

## AHNA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Successful

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, AHNA officially began our yearlong celebration of our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Gala hosted by The Hartford at their 22<sup>nd</sup> floor Tower suite. The highpoint of the event was the award presentation to 20 “Neighbors With A Heart”, Volunteers and organizations whose efforts have made a difference over the last 20 years in the neighborhood. More on that will follow in a special edition.

The second part of the program was the unveiling of our new strategic plan which we have been developing over the last year with the help of the *Building on Success* grant that AHNA received from The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. This is that plan.

### MISSION

The Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association (AHNA) empowers and connects residents and stakeholders to improve the quality of life in Asylum Hill.

### VISION

AHNA is a stable, neighborhood catalyst for improving the quality of life in the neighborhood.

### VALUES

AHNA values collaboration as the key strategy for building a healthy, vibrant community. AHNA values diversity of population, commerce, employment and housing. AHNA values public safety, both real and perceived, and opportunities for self-expression, neighborhood connections and personal advancement.

### STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Increase AHNA’s capacity to work in the neighborhood
  - Leverage AHNA’s 20th anniversary celebration
  - Increase communications through newsletter, website and social media
  - Increase memberships and grants
  - Create plan for increased staffing
2. Promote *Economic Development* that produces jobs, prevents blight and creates a sense of community
  - Promote revitalization on Farmington Ave
  - Monitor I-84 reconstruction plans and advocate for SMART transit development
  - Promote home ownership and market rate housing
  - Cultivate awareness of the arts and cultural assets in Asylum Hill
3. Promote *Public Safety* to assure that Asylum Hill is a safe neighborhood
  - Work with the City and community to address panhandling
  - Work with Community Service Officer to increase public awareness of crime and police awareness of trouble spots
  - Advocate for traffic safety, improved street lighting and more security cameras
4. Promote *Education* opportunities for children, youth, adults and new arrivals
  - Promote involvement in West Middle School Volunteer Resource Center
  - Publish directory of educational and training resources in Asylum Hill

Support community initiatives that welcome new arrivals and support immigrant populations through education and outreach.