



*History of the
Nellie Burge
Community Center*

The Nellie Burge Community Center began as the North Montgomery Settlement House in 1904 when a group of women at the Court Street UMC decided to make a difference and established a “day nursery” to assist working mothers. In 1914, they built the North Montgomery Settlement House and dedicated it to the services of needy women, children and families in North Montgomery.

In 1953 The Board of Directors decided to relocate to the present location on Clay Street, and they changed the name to the Nellie Burge Community Center as a memorial to Mrs. Nellie Burge whose husband donated the residence.

In 1998, a capital funds campaign was undertaken, and in 2000 we opened a state-of-the-art, \$1 million day care facility.

Over the years, many ministries have been offered at the Nellie Burge Community Center, but the mission is the same: “To minister to the lives of needy women, children and families through Christian principles.” Our new ministry, Mary Ellen’s Hearth, continues that legacy of service to the less fortunate in need of comfort, motivation and the life changing skills necessary to effect change.



A ministry of the

*Nellie
Burge
Community
Center*

Please contact us if you'd like a speaker for your next event.
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Dear Friends,

The Board of Directors of the Nellie Burge Community Center proudly announces a new program centerpiece, Mary Ellen's Hearth, honoring the lifelong commitment of Mary Ellen Bullard to needy women and children in the River Region and across the Alabama/West Florida Conference.

Mary Ellen's Hearth will be a 24-hour emergency and transitional shelter for mothers and their children who are homeless due to economic hardship, family crisis, divorce, eviction, and severe shortage of safe, affordable housing. We eventually plan to house 9-15 families which could be up to 60 full time residents. The average stay will be six to eight months, although they may stay as long as two years.

The primary goal is to foster independence and help the residents gain the life skills necessary to prevent future chronic homelessness, and do this in a loving Christian setting. This training will include courses in finance, parenting, nutrition, and adult education as needed on a case by case basis. Families may stay at the shelter until they are able to find permanent housing as long as they follow the rules, are actively seeking housing, working, and taking part in the programs and services. Our outreach case worker will help these families maintain their independence.

Mary Ellen's
Hearth

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Community Center



Mary Ellen Harrell Bullard

January 12, 1926 - March 6, 2009

Mary Ellen Harrell Bullard lived to serve. She held every lay position imaginable within the United Methodist Church from Director of Christian Education at the local level to Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council. One of her greatest passions in Montgomery was the Nellie Burge Community Center. The Board of Directors is proud to honor her legacy by naming our new ministry Mary Ellen's Hearth.

Send donations to:
Nellie Burge Community Center
1226 Clay Street
Montgomery, AL 36014