

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

William Howard Taft National Historic Site

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: WIHO

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Since Alphonso Taft, William Howard's father, settled in Cincinnati in 1838 five generations of Taft's have broadened a legacy of citizenship. Members of the Taft family have served as county commissioners, judges, legislators, cabinet members, ambassadors, a mayor, a governor and a president. During that same period, Tafts were instrumental in shaping young minds as teachers, and were encouraging public debate as publishers of newspapers and founders of radio and television stations. In addition, many Tafts especially the women, actively molded the cultural life of their communities by creating and sustaining art museums, symphony orchestra companies and performing arts venues.

William Howard Taft National Historic Site's Centennial Vision is based upon that legacy. We will create sustainable partnerships that create an environment that fosters strong relationships across cultural and community lines that bring people from traditionally underserved and overlooked segments of the urban community into the park and the National Park Service community. This will be accomplished by an innovative federal, local and private partnership that enhances the quality of life in the community through education, environmental leadership and stewardship. The program will result in students and community members having greater awareness of the accessibility and opportunities that the National park Service affords. The community will also have a connection to the significance of national parks in an urban area.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Robin White 513-684-3262

Site: WIHO

RECREATION

Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The park will work with grassroots organizations to assist with programming that reaches underserved populations in the community.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: WIHO

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The site already has an active education program. We will develop pre-site, onsite, and post-site curriculum with assistance from the faculty of targeted underserved schools and we will target underserved schools to form strong partnerships to develop ownership in the development of an expanded curriculum. We believe that we will create a sustainable program that can be easily duplicated by others with similar circumstances.

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Site: WIHO

EDUCATION

Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.

Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.

The program will result in students and community members having a greater awareness of the accessibility and opportunities that the National Park Service affords and have appreciation of the significance of national parks in urban area.

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