

# GAIA FOUNDATION, Inc.

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# MISSION

GAIA FOUNDATION is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promotion of sustainable development of communities and environments for improved quality of life for all citizens. Results are achieved through multiple means such as educational programs, demonstrations of sustainable technologies, providing consulting to non-governmental and governmental organizations, developing policies on local, state, national and international levels, and getting involved with practical projects within communities.

# DEFINITION: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Sustainable development** is defined by the United Nations-sponsored 1992 Earth Summit as “**integrated strategies that would halt and reverse the negative impact of human behavior on physical environment and allow for livable environment for future generations on Earth.**”

# WHO SAID THIS?

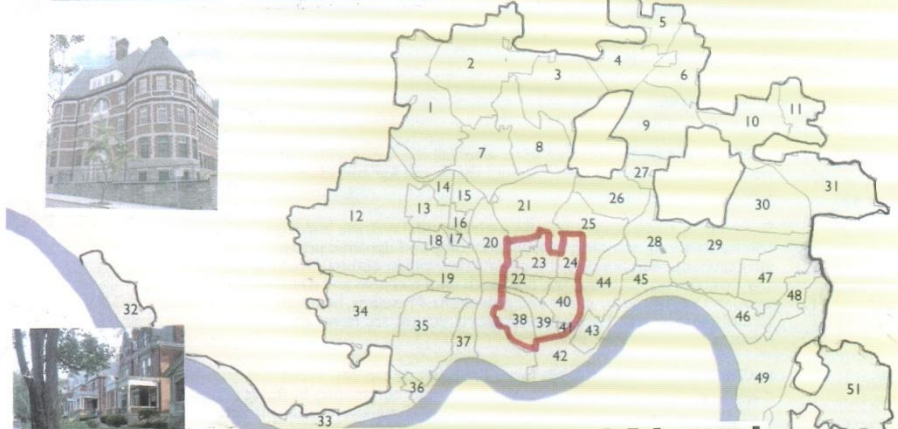
On earth creatures shall be seen who are constantly killing one another. Their wickedness shall be limitless; their violence shall destroy the world's vast forests; and even after they have been sated, they shall in no way suspend their desire to spread carnage, tribulations, and banishment among all living beings. ...Nothing shall remain on the earth, or under the earth, or in the waters; that shall not be hunted down and slain, and what is in one country, dragged away into another...The fertile earth, following the law of growth, will eventually lose the water hidden in her breast, and this water, passing through the cold and rarified air, will be forced to end in the element of fire. Then the surface of the earth will be burned, and that will be the end of all terrestrial nature.

# EARTH AS A SYSTEM

- Until space travel becomes commonplace, the Earth is a closed system with respect to materials.
- Human impact of the environment has now become comparable in magnitude to natural processes.
- The Principle of *Le Chatelier* is inescapable and governs all processes in the environment.
- Water is the central actor in the environmental drama, and the chemistry of our environment is largely the chemistry of aqueous solutions and of gases, colloids, and solids in the presence of water.
- Human activity affects the environment in the forms of resource depletion and pollution.

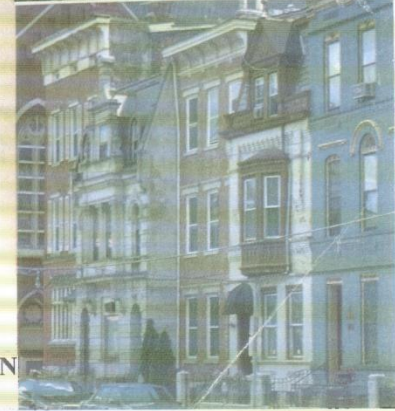
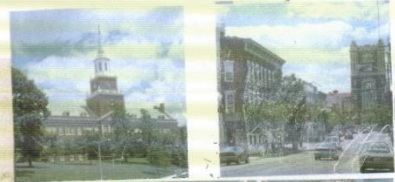
# HOUSING & TRANSPORT

ENERGY used to heat and cool dwelling places and TRANSPORTATION to get to work are major contributors of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in USA and now depend on non-renewable fossil fuels



**Sustainable Environment and Advanced  
Rebirth of Cincinnati Heart\* (SEARCH)<sup>50</sup>**

Avondale	25	Millvale	16
Bond Hill	9	Mt. Adams	43
California	50	Mt. Airy	1
Camp Washington	20	♥ Mt. Auburn	40
Carthage	4	Mt. Lookout	47
CBD- Downtown	42	Mt. Washington	51
Clifton	21	North Avondale	26
♥ Clifton Heights/	23	North Fairmount	18
University Heights/	23	Northside	7
Fairview	23	♥ Oakley	30
College Hill	2	♥ Over-The-Rhine	39
Columbia-Tusculum	46	♥ Paddock Hills	27
♥ Corryville	24	♥ Pendleton	41
East End	49	Pleasant Ridge	10
East Price Hill	35	Price Hill	34
East Walnut Hills	45	Riverside	33
East Westwood	13	Roselawn	6
English Woods	17	Sayler Park	32
Evanston	28	Sedamsville	36
Fay Apartments	14	South Cumminsville	15
Hartwell	5	South Fairmount	19
♥ The Heights	22	Walnut Hills	44
Hyde Park	29	♥ West End	38
Kennedy Heights	11	Westwood	12
Linwood	48	Winton Hills	3
Lower Price Hill	37	Winton Place	8
Madisonville	31		



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by **Dr. Vlasta Molak, GAIA FOUNDATION**

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# QUOTES

**People are inherently capable of making right decisions when they are properly informed** - *Thomas Jefferson*

**Do as much as you can, with what you have, where you are!** - *Gaialea*

# HEART OF OUR CITY

The hearts of our cities are ailing and sometimes dying. In Cincinnati, we have 7 neighborhoods which make up the heart of Cincinnati and have over 1,800 empty or run-down houses. We also have about 900 homeless people...

# OUR CHALLENGE

Can we match houses with the homeless and jobs with marginally-functional people who are mostly in trouble? Remember this saying attributed to *Confucius*:

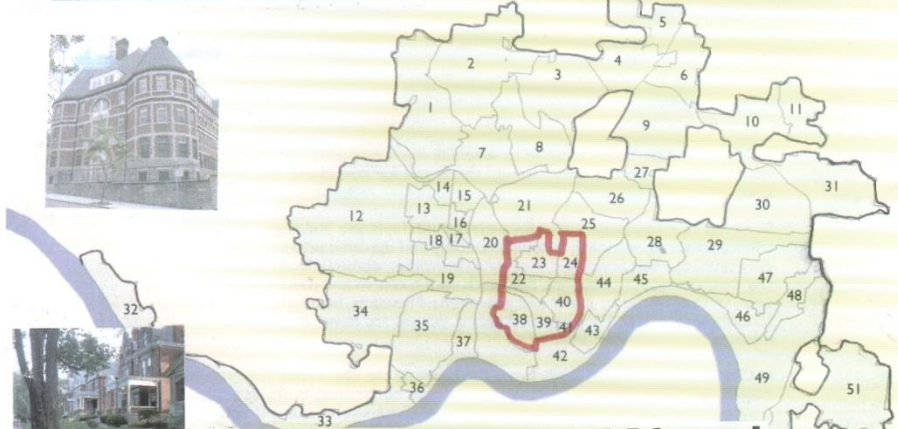
If you give a fish to a person, you feed him for one day, if you teach him to fish, you feed him for life.

# OUR S.E.A.R.CH.

Our SEARCH (Sustainable Environment and Advanced Renewal of Cincinnati's Heart) project is combining this ancient wisdom with modern 21<sup>st</sup>-Century technology to revive our Cincinnati Heart to its glorious times of 100 years ago when these areas were bustling communities of art and artisans and bohemian creativity!

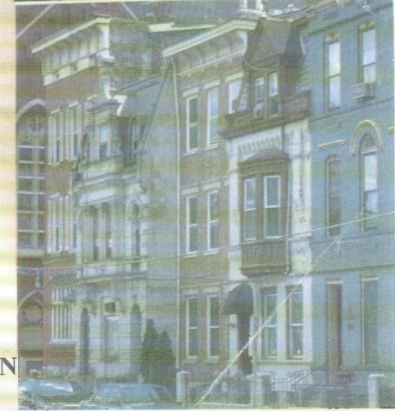
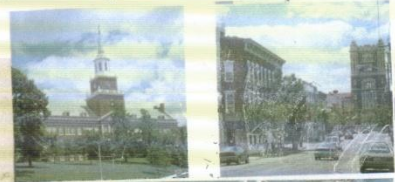
# SUSTAINABLE RE-DEVELOPMENT

In Cincinnati, let's apply principles of energy conservation efficiency, while preserving beauty and community life of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century, healing the heart of Cincinnati from within rather than doing bypass surgery by moving into the suburbs.



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# HISTORIC CHARM OF CITY

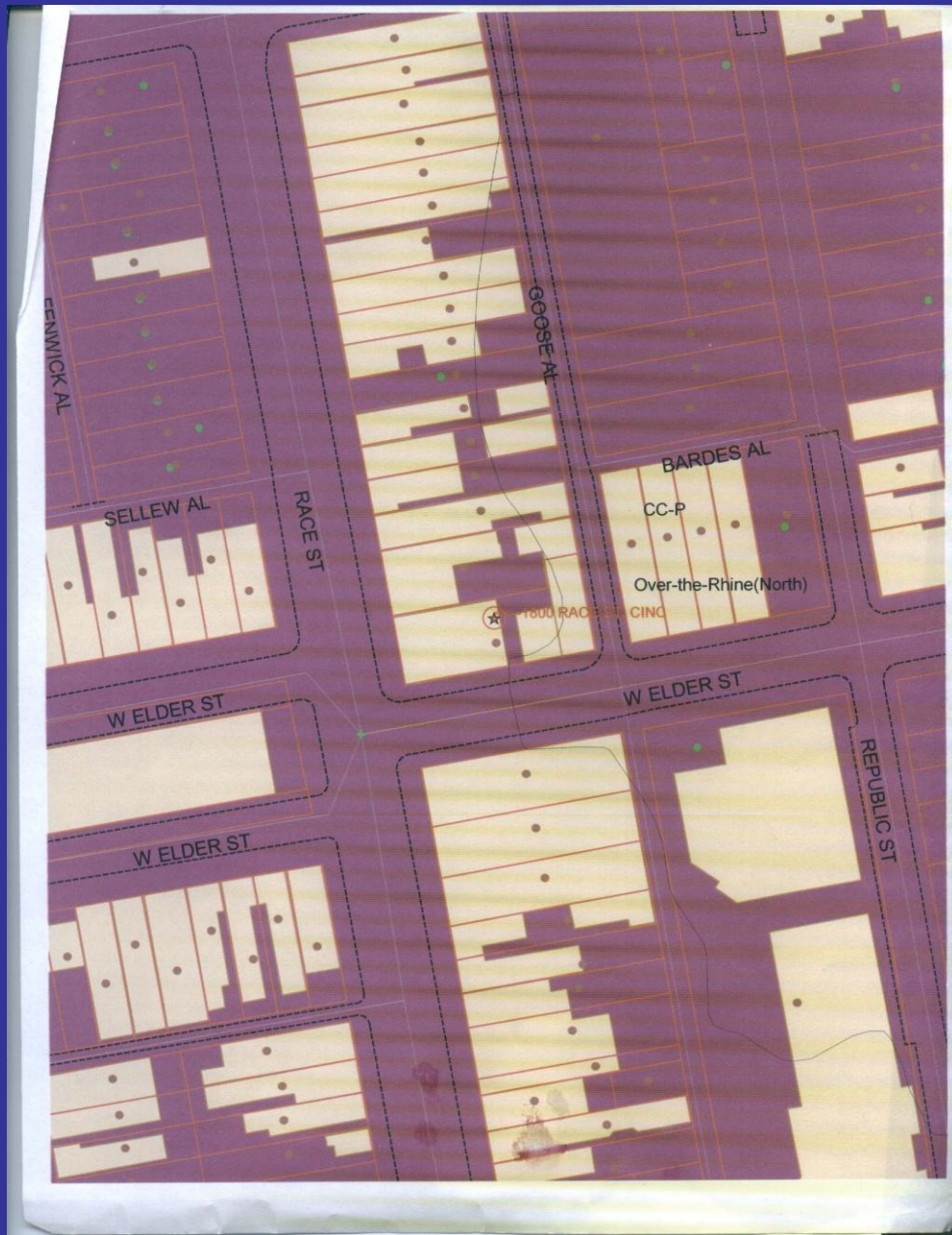


# GAIA OASIS



**GAIA Foundation, Inc.**





# RESIDENT BUY-IN

- Creation of JOBS and making HOMEOWNERS:  
By Sweat Equity for Current Residents
- We will involve social service, job and financial agencies as well as police, judges etc... to create a comprehensive job market for those who are willing to learn and get their lives in order!
- NOT a Classical Gentrification Plan!

# NEW PAIR OF GLASSES

- In our new way of looking toward the future, we will move toward Sustainability: Green Design, Green Construction and Green Industry. Our present course is unsustainable and therefore we must merge old ways of living with new technology.

# HOMES MADE

## - A Poem by Alden Christenson

If you will walk through the heart of our town,  
Your feelings of pride may be challenged there.  
For the people are living in ways you could not,  
It's heartbreaking to stare at the face of despair.

Each building you see is in shambles of sorts,  
Each person you see has pain in his/her face.  
Tomorrow's the same thing all over again;  
But there can be some help for this left out place.

If we will just show that we still care,  
And put a group effort into some repair  
Of buildings and lives that are in disrepair --  
We can bring some light to the darkness that's there.

# FUNDING

Multiple sources...altruistic contributions by wealthy philanthropists, foundations, investors, City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County...once begun, the project will **pay for itself** by sales of luxury, medium price and efficiency apartments and stores.

Václav Havel once said:

“Without a global change in human consciousness nothing will change for the better in the material world, and the catastrophe toward this world is heading be it economic, social or environmental will be inevitable.”

# SEIZE THE DAY!

The here and now is always heavy with possibilities. If you don't believe it so, you are not tuned into reality!

## CARPE DIEM!