

## **AHNA is awarded a *Building on Success* Grant from Hartford Foundation for Public Giving**

AHNA chair Yvonne Matthews was pleased to receive the letter dated September 7<sup>th</sup> informing us that AHNA has been selected to participate in the Building on Success Program. This new program from the Hartford Foundation includes a series of quarterly learning sessions, the assistance of a consultant and a \$10,000 grant over the two-year program. The goal of the Building on Success Program is to help small non-profit organizations identify and address areas of need in order to become more effective.

The first of these learning sessions took place on September 27<sup>th</sup> Yvonne Matthews and Bernie Michel attended as representatives of AHNA. AHNA was one of 12 organizations selected for this grant. Each of them has different challenges in their path to growth, and as such they were paired with one of three professional consultants.

“We couldn’t be happier to have been chosen to receive this assistance now, as AHNA has been working on capacity building for more than a year,” said Matthews. “We are extremely grateful as well as honored to have been selected.”

With only one part-time employee, most of the work has been done by volunteers over the nearly 20 years of AHNA’s existence. They have tirelessly worked with their neighbors and partners to improve the quality of life in Asylum Hill.

The list of achievements that AHNA has either led or supported in that time is nearly as impressive as the list of people and organizations they have partnered with. However, there is still much more to be done.

In the coming months AHNA will be focusing on the long list of neighborhood accomplishments as part of their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. This program, and the generosity of the Hartford Foundation, will go a long way toward helping AHNA build on our successes.