEP scores in the state of Indiana.** In 2015, students at The Oaks three schools collectively outscored students at every other school in the state. Individually, The Oaks Academy Brookside scored in the top one percent.



IMAGINE

CHILDREN WHO LIVE IN COVENANT COMMUNITY HOUSING GETTING A FIRST-CLASS EDUCATION AT THE OAKS ACADEMY.

The partnership between these two ministries provides an incredible opportunity to impact whole families, who will then impact the whole community.

“Of all the things life has brought, this project (startup of the Oaks) is the most important human endeavor I have ever been privileged to be part of.”

MITCH DANIELS

One of the Oaks Academy’s founders
& former governor of Indiana

11:30 A.M.

PURPOSEFUL DESIGN



When you walk into the Purposeful Design building, the smell of fresh-cut wood and the grit of sawdust under your feet immediately informs you that you're walking into a workshop. Men are hard at work on various projects—tables, coasters, benches, you name it. Vincent has been working at Purposeful Design for a couple of years now. He initially met David Palmer (founder of Purposeful Design) through a Bible study at a local community center several years ago but was re-introduced to him through Daphney's involvement at Heart Change.

When he first started working at Purposeful Design, Vincent admits that he didn't really think it would work out. To his surprise, it's worked out better than he could have imagined. Much more than just a job, Vincent credits Purposeful Design as the catalyst for a lot of the growth in his walk with Jesus and in his ability to lead his family as a godly man. Though he had never worked with wood before, Vincent has excelled at his job. He's become the resident expert on finishes of all kinds and is currently working on a professional certification. You should see the tables he finishes! Absolute masterpieces.

Economic development, including job creation, development, and training has to be in place for any community to thrive over time. Without jobs, or the skills and training necessary to keep a job, families and individuals cannot function.

Through the prayers and contributions of many, Purposeful Design was launched to help address these issues in 2013. Purposeful Design is a furniture business that offers men who may never have experienced the dignity and calling of work a narrative of work that is winsome and whole in an atmosphere of discipleship and intentional relationships. In its short history, Purposeful Design has celebrated stories of men getting plugged into church, reconciling with their families, growing in godly character, being able to provide for their families, and biblically leading their families.

Purposeful Design has flourished in terms of sales growth, profitability, development of craftsmen, discipleship, and a strong customer niche. They specialize in designing and building tables, and 90 percent of their customers are commercial businesses, schools, or restaurants. The potential for growth for Purposeful Design is encouraging and exciting.



IMAGINE

**THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF
WORK VINCENT AND PURPOSEFUL
DESIGN CAN CREATE AND THE
RELATIONSHIPS THAT ARE BUILT
IN THE PROCESS.**



JESUS-CENTERED CHURCHES



We believe that Jesus-centered churches are essential for healthy communities because only the gospel has the power to change lives. There are four Jesus-centered churches we partner with in the Brookside neighborhood.





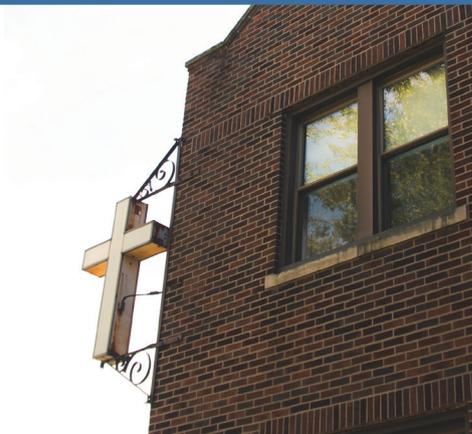
**NEHEMIAH
BIBLE CHURCH**



**BROOKSIDE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**



**ENGLEWOOD
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**



**WALLACE STREET
EVANGELICAL
CHURCH**

A CULTURE OF PLACE **AND** RELATIONSHIPS



The opportunities for events and gatherings to help foster relationships among neighbors in Brookside are limitless. The members of College Park, our ministry partners, and the residents of Brookside have ideas for everything from science labs to art classes, from community gardens to a neighborhood Little League.





IMAGINE

**A PORCH PARTY ON A WARM
SUMMER DAY—
NEIGHBORS GATHERED,
LEMONADE AND COOKIES,
KIDS PLAYING WITH ONE
ANOTHER IN THE FRONT YARD
OR RIDING THEIR BIKES DOWN
THE STREET.**

**OR IMAGINE AN EXCITING
ULTIMATE FRISBEE GAME AT
BROOKSIDE PARK WHERE
NEIGHBORS ARE GETTING TO
KNOW ONE ANOTHER.**



A WORTHY INVESTMENT

“I would encourage College Park to continue to invest in Brookside and operate from their current community strengths . . . The equity to expand in the city will come from Brookside, not 96th street.”

Jay Height, Executive Director of Shepherd Community Center

“Deepening your hard-won relationships, College Park can change the city by proving the Brookside model can not only offer a spark but a sustainable flame.”

Jay Hein, President of Sagamore Institute

“I believe the next six to eight years are going to reap a significant harvest for College Park’s commitment in Brookside as collaboration and relational connections continue to develop on a deeper and broader level.”

Mike Bowling, Pastor of Englewood Christian Church

“I would encourage your [church] to continue the intentional, focused, hard call to invest in the Brookside community and nurture the deep relationships that have been built.”

Joanna Taft, Director of the Harrison Center for the Arts

“Purposeful Design started as a modest idea—sheltered work for men. Yet it’s contributing to the city’s battle against crime, offering a way out of addiction and giving the courts an occasional alternative to prison.”

Russell Pulliam, Associate Editor of The Indianapolis Star in an article published on September 18, 2015

TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP

GO

Take a road trip tour of Brookside to see our partner organizations in action! We promise you won't regret this firsthand experience of seeing what God is doing in our city. Learn more and register for a road trip online at: yourchurch.com/urbanoutreach

GET INVOLVED

Did one of these ministry partners grab your attention?
Contact the ministry leader and see how you can get involved.

Heart Change/Mother's University: Cindy Palmer | cpalmer@cognitio.us

Covenant Community Housing: Dale Shaw | dshaw@yourchurch.com

The Oaks Academy: Nathan Hand | nhand@theoaksacademy.org

Purposeful Design: David Palmer | dpalmer@pdindy.com

Kid's Church (Ministry of Nehemiah Bible Church):
Jo Derbyshire | jo@nehemiahbiblechurch.com

Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic:
Erica Harrigan | eharrigan@nclegalclinic.org

A NEW DAY IN BROOKSIDE



God is doing big things in Brookside! Through our relationships in this neighborhood we've witnessed changed lives and the beginning of a beautiful transformation. Our prayer in moving forward is that Brookside will continue to become a healthy, vibrant community that radiates God's grace.

It's a new day in Brookside!







college park church

NORTH INDY

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Indianapolis, IN 46268
P: 317.875.0282
F: 317.875.0605

FISHERS

Meeting at Fall Creek
Jr. High School
12001 Olio Rd.
Fishers, IN 46037
(Sundays only)

CASTLETON

5825 East 91st St.
Indianapolis, IN 46250

yourchurch.com/urbanoutreach