Betterton selected for fellowship

Charles Betterton has been selected for one of 230 Community Builder Fellowships out of 8,500 applicants by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The fellowship, worth about \$250,000 over two years, includes a month's study at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

Betterton worked for HUD for several years before he was appointed director of the Kankakee Community Development Agency in 1988. Since leaving the City of Kankakee in 1990, Betterton received a master's in community economic development from New Hampshire College.



Betterton

Recently he has been focusing on Center Space and the University for Successful Living, two non-profit organizations he founded to provide development training and consulting services through an international network of Centers for Successful Living.

Last month, motivational speaker Les Brown donated more than \$50,000 worth of his services to support the Success Center Partnership that Betterton created for the Muncie, Ind., Housing Authority. During the next few months, the University for Successful Living is donating up to \$50,000 worth of development training to area residents who participate in the Success Mastery Academy with Brian Tracy.

On Nov. 19, the University for Successful Living will produce a workshop and seminar with Mark Victor Hansen, co-author of the best-selling "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series, at Olivet Nazarene University.

"Charles Betterton's project for the 1990-1992 Community Economic Development Master's program was to establish a National CED Resource Center. In 1998, he turned down a HUD Community Builder Fellowship worth about \$250,000 to continue his non-profit community empowerment work with CENTER SPACE and the University for Successful Living. As one of his faculty advisors 22 years ago, I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in helping 'Dr. Bettertown' continue with his programs, especially the initiatives he has launched in 2012 to combine the new Benefit Corporation model with the Crowd Funding provisions of the JOBS Act and Community Economic Development."

-- Michael Swack, Ph.D. Professor, the Carsey Institute, University of New Hampshire and founding Dean, School of Community Economic Development,