

Jacob's Ladder™ Community Development Corporation is committed to implement the vision of Christ for the world by helping to break down the barriers in people's lives that separate them not only from one another but from their hopes and dreams in life. The educational component of our ministry is dedicated particularly to the young people in the Beltline neighborhood who are in need of being *built-up* in their lives.

**“Success” Is God’s Dream for All...  
All that is Needed are the Opportunities  
& Resources Necessary to Achieve It.**



Sidewalk Wall Art Project at B.Y.E.C.

Through art projects, creative writing, tutoring, job training, athletic activities and living skills, Jacob's Ladder™ Community Development Corporation provides opportunities for growth in some of the areas children lack most; creative arts and empowerment. We help to enhance and reinforce the abilities and skills of our young people so that they can express themselves through their God-given gifts.

## The Beltline Youth and Teen Resource Centers

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Beltline Youth Enrichment Center  
2646 Midland Ave., Memphis, TN 38111

 **Jacob's Ladder™**  
Community Development Corporation  
A Non-Profit Corporation

## Climb Up Higher





Our Mission in Education:

## HELPING CHILDREN SUCCEED

in the  
Beltline Neighborhood  
through  
Community  
Partnerships

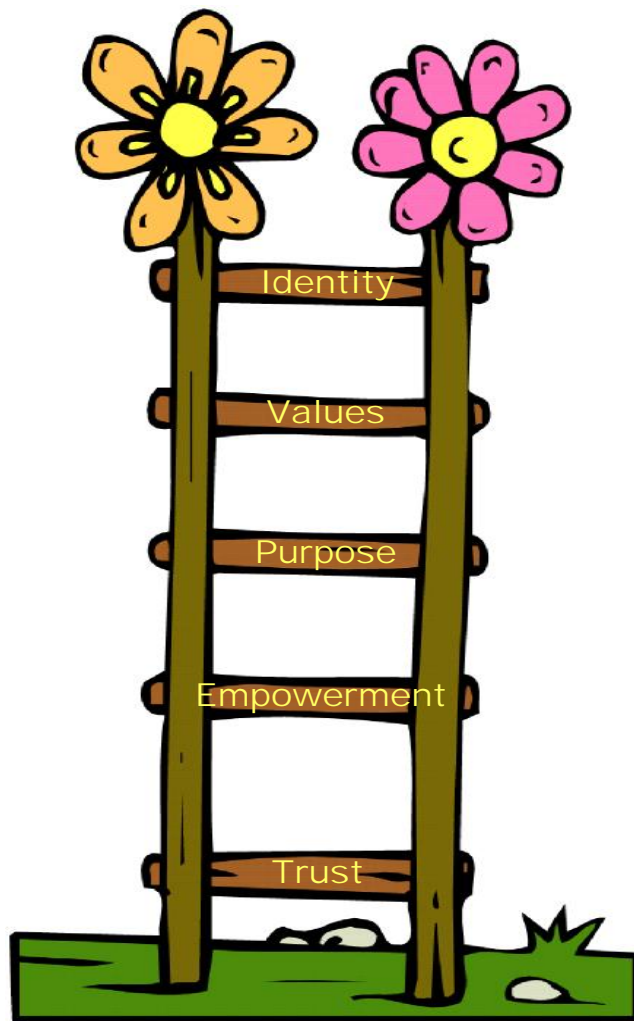
*Tell Me About Your Day...*  
*Tell Me About Your Dreams...*


All children have hopes and dreams. The harsh realities of living in their community should not crush a child's dreams or diminish his or her capacity to embrace a future with hope. A child enters the  Jacob's Ladder™ program with a desire to climb up higher and trusting in a dream for success - a dream depicted in the vision of Jacob in the Old Testament of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven...a dream with strong footings in the commands of Christ for **Relationship and Connection**.

The Beltline Youth Enrichment Center and Teen Resource Center are places where the needs of young people are addressed. For four years,  Jacob's Ladder™ staff, volunteers, and neighborhood stakeholders have been collaborating to introduce vital resources indispensable to the welfare of the Beltline children. Our Centers reach over 80 young people each week but there is more work to be done. There are still hundreds more children in the Beltline community who desire the same thing – **Success**.


We work to create an environment of **trust** – trust in each other and in one's own self. Trust leads to empowerment. Through mandating report card information, we monitor academic progress and help children develop knowledge and skills, **empowering** them to learn more. Owning one's success gives a child a sense of **purpose** and a desire to accomplish more.

When children have the opportunity to learn, they are able to create **values** and the internalization of these values helps to form their **identity**. The ability to make wise choices and resist peer pressure stems from a child's strong sense of “self” and values gained through education and trust relationships.



Ultimately, a child being built-up in the  Jacob's Ladder™ program will have a better understanding of his or her own **identity**, the positive impact one person can make in the world, and a better chance for **success** in life.

When 'Under Resourced'  
Means More Than Money

The labels “Urban Youth” and “Under-Resourced” youth refer to the same thing - a child growing up in poverty.  Jacob's Ladder™ believes no child should live under these labels of a societal ill. We believe that change is possible and “success” is the label we can place on all people, if they are only given the chance to succeed. Many people can impact a generation. But **one** person *can* make a difference in the life of a child.

**WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIFE?**

**“Relationship and Connection”**

Children who are living in an “under-resourced” environment are usually lacking “enough of” and the “right kind” of human resources to support them. With parents working or out of the home, streets that are unsafe, and negative influences around each corner, the gift of “presence” is sacred. Taking the time to just “be” with young people can impact their lives in all areas of development. Some ways we spend time with kids are:

**TUTORING**

**PLAYING**

**MENTORING**

**LISTENING**

**LEARNING FROM THEM**