



### **Organization History:**

In 2014, the Prodigal Son Initiative's Board of Directors voted to change the name of the organization to Impact Empowerment Group (IEG), following the resignation of its founder, Terrance Roberts. IEG has embraced the change and shifted its leadership model from top-down, hierarchical approach to a servant-leader/shared-leadership model.

Since 2005, IEG has focused on empowering youth through the development of leadership. IEG started as an after-school programs but expanded its services to meet the needs of the community. IEG works directly with inner city youth and their families by providing gang and youth violence prevention, intervention, workforce development, community development and mentoring services. IEG realizes that accessible community resources are necessary in providing youth with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed.

In 2009, IEG opened the Park Hill Community Center to provide a safe haven for youth in the NE Park Hill area. Following the arson that took place at Holly Square in 2008, IEG in conjunction with the Park Hill community, the Office of Economic Development, the Urban Land Conservancy, H.A.R.P., the Piton Foundation, and the Anschutz Foundation by bringing a \$6.7 million investment used to build the Holly Square Peace Courts and the Jack Vickers Boys & Girls Club.

### **Mission:**

Our mission is to strengthen and build our community by providing youth and their families with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed.

### **Vision:**

Our vision is to see thousands of youth grow up in a safe, beautiful community where they can become successful leaders.



### **Who we serve:**

**Impact Empowerment Group** serves inner city youth ages 12-21 and their families throughout the Denver Metro area.

### **How we serve:**

- **Life Builders Program (Workforce Development)** - Partnering with Colorado Construction Institute, Mi Casa Innovation Lab, and Upstream Impact, we provide youth with job readiness training, life skills training, and workforce development within the construction industry. Youth engaged in our program will complete 16 weeks of intensive training and hands on experience working in the construction industry. Upon completion of the initial training course, Life Builders will provide additional funding to ensure that the youth can continue their education in the construction trade of their choice.
- **Impact Leadership/Purpose Finder (Gang and Youth Violence Prevention)** – A 32 week, evidence based program that teaches youth (12 to 18) the concepts of leadership and helps the youth discover their purpose in life. Once the youth discover their “Purpose”, they are paired with a mentor in their career path..The youth will also implement the leadership skills they have learned to design community service/development

projects for their peers earning them community service hours and/or school credit hours. Over that last year, we have piloted this program at Simms-Fayola, DC-21, and Bruce Randolph Schools.

- **High Fidelity Wrap Around (Gang and Youth Violence Intervention)-** A network of services and providers working in a team style approach with gang involved youth & their families who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system at any level. Youth involved in this program receive one-on-one mentoring, counseling, and advocacy (resource and systems navigation). Partners included Our Inheritance, LLC (Counseling, Job Training, Transitional Housing, Drug & Alcohol Education Classes, GED); Robert A. Miller Resource Center (Parenting, Visitation, Counseling & Mentoring); Healing Among Chaos (Play Therapy, Trauma Resource Institute); Me and My Dad (Fatherhood); 4 Aspects (Steps for Success Job Readiness);and Heart & Hand Center for Children and their Families (Drop in/out After School program).
- **We Are Art/ Impact Athletics** - Community based art and athletic programs located throughout NE Park Hill and Metro Denver. Mural funded by Denver Urban Arts for Hiawatha Davis Recreation Center for Fall 2014.
- **Community Development Projects**

IEG will continue the planning and completion of interim use development projects.

These are community service endeavors that make a concrete, visible, and lasting difference in the landscape of the neighborhood such as the redevelopment of Holly Square. Young people will develop leadership abilities through hands-on project management. Under the guidance of IEG, youth will identify opportunities for new projects, design the projects, and help complete them. As the youth gain new skills, they will become mentors, teaching these skills to their peers. Each youth leader will thus be serving as teacher and student, reinforcing each new lesson and strengthening the bonds within the group.



**Holly peace court project -completed**

## **How can you help?**

**The success of a non-profit organization relies on the strength of its partnerships and the cultivation of relationships within the community. We need contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Your investment will help us continue to serve youth and their families throughout the Denver Metro area.**