

## **INVESTING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **A Resolution approved by General Synod of the United Church of Christ XIX (1993)**

WHEREAS, the Gospel of Luke tells us that, “To whom much has been given, much will be required;”

WHEREAS, in the more than three hundred years that the United Church of Christ and its antecedent bodies have been in North America, substantial assets have been accumulated;

WHEREAS, we have a tradition of using our material resources for the good of our communities here and abroad;

WHEREAS, previous General Synods have affirmed the principle of socially responsible investing;

WHEREAS, General Synod Seventeen, meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, resolved that “national bodies, conferences, associations, and local churches be encouraged to invest no less than 1% of their investment assets by 1990, with a goal of adding 1% per year until reaching no less than 10%, with groups involved in homelessness and housing, and other social and economic development projects;” and

WHEREAS, the same General Synod Seventeen also resolved that each of the national bodies be called upon “to report to each subsequent General Synod and their Boards of Directors in Annual Reports their implementation of this resolution;”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Council, at its Fall, 1993, meeting, establish a Community Development Investment Task Force (CDITF) composed of seven (7) members of the United Church of Christ with expertise in community development and seven (7) representatives of the United Church Foundation (UCF), Pension Boards (PB), United Church Board for World Ministries (UCBWM), United Church Board for Homeland Ministries (UCBHM), and the Office for Church in Society (OCIS) and designate the convener(s) for the Task Force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that under the auspices of the CDITF:

1. the UCF, PB, UCBWM, UCBHM, and OCIS are requested to explore community development investments with ecumenical partners and organizations;
2. the UCF is requested to reopen the social investment fund previously authorized;
3. the UCBHM and UCBWM are requested to explore the establishment of a community development investment endowment fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDITF negotiate goals and establish reporting protocols, and act as a resource for local churches, associations, and conferences.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDITF report to the Fall, 1994, meeting of the Executive Council, with that report being forwarded to General Synod Twenty.

*Subject to the availability of funds.*