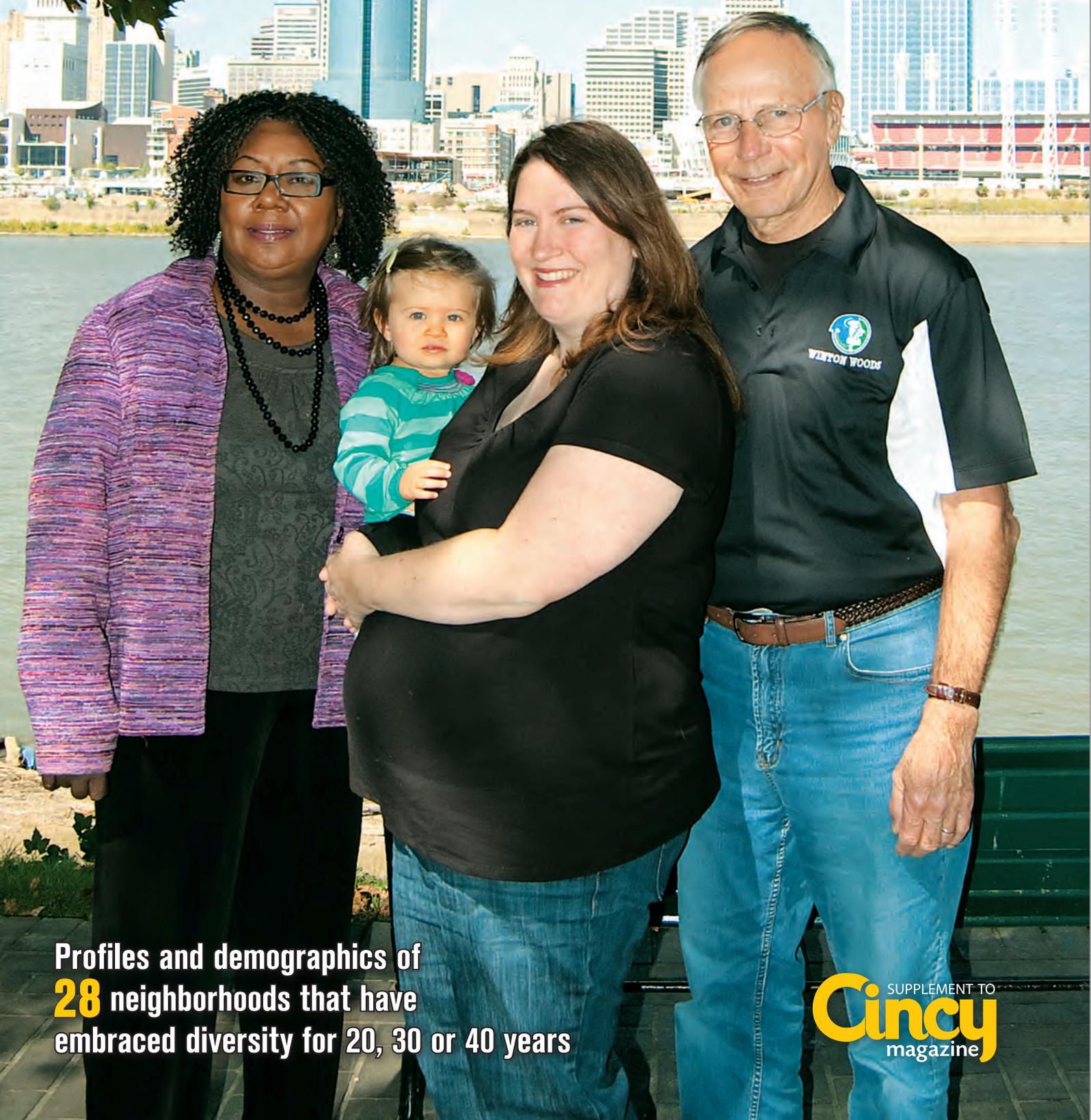


2012 GUIDE TO INTEGRATED COMMUNITIES IN HAMILTON COUNTY

Hidden Treasures

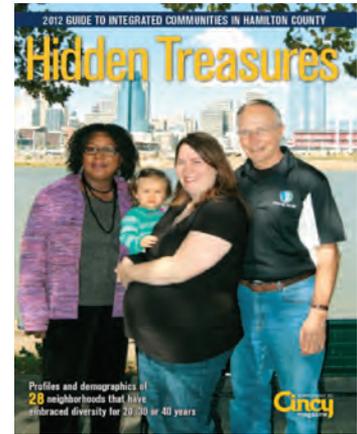


Profiles and demographics of **28** neighborhoods that have embraced diversity for 20, 30 or 40 years

SUPPLEMENT TO
Cincy
magazine

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On the Cover (left to right):
 Lydia Morgan of Kennedy Heights, Amy Yosmali of North Avondale (with her 1-year-old daughter) and Brandon Wiers of Forest Park.

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Introduction

There is a Hidden Treasure Around Every Corner



The Cincinnati metropolitan area is made up of many wonderful neighborhoods and communities, each with its own distinct personality. This guide features 28 unique communities we refer to as *Hidden Treasures*. Some are older city residential neighborhoods. Some are suburban communities. And some are urban, hip and edgy. So what do they have in common? Each was identified as being racially integrated and stable for at least 20 years.

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) is a private fair housing agency that serves the Cincinnati area. We fight the remnants of racial discrimination in the housing market and promote housing choice. We are

concerned that our metropolitan area, like many Midwestern cities, is still segregated by race. The results of research identifying numerous stable integrated communities surprised many of us. It identified a tapestry of neighborhoods that are diverse in population and in housing stock, but uniformly rich in community. We need to celebrate these communities.

The research that was the basis for this guide originally was sponsored by the Cincinnati Association and championed by Brandon H. Wiers. Cincinnati and HOME jointly published the original *Hidden Treasures* guide in 2009. This second edition relies on research that updated the original study with information from the 2010 U.S. Census. We are grateful for support from the Murray & Agnes Seasongood Good Government Foundation and the Wilder Foundation, which made the research and this publication possible.

We are delighted that the number of stable integrated communities in Hamilton County has increased from 15 communities in 2000 to 28 communities today. This second edition of *Hidden Treasures: A Guide to Integrated Communities in Hamilton County* recognizes these 28 communities. Take a look at them. Drive through and talk to the neighbors. See which one feels like home.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Brown".

Elizabeth Brown
Executive Director, Housing Opportunities Made Equal



Who Picked these Communities?

THE COMMUNITIES RECOGNIZED AS Hidden Treasures were identified as stable, integrated communities in demographic research conducted by Dr. Charles F. Casey-Leininger. The research is based on data from the U.S. Census. For this publication, an integrated community in Hamilton County is defined as one with an African-American population of not less than 10 percent and not more than 80 percent, and with a Dissimilarity Index of not more than 65. This Index measures whether the races are living as neighbors on the same streets or clustered in different parts of the same neighborhood. Dr. Casey-Leininger's full research report is available at www.homecincy.org.



40-Year Integrated Community

Corryville



Annexed to Cincinnati in 1870, Corryville began as an agricultural community, and became residential. It was named for William Corry, mayor of Cincinnati (1815-1819) and nephew of William McMillan, the first justice of the peace of the old settlement, Losantiville, which later changed to Cincinnati.

Early residents were mostly middle-class German-Americans. In the mid-1900s, the population expanded to include lower-income families and university students, then shifted again to attract Appalachians and blacks.

In the 1960s, homes disappeared for an expanding University of Cincinnati and the new Environmental Protection Agency building. However, investors saw opportunity and began restoring old buildings, which led to new businesses, including specialty shops, record stores and restaurants. Today, diversity abounds with housing options ranging from older bricks, frames and brownstones to new single and multi-family

dwellings.

Kay Weaks, a member of the Corryville Community Council, bought her home in 1978.

Its central location offers a “big advantage,” she says, noting she likes being able to walk to the bank, Kroger and UC, where she used to teach in the Fashion Department.

Clyde Nowlin, a property owner and former resident, agrees.

“What attracted me to Corryville is its close proximity to downtown and the University of Cincinnati.

I enjoy the convenience of being able to attend sporting events, music and plays at CCM (College-Conservatory of Music) and the diversity of restaurants.”

Its well-known “Short Vine” business district — crammed with specialty shops, dining spots, bars and live music venues — often draws a crowd, especially UC students.

In addition to a busy recreation center, other amenities include basic services, such as a post office, library, banks and grocery stores, along with several clinics and hospitals.

Corryville

Community Council: www.corryville.org

2010 Census

Population 3,284

White..... 49%

Black..... 36%

Other..... 15%

Dissimilarity Index..... .41

Estimated Value of Detached Home

according to city-data.com:\$109,301





40-Year Integrated Community



Downtown/Riverfront

Cincinnati's Downtown, the area's oldest settlement, extends from the Ohio River to Third Street. Over time the area shifted from residential to primarily commercial and recreational. Most notably, it is home to two sports stadiums (Great American Ball Park and Paul Brown Stadium), Bicentennial Commons-Sawyer Point Park and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Housing returns with the construction of The Banks, a 24-hour urban neighborhood with 3 million square feet of apartments and condos along with retail shops, restaurants, offices and hotel rooms. Between it and the stadiums will be the new 45-acre Riverfront Park.

Across Third Street from the Freedom Center is Downtown, the city's business and cultural center. In the 1890s, Downtown was home to some of city's richest and poorest people. Today, this vital and appealing area attracts young professionals, retired couples and empty nesters

with a pick of housing stock from efficiency luxury apartments, renovated lofts, restored historic buildings and new condominiums.

Longtime resident Conrad Thiede, a former president of the Downtown Residents Council, sees those differences as assets.

"We have a very diverse group of people — in interests, ages, incomes, creeds and races," he says. "It's healthy to learn from one another. We're in it together after all, so make the best out of the place."

One of the advantages of Downtown living is the city's walkability, he says, noting that working residents often find their jobs in the neighborhood. Downtown is home to hundreds of employers including Fortune 500 companies Procter & Gamble, Macy's and Kroger.

Residents also have easy access to the Main Library as well as numerous churches, art galleries, theaters, concert halls, sporting events, retail shops, bars and restaurants.

Downtown/Riverfront

Community Council:

www.ilivedowntown.com

2010 Census

Population 4,516

White.....59%

Black.....33%

Other8%

Dissimilarity Index.....53

Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:..... N/A





40-Year Integrated Community

Kennedy Heights



Kennedy Heights

Community Council: www.kennedyheights.org
2010 Census

Population	4,847
White.....	25%
Black.....	69%
Other.....	6%
Dissimilarity Index	46
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$143,349

Kennedy Heights, annexed to Cincinnati in 1914, is believed to have begun with a log cabin built in 1795 by Col. John McFarland. Today, its housing options range from Cape Cods and English Tudors to old brick and frame homes to new construction.

The Kennedy Heights Community Council, founded in 1965, has strived through the years to build an integrated neighborhood with plenty of amenities. The arts center, housed in a three-story structure built in 1875, was once home to village founder and namesake Lewis Kennedy.

Other perks include parks, a playfield, churches, schools, dance troupes and numerous clubs, including a Seniors Club, which features programs and trips, along with the Metallic Club, uniting retired men for fellowship and education. Events include progressive dinners, auctions, fundraising run/walks, art parades, landscaping awards, neighborhood cleanups and citizen patrols.

Decades-long residents Diana and Lee DeRhodes say they were drawn to Kennedy Heights because they wanted to live in an integrated community with a diverse mix of people — working and retired, younger and older, families and singles, blacks, whites and other races. Diana says she also likes that “most everything is within walking distance.” Husband Lee, a former social worker turned potter, assisted with the arts center’s garden helping to plant grasses, bushes and flowers.

Jeanette Bronson, a resident for more than 40 years, likes Kennedy Heights because “it’s integrated and because people take pride in their neighborhood.” She counts wonderful neighbors as a major bonus.

A resident since the '90s, Jeane Goings, formerly of Louisville, says her initial visit swayed her. “It just had that neighborhood feel about it to raise a family, safe for children to grow and go to good schools. Education is so important to me,” she says.





40-Year Integrated Community



Madisonville

Madisonville first was named “Madison” for President James Madison, newly elected when the neighborhood was founded in 1809. Incorporated in 1839, it was annexed to Cincinnati in 1911.

The earliest residents were a diverse lot — well-to-do, middle- and lower-income families with various backgrounds. Black residents often worked on nearby farms and the railroads. Native son and author Dick Perry once described the Madisonville of old: “There’s stability about Madisonville, because Cincinnati craftsmen are a stable lot.”

Today, it remains a stable and diverse community attracting young professionals, singles and families in search of affordable housing.

Tony Bronson, one of those young professionals, says his favorite thing about Madisonville is its variety of houses.

“Often you will find an old farmhouse next to a Victorian house, which is next to a four-unit apartment building, across the street

from a bungalow,” he says. “It is one of the most architecturally diverse neighborhoods in the city.”

In addition to its historic and restored homes, visitors will find new condo and apartment complexes. Among the new additions is the \$110 million, 15-story Kenwood by Senior Star, an upscale senior housing facility with 215 apartment homes and penthouses, plus 24 condos.

Madisonville also boasts a healthy business community with banks, beauty salons, automotive sales and repair, landscaping services, medical centers, restaurants, retail stores and large employers like Fifth Third and Coca Cola. Joining them is MedPace, with its new \$15 million, 132,000-square-foot headquarters.

Amenities include an arts center, recreation center, schools, churches and community garden.

Lifelong resident Ruth Ann Busald says there’s no place like her neighborhood. “I love everything about Madisonville — for what it had been and to what it can become,” she says.

Madisonville

Community Council: www.historicmadisonville.com

2010 Census

Population	9,141
White.....	38%
Black.....	57%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	47
Estimated Value of Detached Home	
according to city-data.com:	\$179,521





40-Year Integrated Community



Mount Auburn

Considered by many as Cincinnati's first suburb, Mount Auburn was founded as a hilltop retreat for the social elite where wealthier people could escape the dirt, heat, smoke and crowded conditions of the lower city. Their ornate mansions of Federal, Greek Revival, Italian Villa, Romanesque Revival and Georgian Revival styles offered panoramic views of the valley below.

Dating from as early as 1819, those houses continue to be associated with prominent Cincinnatians of the period, most notably 27th President William Howard Taft. He lived in the Federal-style home at 2038 Auburn Ave., for most of the first 25 years of his life. Now a National Historic Landmark maintained by the National Park Service, it is Cincinnati's only National Park site and regular attraction for school field trips and tourists.

Modest single-family houses and multi-unit apartment buildings

complement those imposing mansions to create a broad diversity of housing stock.

Joyce Hughley, a resident for 46 years, knew no one in the community when she moved to Mount Auburn. She was attracted to its "quiet, convenient location" and grew to love the area.

"Like most of my neighbors, I care a lot about my community, and I feel very, very strong about education," she says, noting her five sons all received good educations at nearby Catholic schools, including Holy Name and St. George.

Other Mount Auburn amenities include walking routes, a community garden and multiple medical facilities, including The Christ Hospital, which opened in 1893.

Home to several parks and playgrounds, Mount Auburn's 20-acre Inwood Park, bought by the city in 1904, features a lake as well as a swimming pool and a large pavilion.



Mount Auburn

Community Council:
www.historicmtauburn.org

2010 Census

Population	4,904
White.....	30%
Black.....	66%
Other.....	4%
Dissimilarity Index.....	48
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$115,616



40-Year Integrated Community



Over-The-Rhine

History abounds in Over-the-Rhine, so much so that 362 acres and 943 buildings made the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. Indeed its diverse architecture — including Vernacular, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Federal, Second Empire, Renaissance Revival and more — makes up one of America’s largest and most cohesive surviving examples of an urban, 19th century community.

Founded by German-Americans, OTR became home to mostly African-Americans and Appalachian-Americans and later evolved into a mix of ages, religions, cultures and economic classes.

Mike Stehlin, a resident since 1989, has seen that evolution up front. He, his wife Catherine and their two children live in one apartment in the Race Street building they bought in 2004.

“Right now our tenants include singles, couples, white, black and Asian,” Stehlin says. “We have five children under 10 here. Catherine and

I feel Over-the-Rhine is a good place to raise children, and we’re looking forward to the opening of the renovated park across the street. We love it here, and we’re committed to staying.”

Stehlin also notes that OTR residents can walk to jobs, restaurants and entertainment, including some of the city’s finest. Music Hall, founded in 1878, hosts the Opera, Symphony, Pops and May Festival. The Ensemble and Know theatres stage regular performances, and the historic 1912 Emery Theatre is being renovated for the 2012 World Choir Games. Since 1869, the Art Academy has fostered talent, and in 1973, the School for Creative and Performing Arts became the first K-12 selective arts school in the country.

Quality food and beverages are also aplenty in OTR. Findlay Market, opened in 1855, offers fresh produce, meats, breads, seasonings and more. And the nation’s oldest and largest Bockfest celebrates OTR’s brewery history.



Over-the-Rhine

Community Council:
www.over-the-rhine.org

2010 Census

Population	6,996
White	24%
Black	72%
Other	4%
Dissimilarity Index	52
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$130,275



40-Year Integrated Community



Woodlawn



Woodlawn

Village Council: www.beautifulwoodlawn.us

2010 Census

Population	3,294
White.....	26%
Black.....	67%
Other.....	7%
Dissimilarity Index.....	46
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$123,797

Green space is the norm for Woodlawn, a 2.5-square-mile area that began as a collection of multiple farms and never lost that small-town flavor even as those farms were subdivided. Incorporated in 1941, the village has built its industrial and commercial offerings to include more than 300 businesses. As a result, the daytime population reaches about 8,000 while the nighttime population remains at about 3,000.

“Our mix makes Woodlawn a wonderful place to live and work,” says Gina Ruffin Moore, a Woodlawn council member. “We’ve always been self-sustaining. And as we’ve developed, we’ve kept our focus on maintaining our suburban feel.

“We were ‘green’ before green was cool. Gardens are common because they never went out of fashion. And our residents often walk throughout their neighborhoods and talk with each other, so ‘walking areas’ also are not new for us either.”

Woodlawn offers about 15 acres of municipal parkland as well as a bike trail. And the Hamilton County Park District’s Glenwood Gardens offers 335 acres of wetlands, prairies and meadows with 2.5 miles of walking trails, including one mile that is wheelchair accessible.

Other village amenities include a community garden, municipal pool, 350-seat auditorium, senior center and recreation center.

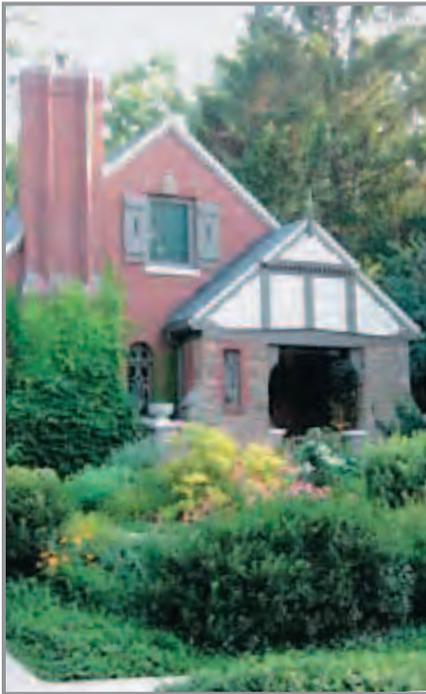
A resident for more than 30 years, Moore said her parents moved the family there when she was 14 primarily because Woodlawn was “very friendly” and close to downtown as well as shopping, schools and parks. After attending college, Moore met and married her husband, and they bought their home in 1998, opting to raise their two children in Woodlawn as well.

“We love the community atmosphere and the diversity of the homes and families,” she says.



30-Year Integrated Community

College Hill



Incorporated in 1866, College Hill was named for two colleges there: Farmers College and Ohio Female College. At nearly 900 feet above sea level, it sits at one of the highest points in Hamilton County.

The 27-room Laurel Court mansion, built at its peak in 1907, remains among America’s best surviving examples of the “gilded age.” Also of note is Six Acres Bed & Breakfast, the 1860s home of abolitionist Zebulon Strong, who aided slaves escaping to freedom in Canada.

When Elizabeth Sherwood moved to College Hill in 1988, she says she was attracted to the beautiful, old homes on tree-lined streets.

“I wouldn’t live anywhere else,” says the Tennessee native. Her home is a stone Tudor, but houses range from brick to old-style frame,

cottages to ranches, single-family to multi-family. She enjoys knowing her neighbors, she says, noting “it’s rare not to see a neighbor or friend” when stopping by the College Hill Coffee House in the engaging business district.

Other amenities include a 50-acre nature preserve, recreation center, award-winning schools and active churches of various denominations.

College Hill

Community Council: www.collegehilloh.net

2010 Census

Population	14,133
White.....	34%
Black.....	62%
Other.....	4%
Dissimilarity Index.....	50
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$153,640

East Walnut Hills

Wealthy Cincinnatians lived in East Walnut Hills in the late 1830s-1840s in stately and elegant homes of various architectural designs, including Colonial Revival, Tudor, English Country Revival, Second Renaissance Revival, Dutch Revival and even a Swiss chalet. Today, the housing stock provides a mix of less imposing housing for renters as well as owners. The community features high-rise apartments and condos as well as renovated older homes and newly constructed lofts.

The neighborhood also is home to several schools, churches and businesses. Landmarks include St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, known for its 35,000-pound bell “Big Joe,” believed to be the largest free swinging bell in the world, and



the New Thought Unity Center, a nondenominational center that traces its roots to 1898.

Resident Teresa O’Farrell says East Walnut Hills is where she wants to be. Her family moved there when she was just 1 year old, and now she and her husband are raising their three children there.

“People here are who they are, no pretense,” O’Farrell says, noting that neighbors often gather for block parties and community picnics to socialize.

East Walnut Hills

Community Council: www.eastwalnuthills.com

2010 Census

Population	3,173
White.....	65%
Black.....	30%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	50
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$311,664



30-Year Integrated Community

Fairview/Clifton Heights



Fairview and Clifton Heights once were part of former Millcreek Township before being annexed by Cincinnati in 1849 and 1870, respectively.

Until the late 1860s, Fairview was named Riddle’s Hill for Col. John Riddle, an 1812 war vet, before gaining its current name because of its views of the basin and lower Mill Creek Valley. Both it and Clifton Heights started as mostly single-family, owner-occupied, middle-class communities. Today, they offer a blend of humanity — all races and incomes, families, students and university staff in all types of housing.

Lifelong resident Paul Gallagher, a retired firefighter, uses his landscaping skills to help maintain a “green community” by planting trees and cleaning vacant lots. And in 1996,

longtime resident Tony Walsh started a 17-plot community garden between McMicken and McMillan.

Suzanne Fischer, a resident for more than 15 years, says their efforts reflect a broader vision of the entire community.

“We work with one another for a cleaner and safer neighborhood,” she says. “You know your immediate neighbors and you can count on them.”

Fairview/Clifton Heights

Community Council: www.cufna.org

2010 Census

Population	7,358
White.....	76%
Black.....	17%
Other.....	7%
Dissimilarity Index.....	43
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$142,982

Forest Park

Forest Park started as a planned community in the 1950s on land once part of Greenhills, became a village in 1961 and a city in 1968. Today, the city just south of I-275 is the third largest in Hamilton County behind Cincinnati and Norwood. It is home to more than 550 companies, a 1.5-million-square-foot shopping center and a host of parks, sports facilities, restaurants and retail shops. Housing is equally diverse with old and new single-family homes, apartments, condos and luxury estates.

Resident Peggy Feirstine, a former upstate New Yorker, was drawn to Forest Park more than 30 years ago for its diversity.

“We had two children and wanted them to live in a diverse environment,” she says, adding she



enjoys the sidewalks for the children and the nearby parks.

Filipinos Vilma and Rodolfo Lagdameo, who emigrated more than 30 years ago, were attracted by the “family-friendly” environment and convenience to everything.

Sally Huffman, clerk of council, concurs, saying, “This is such a nice area to live and raise a family. I have never been swayed to live elsewhere.”

Forest Park

City Council: www.forestpark.org

2010 Census

Population	18,720
White.....	25%
Black.....	65%
Other.....	10%
Dissimilarity Index.....	28
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$138,733



30-Year Integrated Community

Golf Manor

In the 1800s, Golf Manor was made up of acres of farmland that drew many people looking for fresh vegetables and other farm products. Today, the village maintains its neighborly feel with nearly 4,000 residents and 70 small-, medium- and large-scale businesses dotting the roughly one square mile of streets.

Resident Nikki Tilford says she was initially drawn to Golf Manor in 1978 because she wanted a safe, comfortable neighborhood for herself and her two daughters. Since then, she has come to appreciate the village's "small-town appeal" with its well-kept streets and older trees.

"I like that we have our own police



and fire," Tilford says. "I also have absolutely great neighbors. We talk, share and really look out for each other. I love living here."

Golf Manor has an active, engaged populace with dozens of organizations committed to its betterment through

financial and social support. Among them are the Woman's Club, Civic Club, Recreation Commission, Scouting and Camp Fire activity. Activities include parades, festivals, cleanups, yard sales, dances, costume parties, dinners and holiday get-togethers.

Golf Manor

Village Council: www.golfmanor.org

2010 Census

Population	3,611
White.....	24%
Black.....	73%
Other	3%
Dissimilarity Index.....	29
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$108,783

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Housing Choice Voucher Program

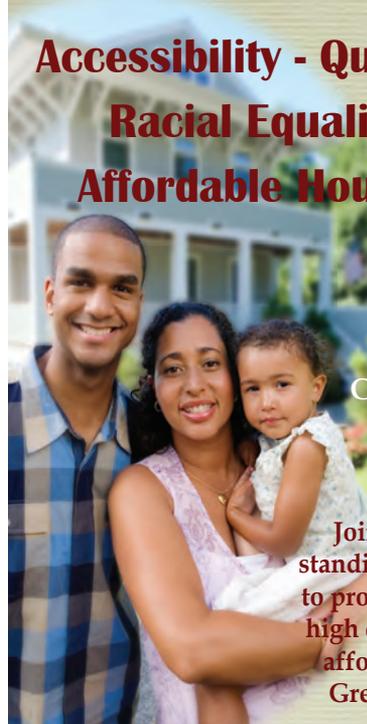
A Housing Choice Voucher covers the gap between what a low-income family can afford for rental housing and what the private market demands for rental housing and allows low-income families to choose where they want to live utilizing the private market.



For additional information on the opportunities offered by CMHA visit our website at www.cintimha.com or follow us on twitter @cintimha.

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30-Year Integrated Community

Mount Airy

Mount Airy could be called a community of landmarks. Its imposing 8.5-million-gallon water tower stands at the highest point in Hamilton County. Nearby 1,500-acre Mount Airy Forest, which begun as the nation’s first municipal reforestation project, is the city’s largest park, complete with an arboretum featuring more than 5,000 plants of 1,600 species and varieties. Pinecroft, the 1928 mansion built on 113 acres for Powel Crosley Jr., famed inventor and former owner of the Cincinnati Reds and WLW radio, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

For Town Council President Cindee Walsh, who has been a resident for more than 30 years, Mount Airy reflects its long-standing character through its diverse



architecture. Residents can buy or rent newly constructed homes, refurbished farmhouses, older single-family houses, townhouses, apartments, condos, bricks, stones and frames with prices from \$50,000

to \$1 million.

Residents unite for the betterment of the whole, Walsh says, noting its churches — Methodist, Catholic, Pentecostal and nondenominational — jointly host Thanksgiving services and other special gatherings. The “Green Team” cleans the neighborhood weekly. Social events include block parties, fireworks and fairs.

Mount Airy

Town Council: www.mountairyonline.org

2010 Census

Population	8,779
White.....	30%
Black.....	65%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	44
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$193,280

North Avondale/Paddock Hills

Established in the 1800s, North Avondale and Paddock Hills have maintained their older trees and other green spaces as they’ve evolved into an eclectic mix of homes and families. Early residents, such as businessmen Samuel Pogue, Frank Herschede and Barney Kroger, built extravagant homes of Greek Revival, Italian Renaissance and English Medieval styles.

Some of those large homes later were divided into apartments, and today, residents can find any size or style of home they want. Vivian Kline, longtime Paddock Hills resident, likes the house sizes — “not too small with front lawns looking neat and well kept.”

Residents are as diverse as their homes — black, white, Christian, Jewish, professional, blue-collar and



white-collar. Jennifer A. Gibson, a North Avondale resident for more than 10 years, sought that diversity before moving to the community.

“We wanted to raise our son in a successfully integrated community.

I don’t want him growing up seeing color,” she says, noting the children play together and people look out for one another. “You know your neighbors, who all take a lot of pride in their neighborhood.”

North Avondale/Paddock Hills

North Avondale Neighborhood Association:

www.northavondalecincinnati.com

Paddock Hills Community Council:

www.paddockhills.org

2010 Census

Population	5,919
White.....	48%
Black.....	47%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	60
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	
North Avondale.....	\$214,496
Paddock Hills.....	\$231,252



30-Year Integrated Community

Northside

Northside is blessed with scores of active, engaged residents willing to share their views and promote their neighborhood. Because of that involvement, Northside has become a hip and happening place.

Its dozens of fine restaurants and specialty shops are complemented by a business district of nearly 400 shops within a four-block radius. Community events abound with home tours, art sales, block parties, a Gay Pride Parade, a Fourth of July Parade, a farmers' market and more. Other features include community gardens, wooded areas and parks, a recreation center and a nonprofit collaborative ministry (Churches Active in Northside) that assists families in need.

Early residents were Irish, German and African-American. Now it is

home to an eclectic mix of people from all walks of life, living in all types of housing from older brick and frame homes to cozy bungalows to large Victorians and new construction.

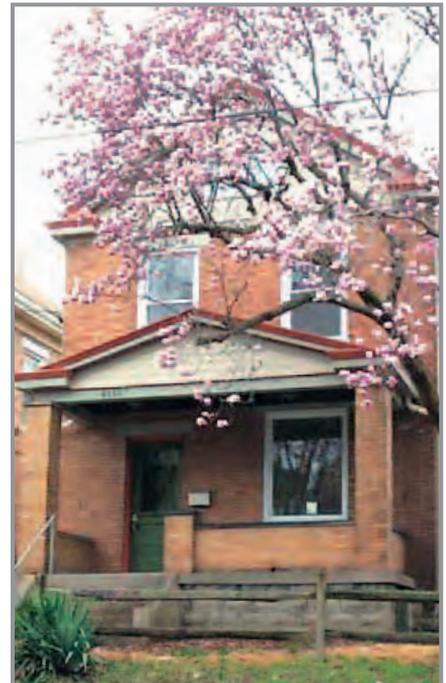
Tim Jeckering, a resident since 1981, calls Northside "a little village in a big city ... because of the character of the urban environment and the quality of the historic homes."

Northside

Community Council: www.northside.net

2010 Census

Population	7,467
White.....	59%
Black.....	36%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	41
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$108,414



Pleasant Ridge

Established in 1795, Pleasant Ridge began as an area for country retreats for wealthier Cincinnatians. With the arrival of the railroad, it expanded to include middle-income families and, in the 1960s, began attracting black families. Today, it offers numerous housing options - Cape Cods, Colonials, Tudors, newer brick homes on quiet, tree-lined streets.

Residents report solid community engagement through neighborhood clubs, block parties, and church activities. Lifelong resident Patricia Meder lauded the work of churches in helping engage the community and assist those in need whether of food, shelter, clothing or education. "We're a community rich with dedicated volunteers," she said.

Mary Anne Phalen agreed.



Hundreds contributed, she said, during her grassroots campaign to raise funds to update their landmark Federal-style library to make it accessible to the disabled. Other efforts promote art exhibits,

home tours, parades, tree lightings, and other events to make Pleasant Ridge a "destination point," Phalen said.

The community also maintains a strong business district with unique restaurants, coffee shops and specialty stores. And its Recreation Center is among the region's most active.

Pleasant Ridge

Community Council: www.pleasantridge.org

2010 Census

Population	8,083
White.....	58%
Black.....	36%
Other.....	6%
Dissimilarity Index.....	41
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$148,196



30-Year Integrated Community

Spring Grove Village

Incorporated in 1882 and annexed to Cincinnati in 1903, Winton Place changed its name to Spring Grove Village in 2007 to reclaim a variation of a former moniker, Spring Grove (1841-1872). Its best-known historic landmark, Spring Grove Cemetery & Arboretum, was established in 1845 and kept the Spring Grove name. It encompasses over 730 acres and is the final resting place for many of the region's most prominent citizens.

Early residents were a mix of upper- and middle-income families who lived in large homes in the heart of the village while working-class people — farm workers, black woodcutters, gardeners and laborers — occupied the outer edges of the neighborhood. Train service drew even more diverse populations who



worked in nearby plants.

Today, the area boasts more than 100 businesses, as well as an

active community council, youth center, community garden, business association, churches and schools.

Isaac Greene, a resident since 2002 and a former president of community council, says residents collaborate to create a tight-knit community uniting for a potluck picnic each summer and for periodic yard sales and cleanups.

Spring Grove Village

Community Council:

www.springgrovevillage.org

2010 Census

Population1,964

White.....41%

Black.....51%

Other.....8%

Dissimilarity Index.....23

Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:\$147,650

The Heights (University Heights)

The Heights, aka University Heights, includes mostly residential properties in a mixture of large apartment complexes, student rentals and single-family dwellings.

“Houses here tend to have more lawn than Clifton Heights, and the area is less densely populated,” said resident Cindy Summers, who moved in while attending law school. She and her husband, Daniel Lewis, appreciate the diversity and vitality of the area as well as the ease of being able to walk to retail stores, restaurants, specialty shops, parks, and other points of interest.

Landmarks include Hebrew Union College (founded 1875), the oldest institution of higher Jewish learning in the country; Good Samaritan, the oldest, largest private teaching



and tertiary health-care facility in the area; and the Little Sisters of the Poor nursing home, founded by Saint Jeanne Jugan.

Rob Burke, a 23-year resident, says the view from his Coy Street home is another attractive feature. “I can see the Millcreek Valley from my house, and in the early evening I love the enchanting sound of the train yard down below. It’s kind of a high-pitched tone.”

The Heights (University Heights)

Community Council: www.cufna.org

2010 Census

Population9,687

White.....70%

Black.....15%

Other.....15%

Dissimilarity Index.....44

Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:\$208,406



20-Year Integrated Community

Camp Washington

Camp Washington may be nationally known for its award-winning chili, but this historic community also fosters an environment for commercial and residential success. Most recently it earned recognition for maintaining the value of its properties even during an economic downturn.

The Camp Washington Community Board guided those efforts by buying, building or rehabbing more than 100 homes. Old, structurally solid buildings were gutted and upgraded to help residents and newcomers find and purchase affordable housing to meet their needs.

“It takes a lot of hard work to attract good people to your neighborhood,” says Paul Rudemiller, CWCB executive director. “When someone is looking for housing, you have to



be able to offer viable alternatives. With these homes, the shell may be 100 years old, but the walls, plumbing and electrical are months old. What

we are doing is not easy, but it’s certainly rewarding.”

Complementing the CWCB is an active business association that promotes business development, organizes community activities and coordinates programs with city and county agencies. Its efforts helped cut the crime rate to among the city’s lowest.

Camp Washington

Community Council:

www.camp-washington.org

2010 Census

Population	1,343
White.....	66%
Black.....	30%
Other.....	4%
Dissimilarity Index.....	38
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:.....	\$95,402

Clifton

Incorporated as a village in 1850, Clifton quickly became an elegant suburb of mansions, businesses and smaller homes. After annexation by Cincinnati in 1896, Clifton maintained its diversity and soon became known for its educated, artistic and eclectic populace.

For Dottie Lewis, a resident since 1971, the community’s location was “ideal” for herself and her husband, then a professor at the nearby University of Cincinnati.

“It’s so convenient to anywhere in the city,” she says. “It’s 15 minutes from anywhere if you know where you’re going.”

Lewis also appreciates that the village-like neighborhood allows residents to walk or ride bikes to scores of shops, restaurants, cultural



exhibits, sports facilities and more.

“We love walking our dogs and seeing all the young families with their jogging strollers or walking with their children,” she says. “It’s a wonderfully diverse population

of young and old and everything in between.”

Clifton also is home to three public parks: Burnet Woods, Rawson Nature Preserve and Mount Storm Park. Community activities include parades, house tours, forums, tree plantings, cleanups and other such projects.

Clifton

Town Meeting Board:

www.cliftoncommunity.org

2010 Census

Population	8,304
White.....	72%
Black.....	17%
Other.....	11%
Dissimilarity Index.....	48
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$311,437



20-Year Integrated Community

Finneytown (Springfield Twp.)

Finneytown, the largest designated neighborhood in Springfield Township, has seen its population shift from the late 1700s to become more ethnically and racially diverse as farmland gave way to streets, homes, schools and businesses.

Musa Abdullah, a resident since 1987, says he and his wife, Ruth, were drawn to the area because of its central “close to everything” location, quality schools and community values.

“We were able to find a solid, sound house that didn’t need much work to update,” he says. “It was on a double lot, so we had plenty of space.”

Their four children also benefited from excellent schools, Abdullah says, noting “Finneytown put them far ahead” of some of their counterparts.



“We’ll continue living here,” he says. “We don’t have any desire to live anywhere else. We have good neighbors, and we all get along well together.”

Finneytown also boasts active business, civic and religious organizations that encourage personal and professional development and a bit of fun. Indeed, its Panegyri Greek Festival has become the largest annual ethnic

food celebration in Cincinnati.

Finneytown (Springfield Twp.)

Trustees: www.springfieldtwp.org

2010 Census

Population.....	12,741
White.....	62%
Black.....	34%
Other.....	4%
Dissimilarity Index.....	49
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$150,430

Hartwell

Nestled in the Mill Creek Valley, Hartwell initially was part of Springfield Township before being annexed to Cincinnati in 1912. Its central location, easy access to highways and proximity to “everything” have fueled its continued growth and development.

All the while its long-time residents, as well as newcomers, have maintained their mix of older Victorian style homes with newer developments along tree-lined streets.

Decades-long residents Keith and Rose Burlingame have invested much of their time and energy toward creating and maintaining a thriving community through neighborhood engagement and one-to-one interactions.



“Ours is a good community,” Keith says. “The people are nice. We’re church and family-oriented. Everyone kind of watches out for everybody else.”

Various community groups help create an ongoing “sense of neighborhood.” Its Hartwell Seniors, founded in 1977, offers day trips,

luncheons, craft shows, bake sales, corn hole competitions and chair volleyball. Scouting troops support boys, girls and teens. And, the recreation center attracts crowds to classes, camps and more. In addition, Hartwell’s very successful swim team, the Sea Dragons, is supported by parents and business sponsors.

Hartwell

Improvement Association:

www.hartwellohio.org

2010 Census

Population.....	4,640
White.....	56%
Black.....	36%
Other.....	8%
Dissimilarity Index.....	45
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$141,488



20-Year Integrated Community

Mount Healthy

Settled as a village in 1817, Mount Healthy was originally named Mount Pleasant, but when many of its citizens survived the Cholera epidemic of 1850, it was renamed, eventually becoming a city in 1951. Throughout its history, Mount Healthy was home to working people striving to build solid lives for themselves, their families and their community. Most homes are individually designed and situated among lofty trees that provide a welcome natural atmosphere.

“Ours has always been a walkable, family-friendly community,” says lifelong resident Stephen Wolf, current city attorney and former



mayor and council member. “We have our differences, but our basic values are the same. The right thing to do is the right thing to do.”

Those values are reflected in the continuity of Mount Healthy, he says, noting that his children were the fifth generation to live in his Victorian house, and two of his three adult

children also have purchased homes in Mount Healthy.

City amenities include active community groups such as the Historical Society, the Business Association, an aquatics center, playgrounds and athletic fields.

Mount Healthy

City Council: www.mthealthy.org

2010 Census

Population.....	6,098
White.....	62%
Black.....	33%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	.40
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$111,345

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20-Year Integrated Community

Mount Healthy Heights

Colerain Township was mostly rural farmland before subdivisions were introduced in the 1950s. Among the first was Mount Healthy Heights in 1951, at the eastern edge of the township just south of I-275, east of Pippin Road and north of Springdale Road. Today, its tree-lined streets are home to hundreds.

Charlie and Marlene Lintz, who bought their newly built house in 1963, raised three children there.

“We were looking for a quiet area,” Charlie says “It was a new subdivision at the time, and we were all young families just starting out. We liked the atmosphere and the schools. It was still country at the time. The kids could pick berries.”

Through the decades, the couple has worked to build and maintain



the neighborhood. Both are officers (Marlene, president; Charlie, secretary) for the Cincinnati Central Turners, which relocated from Cincinnati to Mount Healthy Heights in the 1950s. Founded in 1858, the German-American society promotes athletics and education.

Also in Mount Healthy Heights are the Elmer P. Beckman Adult Center and the North Central Branch of the Public Library.

Mount Healthy Heights (Colerain Twp.)

Trustees: www.coleraintwp.org

2010 Census

Population	3,264
White.....	58%
Black.....	38%
Other	4%
Dissimilarity Index.....	54
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$120,172

Pleasant Run Farms

Springfield Township’s Pleasant Run Farms is one of five areas detached geographically from the contiguous portions of the township. Predominantly residential, the community grew rapidly after Welch Elementary School was built there in 1977. Indeed, hundreds of traditional three- and four-bedroom homes dot both sides of the 30 or so streets of the 670-acre neighborhood.

Jason Henry, a resident of more than 13 years and former president of the Civic Association, says PRF is made up of dedicated people willing to volunteer time to benefit others.

“We have enjoyed raising our children in this active and friendly community that has so much to offer,” he says. “Where else can you live where you have ball fields, a school, churches and a pool all within



walking distance?”

Residents also enjoy easy access to I-275 and Hamilton County’s 2,555-acre Winton Woods Park. And, the PRF’s Athletic and Civic associations host numerous community programs and events including Easter egg hunts, pool parties, parades, picnics, hayrides, chili cookouts and more. Its Dolphins Swim Team is also a huge source of community pride.

Pleasant Run Farms (Springfield Twp.)

Civic Association: www.pleasantrunfarms.org

2010 Census

Population	4,654
White.....	54%
Black.....	40%
Other	6%
Dissimilarity Index.....	20
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$157,261



20-Year Integrated Community

South Fairmount

Like many other communities, South Fairmount settled in the early- to mid-1800s, starting out as the country get-away spot for wealthier city residents. Homes of the Second Empire, Italianate, Queen Anne and other grand styles sat on spacious lots close to nature.

“We remain a ‘green’ community,” says Elliott Ellis, president of the community council. “Because we’re in something of a valley, we have lots of hillsides and natural growth around us.”

Ellis’ wife, Erlene, grew up in South Fairmount, and the couple settled into their 2.5-story brick home in the mid-1980s. Their three children are grown, but they’re still committed to the neighborhood and are adding to their 1922 house.



“We like it here,” Ellis says, noting the “quietness” and the proximity to one of the community’s best assets, the 18.4-acre St. Clair Heights Park, which features picnic and play areas along with two overlooks of the Millcreek Valley.

Among other amenities is the Sprayground on Queen City Avenue. Operated by the city’s Recreation Commission, it provides youngsters free access to the spray, sprinkle and

drop of cool water on hot days.

South Fairmount

Community Council: www.cincinnati-oh.gov

2010 Census

Population	2,368
White.....	37%
Black.....	57%
Other	6%
Dissimilarity Index.....	26
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$83,425

Springdale

Founded in 1806, Springdale was platted astride a major transportation route to become home for a host of business and residential properties. Throughout the decades, the City of Springdale (incorporated in 1971) has remained a hub of activity bisected by Interstate 275 and bordered by Interstate 75.

Because of substantial retail, manufacturing and service enterprises, the city has a solid tax base that allows its residents access to many of the amenities of neighborhoods much larger than the roughly five square miles that make up Springdale. Residents have a choice of housing options from single-family to apartments and condominiums to senior communities. The city also maintains its own police and fire departments, parks and rec, a state-of-



the-art community center, and other municipal facilities and services.

Pamela Williams, a resident since 2005, said she appreciates the city’s location, services and schools.

“It’s convenient to everything,” she said, “not just shopping ... we love Tri-County Mall ... but also schools, churches and recreational areas. It’s in the middle of everything, so I don’t have to travel far for anything.”

Springdale

City Council: www.springdale.org

2010 Census

Population	11,223
White.....	55%
Black.....	30%
Other	15%
Dissimilarity Index.....	37
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$155,089



20-Year Integrated Community

Westwood

Incorporated as a village in 1868, Westwood began with about 100 homes on small farms and country estates. With its annexation to Cincinnati in 1806, the six-square-mile community became the city's largest geographical neighborhood with the highest number of residents.

LaTonya Springs, a resident since 2001, says her family appreciates its location and its offerings.

"It's close to everything, and everything we need is there," she says. "I'm 10 minutes from my daughter's school, 10 minutes from work and 10 minutes from shopping. My daughter's favorite shop is right there. It's an urban, hip shop with



all the latest fashions at reasonable prices."

Residents also have a choice in housing, with old and new multi-family and single-family homes nestled among tree-lined streets convenient for walking, biking or just hanging out. Styles cover the gamut from Victorian and Four Square to

Tudor and Ranch to Contemporary. Westwood's architecture placed 115 acres and five buildings on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. At the center was the Westwood Town Hall, a Romanesque structure built in 1889.

Westwood

Civic Association: www.westwoodcivic.org
 2010 Census

Population	33,892
White.....	45%
Black.....	50%
Other.....	5%
Dissimilarity Index.....	48
Estimated Value of Detached Home according to city-data.com:	\$142,121

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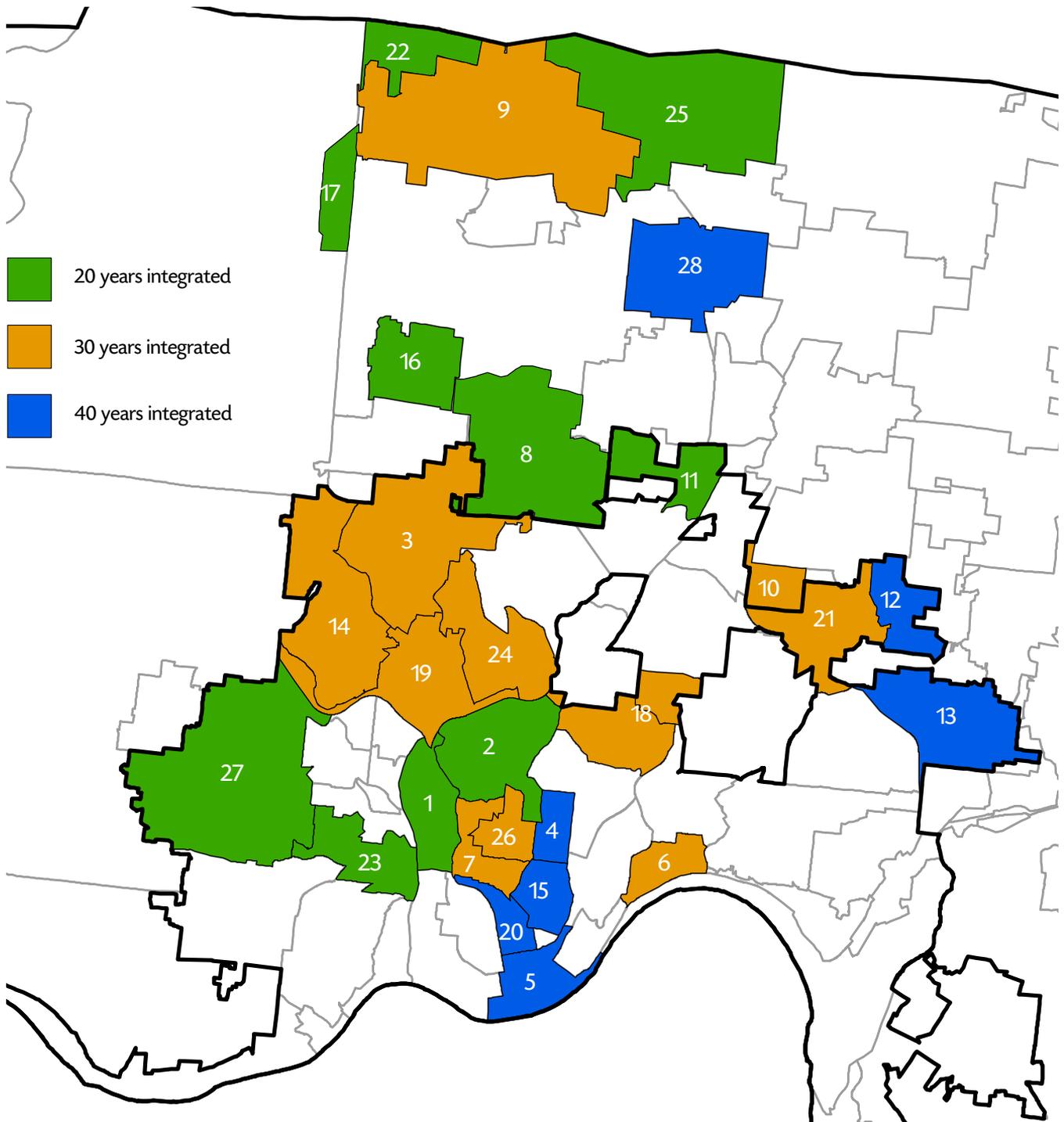
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Stable Integrated Communities in Hamilton County

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Camp Washington | 11. Hartwell | 21. Pleasant Ridge |
| 2. Clifton | 12. Kennedy Heights | 22. Pleasant Run Farm (Springfield Twp.) |
| 3. College Hill | 13. Madisonville | 23. South Fairmount |
| 4. Corryville | 14. Mount Airy | 24. Spring Grove Village |
| 5. Downtown/Riverfront | 15. Mount Auburn | 25. Springdale |
| 6. East Walnut Hills | 16. Mount Healthy | 26. University Heights (Heights) |
| 7. Fairview-Clifton Heights (CUF) | 17. Mount Healthy Heights (Colerain Twp.) | 27. Westwood |
| 8. Finneytown (Springfield Twp.) | 18. North Avondale-Paddock Hills | 28. Woodlawn |
| 9. Forest Park | 19. Northside | |
| 10. Golf Manor | 20. Over-the-Rhine | |



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Additionally, The Christ Hospital offers the following services that may be provided at your business:

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- On-site vascular screenings and other health screenings

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