

# PERSPECTIVE

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF HOPE



APRIL 2017



FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
ED HOSACK

## Unity Completes It!

I moved to Cabarrus County in 1984 to work for Cannon Mills, and it was here that I experienced “community” for the very first time.

The economy slowed in the early 1980’s and everyone in our community understood what the term “short-time” meant. When the textile mill reduced employee work schedules, everyone was affected. Folks who were as reliable as the sunrise would struggle to pay their bills on time and everyone felt the pinch: the landlord, the corner store, the doctor, the mechanic, the insurance salesman. Our community responded by establishing CCM because we were, after all, a community.

Community requires a blend of leadership, citizenship and relationship. People are what determine the quality of life, culture and prosperity of a community. It is not measured by the beauty of our downtown or who lives in our neighborhood. The best indicator of community can be found by taking a look at what is in our “backyard”.

Community is what happens when we realize we share this world together for a short period of time. We are born in the same hospital, learn in the same schools, play in the same parks, drink the same water and breathe the same air. We embrace faith and freedom much the same; we cherish family alike. We all desire for good health and to leave a better future for our children.

**A community** where people learn to reach outside their normal circle of engagement to identify with the needs of others and actively seek solutions is a community where CCM can accomplish its mission.

I LOVE MY CITY

April 28th-30th, 2017

~ Serving one another; strengthening community one project at a time ~



www.cooperativeministry.com



“To whom much is given,  
much will be required.”  
from Luke 12:48

I Love My City Weekend

Organizing Partner



**Vulcan**  
Materials Company

Vulcan Materials Company, Cabarrus Quarry is pleased to donate up to 50 tons of #57 washed stone for improvements to the Carver Community for **I Love My City Weekend.**

**Thank you, Vulcan Materials!**

## The History of I LOVE MY CITY WEEKEND

A single church serving its neighbors produced 14-20 projects and involved 300 volunteers each year. The church had a vision for a much larger impact and approached CCM for help. I Love My City was adopted by CCM in 2015 with a vision to create a three-day county-wide service initiative.

All five Cabarrus County municipalities combined for 142 projects and over 1,000 volunteers the first year. In 2016, citizens of Concord, Kannapolis, Harrisburg, Midland and Mount Pleasant participated in 200 projects through the efforts of more than 2,000 volunteers.

**When a community** of people develops the habit of looking beyond their own priorities to identify a need and then actively engages to address that need, the community becomes stronger - **everybody wins!**

### Here's How it Works!

CCM and organizers from all five Cabarrus County municipalities collaborate to engage nonprofit and civic organizations to provide seed projects for groups, churches and businesses to adopt. Groups are also encouraged to identify or create their own projects to address needs in their neighborhoods.

Groups assemble volunteers and resources, and work with project coordinators to complete these projects during I Love My City Weekend. Larger projects may involve multiple days, while smaller projects may be a simple act of kindness by one or two people.

Local organizers coordinate kick off events to celebrate these efforts within their communities. All groups and individuals are encouraged to report their projects on [ilovemycityproject.com](http://ilovemycityproject.com) so that the overall impact of the effort can be celebrated county-wide.

Individuals, businesses or groups unable to physically participate may make a financial donation through CCM to ILMC Weekend. Funds will be used specifically to support projects in the community.

**For more information, please visit**  
**[www.ilovemycityproject.com](http://www.ilovemycityproject.com) or**  
**[www.cooperativeministry.com](http://www.cooperativeministry.com)**

# Finally!

**Solve** a problem we can  
for **\$6** a year

The City of Concord  
**Neighbor Helping Neighbor**  
Utility Assistance Program  
administered by CCM

**Sign Up Now!**

Allow your Concord utility  
bill to be rounded up to the next dollar.  
Will cost you 50¢/month avg.  
CCM will help your neighbors in crisis avoid  
utility cut-off.

**Calling All Concord  
Businesses & Churches**  
to sign up for **Neighbor Helping Neighbor**

[Click here.](#)

29.4% of households receiving crisis  
relief from CCM last year were  
Senior Adults (55+).  
12% were 65 years and older.

**Thank you** to all of you who have given financially.

An **Easter gift** from you can give **new hope**  
to another life this season.



You can help by giving online at  
[www.cooperativeministry.com](http://www.cooperativeministry.com).



[www.cooperativeministry.com](http://www.cooperativeministry.com)