

## United Way and City of Anderson Award Imagine a Neighborhood Grants

October 18, 2011

The United Way's Imagine a Neighborhood Initiative is in the third year of inception. The purpose of the United Way's Imagine a Neighborhood Initiative is to offer project grants to groups or organizations that have a plan to improve the appearance or safety of their neighborhood.

The City of Anderson is a partner in this initiative, with City funding designated specifically for groups within the City. Grantees had to complete a training curriculum in order to be eligible to apply for project funds. The partnership with United Way will ensure the City's participants will have access to many resources that can be used to leverage the grant award, thus having the greatest impact on the project areas. Each group was awarded a \$5,000 grant.

This project parallels the City's Neighborhood and Housing priority by focusing efforts at the grassroots level, encouraging residents to take an active role in re-building, and strengthening their own neighborhoods on projects they identify as important.

2011 grants were awarded to:

**Mt. Carmel CME Church** – New Shelter and Playground Expansion

**Community Housing Resource Board** - Shine a Light on Crime in Eastside Redevelopment Area

**Men at Work** – From Gardening to Reading – Incorporating literacy program in with community garden at the Westview Heights apartment complex