

SCHOOL CHOICE and COMMUNITY RENEWAL

The growth of school choice in Milwaukee has fueled more than \$126 million of spending on new schools and remodeled facilities in some of the city's most distressed neighborhoods.

Private grants and loans are the principal source of funds. Congregations and parishes also have given unselfishly to provide expanded parent education options.

Most projects involve schools that participate in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP). The impact in neighborhoods where these schools are located is stark. The resulting expansion of educational opportunity has engaged parents and families, helping bring stability to many areas of high poverty.

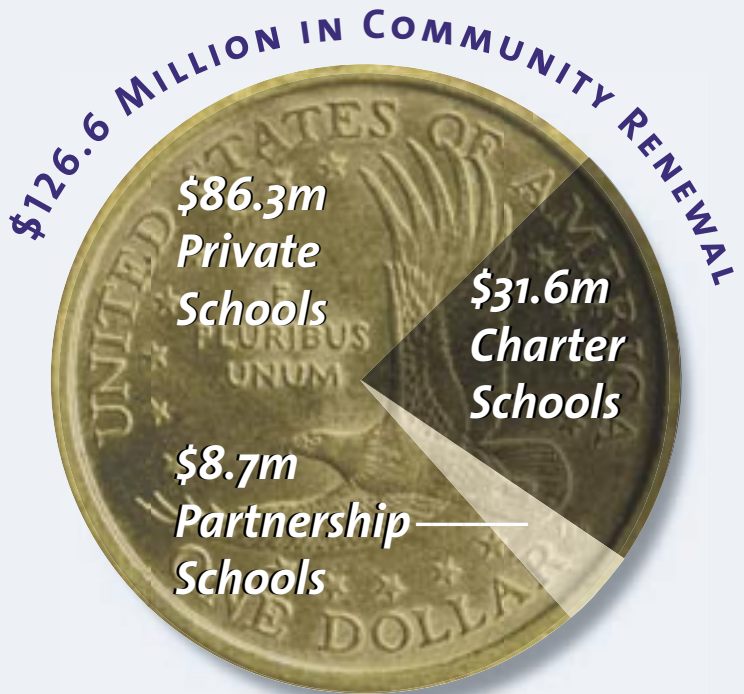
Since our last report on this topic in 2005, the Governor and Legislature raised the MPCP enrollment cap. A failure of that effort would have undermined the financial viability of many projects described in this report.

In addition to projects at schools in the MPCP, others have been carried out at independent charter schools authorized by the City of Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Still others have occurred at private, nonprofit partnership schools serving students under contract with the Milwaukee Public Schools.

Examples of notable projects are highlighted on pages two and three of this report. A complete list and map of projects is on page four.

Information for this report comes from a survey conducted in the spring of 2007 by School Choice Wisconsin (SCW) and two previous surveys in 2002 and 2005.

SCW is a non-profit organization located in Milwaukee that seeks to ensure an honest debate about school choice by providing accurate information on the impact of school choice on families, communities, and schools.



Private Schools:

Nonsectarian & religious schools in the MPCP

Charter Schools:

Independent public schools chartered by the City of Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Partnership Schools:

Privately run schools with MPS contracts

Additional Survey Data:

- **Seventy-nine** schools, enrolling **21,886** students made **one hundred and fourteen** capital improvement projects.
- Improvements totaled **\$126.6 million** ranging from **\$1,000** to **\$8.2 million**
- The average project cost was **\$1.1 million**
- **Thirty-four** projects cost more than **\$1 million**, accounting for **90%** of all spending

WHAT'S INSIDE...

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Schools Map – page 4

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SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROFILES

\$5 million

St. Marcus Lutheran School • 2215 N. Palmer Street

St. Marcus School has served families in the north side Brewer's Hill neighborhood since 1872. Spurred by expansion in the MPCP, St. Marcus Lutheran Church raised \$5 million in private grants and loans to build a new school that opened for the 2003-2004 school year. The 56,000 square foot, three-story, red-brick school has vastly improved capacity from the former, now-demolished school. **St. Marcus** enrolls 270 students, 240 of whom participate in the MPCP.



\$3 million

Siloah Lutheran School • 3721 N. 21st Street

First opened in 1962, this north side Lutheran school joined the MPCP in 2000. Currently, 149 students attend via the MPCP. **Siloah** spent \$3.1 million in grants and loans on four new classrooms, a new entrance with elevator, and a new educational center with a gym and classrooms. One of these new classrooms is a state-of-the-art computer lab.

M I L W A U K E E
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Spurring the boom

The story of the boom along North Ave. begins 15 years ago with the launch of voucher and charter schools...



\$2.4 million

Garden Homes Lutheran School • 2475 W. Roosevelt Drive

Part of the Garden Homes Community of Schools, **Garden Homes Lutheran** currently serves 197 students in the MPCP. The 77-year-old school first joined the choice program in 2000, and opened the doors to a brand-new facility for the 2004-2005 school year. The \$2.4 million school and gymnasium were funded through private donations and loans. The new facility will eventually serve up to 250 students from Milwaukee's central city.

\$1.8 million

Early View Academy of Excellence • 7132 W. Good Hope Road

Early View serves approximately 300 students from four-year-old kindergarten to twelfth grade in Milwaukee's Granville neighborhood. Over 95 percent of the students attend through the MPCP. The \$1.8 million project that is currently under construction will provide a new gymnasium and library in addition to adding new restrooms, a meeting room and remodeling of some existing classrooms.





\$2.1 million

Notre Dame Middle School • 1420 W. Scott Street

Located on Milwaukee's south side in the Walker's Point neighborhood, the all girl **Notre Dame Middle School** serves 90 choice students. The school recently completed a \$2.1 million renovation and expansion. A new two-story brick addition houses an impressive gymnasium and a modern science lab and art classroom. Additional new classrooms as well as the updating of existing classrooms were also part of the project.

M I L W A U K E E
JOURNAL SENTINEL

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Sherman Park-area school expanding

\$2.5 million

Mount Calvary Lutheran • 2862 N. 53rd Street

The ground has been broken for a \$2.5 million expansion to better serve students in the Sherman Park neighborhood. This project generated headlines in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. More than 85 percent of **Mt. Calvary's** 200 students attend through the MPCP. They are excited for the completion and occupation of the new facility in the fall of 2008.



\$7.1 million

Pius XI High School • 135 N. 76th Street

Pius XI High School continues to serve the growing need for high school spots in the MPCP. A newly completed athletic field house and a performing arts center which is still under construction are an impressive complement to their high quality educational offerings. Approximately 240 students that attend this school on Milwaukee's west side participate in the MPCP.

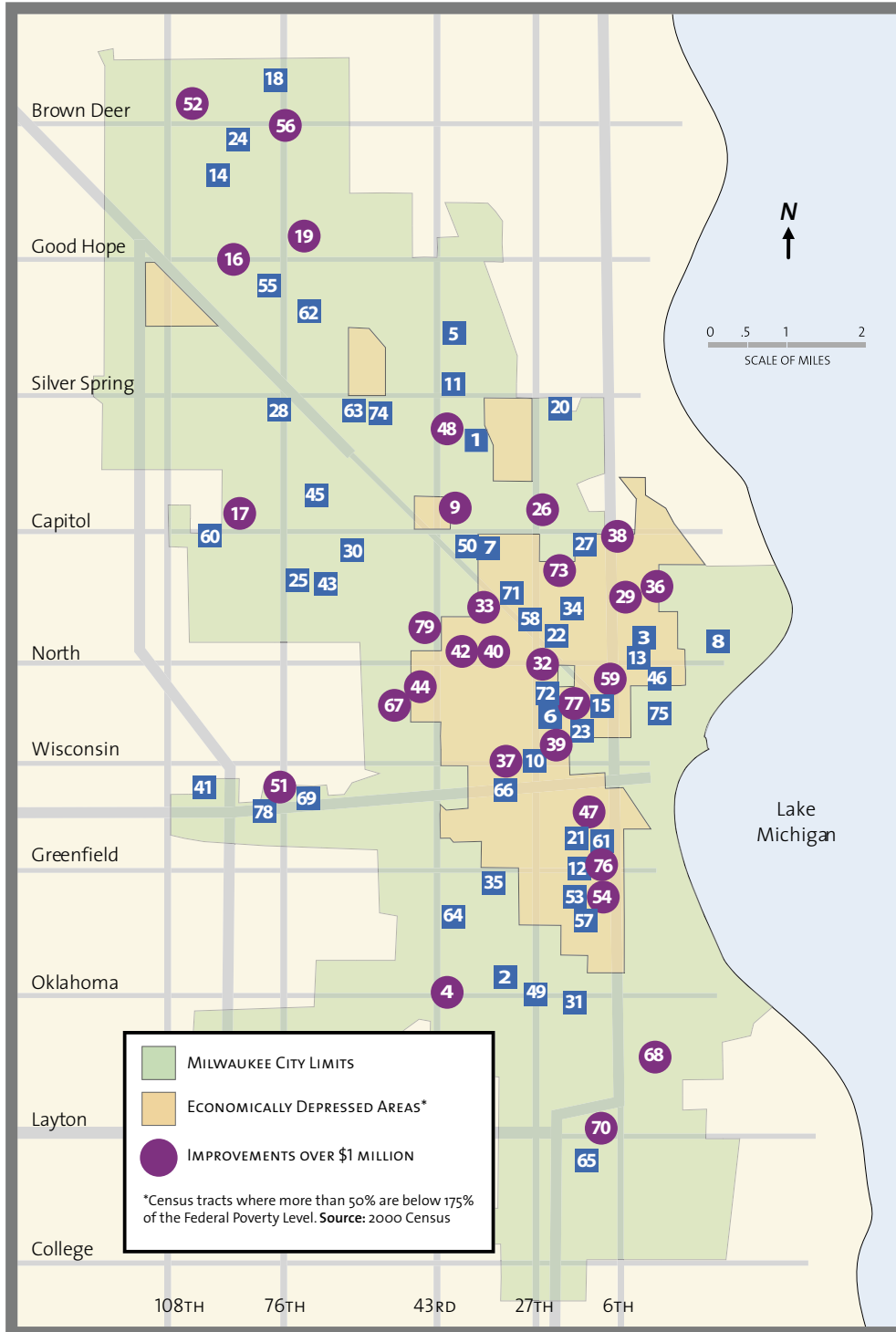


\$2.5 million

Malaika Early Learning Center • 125 W. Auer Avenue

This striking new facility can serve 30 four & five-year-old kindergartners. In addition, there is an early childhood daycare that has room for 65 children ages infant to three. The before and after-school programs provide services to children up to the age of 12 in the Harambee neighborhood. The \$3.2 million investment includes attractive classrooms, a community room and state-of-art playground.

HOW SCHOOL CHOICE HELPS MILWAUKEE NEIGHBORHOODS



1. Agape Center of Academic Excellence
2. Atlas Preparatory Academy
3. Aurora Weier Educational Center
4. Blessed Sacrament School
5. Bessie M. Gray Preparatory Academy
6. Blyden Delany Academy
7. Carter's Christian Academy
8. Catholic East Elementary
9. Central City Cyberschool
10. Ceria M. Travis Academy
11. Christ Memorial Lutheran School
12. Christ St. Peter Lutheran School
13. Clara Mohammed School
14. Concordia University School
15. Cornerstone Achievement Academy
16. Darrell L. Hines Academy
17. Divine Savior Holy Angels School
18. D.J. Perkins Academy of Excellence
19. Early View Academy of Excellence
20. Eastbrook Academy
21. El Puente High School
22. Emmaus Lutheran School
23. Excel Academy
24. Excel Learning Academy
25. Family Montessori
26. Garden Homes Lutheran School
27. Gospel Lutheran School
28. Greater Holy Temple Christian
29. Harambee Community School
30. Hickman's Academy
31. Holy Wisdom Academy
32. Hope Christian School
33. Jared C. Bruce Academy
34. Keal Preparatory School, Inc.
35. Loyola Academy
36. Malaika Early Learning Center
37. Marquette University High School
38. Messmer High School/Messmer Prep
39. Milwaukee Academy of Science
40. Milwaukee College Preparatory School
41. Milwaukee Montessori School
42. Milwaukee Urban League Academy
43. Mother of Good Counsel
44. Mount Calvary Lutheran School
45. Mount Lebanon Lutheran School
46. Noah's Ark Preparatory School
47. Notre Dame Middle School
48. NOVA
49. Our Lady Queen of Peace School
50. Parklawn Christian School
51. Pius XI High School
52. Risen Savior Evangelical Lutheran School
53. Saint Adalbert School
54. Saint Anthony School
55. Saint Bernadette School
56. Saint Catherine of Alexandria School
57. Saint Josaphat Parish School
58. Saint Leo Catholic Urban Academy
59. Saint Marcus Lutheran School
60. Saint Margaret Mary
61. Saint Martini Lutheran School
62. Saint. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School
63. Saint Philip Neri Catholic School
64. Saint Rafael the Archangel
65. Saint Roman Parish School
66. Saint Rose Catholic Urban Academy
67. Saint Sebastian School
68. Saint Thomas Aquinas
69. Saint Vincent Pallotti School
70. Salam School
71. Sherman Park Preschool
72. Shalom High School
73. Siloah Lutheran School
74. Silver Spring Neighborhood Center
75. Tamarack Community School
76. United Community Center Middle School
77. Urban Day School
78. Wisconsin Lutheran High
79. Yeshiva Elementary School