

## *Building for the Future: Working Together to Strengthen Ward 7!*



Imagine a neighborhood with an abundance of accessible, affordable and safe housing for families. Now imagine a family with parents and caregivers maintaining sustainable employment that allows them to take care of their household. Finally, imagine a community where children, across all grade levels, have the necessary school supplies to complete their assignments. At ERFSC we are “Building for the Future” as part of a larger, structured cohesive system that is free from violence. This is the future that ERFSC envisions for Ward 7 families, youth and seniors and these are the goals that we are working tirelessly to achieve.

ERFSC is building for the future; and our goal is to get the families that we work with closer to the reality that we know that they deserve. Since our inception in 1996, ERFSC has been diligently working to serve over 4,500 residents annually; and while we’ve achieved great success over the years, there is still much work to be done in getting our families to the future that they truly deserve. A future where families live in safe neighborhoods, parents are gainfully employed and able to pay their bills on time, kids enjoy healthy meals, families have access to affordable housing, and children are healthy and thriving socially, emotionally and academically!

### **ERFSC’s Impact**

*“ERFSC embodies and epitomizes the true concept of the comprehensive community initiative - in a measured and verifiable way.”*

*--Dr. Charles Perry, ERFSC Board of Directors and Founding Member of ERFSC*

*“I began as a participant in a program of East River’s, then they saw something in me and gave me a chance. Eventually they provided me training and gave me a job. Now I work in the same community that I am from. I make a difference where I live. I have come full circle.” – Ward 7 Resident*

*“East River has provided support so that my grandmother did not have to choose between paying her rent or eating every day, on her fixed income. For that we are appreciative.”  
– Ward 7 Resident*

ERFSC remains deeply committed to making a difference in the lives of the families residing in Ward 7 through direct support, innovative family-centered as well as person-centered programs, community-based collaboration and resources that lead to healthy and strong families. Families that are healthy and strong lead to healthy and strong neighborhoods, which lead to healthy and strong communities. Healthy and strong communities lead to healthy and strong businesses which ultimately lead to a healthy and strong economy. When the family is healthy and thriving, society as a whole thrives!

In providing high quality support and services to Ward 7 residents, ERFSC receives 98% of its funding from the government which can be unpredictable and at times unreliable. As such, ERFSC is actively seeking to develop and sustain mutually beneficial partnerships with individuals, non-profits, businesses, corporations, universities and institutions that share our goals, values and beliefs; individuals/organizations that are as passionate about making a difference in the lives of Ward 7 residents and as invested in the Ward 7 community as we are! In partnering with key stakeholders like you and/or your organization, ERFSC will be able to assist families in securing the future that they deserve, with less reliance on funding from the government. With your gift, partnership, commitment, contribution and/or pledge, we will be able to work together to transform the Ward 7 community into a strong, healthy, thriving community where the families, small businesses and budding entrepreneurs that we serve are not forced out and/or left behind!

Your tax-deductible donation will go a long way in helping us to achieve the reality that we desire for the families that we serve and the Ward 7 community as a whole; and please know that NO dollar amount is too small! By becoming a valued ERFSC contributor and/or partner, you will not only be contributing directly to the success of the Ward 7 families and small businesses served by our agency, you also will be playing a vital and active role in the overall sustainability of our community-based organization, as we seek to become less reliant on government funding.

