

November 15, 2010  
For Immediate Release

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## **Energetic South Loop Community Organization Announces New Board of Directors**

### ***PDNA poised for dynamic growth with addition of diverse, committed residents to lead important South Loop group***

CHICAGO – The Board of Directors of the Prairie District Neighborhood Alliance announced today the names of four Near South and South Loop residents as new members to its Board of Directors. The elections were held on Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 1900 S. Prairie Avenue. Rosemary Garrett, Colleen Harper, Brian MacHaffie and Cathy Skortz will be joining the board for a three-year term.

The Executive Board members for the PDNA consist of, Tina Feldstein as President, Jackie Walker as Vice President, Jeff Ayersman as Treasurer and Gail Dempsey as Secretary. The addition of the new members increase the number of PDNA directors to eight. "We are honored and excited to have such energetic and dynamic leaders joining the PDNA team," said Tina Feldstein, president of the PDNA Board. "Their vision, experience and commitment will add a fresh perspective as we develop our organization and strengthen our mission of promoting the common good and social welfare for our Near South and South Loop community."

In the coming year, the PDNA Board will officially launch its "GO SOUTH LOOP" campaign, which promises to engage residents and local businesses in an exciting new partnership. The PDNA will continue to offer a full calendar of diversified programs and events including an annual Easter Egg Hunt, Toast of the South Loop, Festival on Prairie Avenue, Children's Halloween Party, Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest, Children's Christmas Party, Holiday Carol and a New Year's Eve Gala. The PDNA will expand on its cultural programming, BookSpeak and Meet Me at the Movies, by adding a Public Art task force. Additionally, the organization will continue facilitating its safety and community policing efforts through its South Loop Neighborhood Watch and develop a number of new outreach programs to benefit charitable initiatives. "We are not just a social organization, but a socially conscious organization, said Jackie Walker, PDNA Board member." "Our group aims to use our resources to make a real difference and give back to our community," adds Gail Dempsey, PDNA Secretary.

"We are very confident that the new members of our Board will mesh well with our existing Board members and create a group that is professional, dedicated and focused on the best interest of our community", says Jeff Ayersman, PDNA Board Treasurer. "We look forward to working with the Alderman's office and other community stakeholders on important issues and projects proposed for the Near South and South Loop, added Ayersman."

### **About the Prairie District Neighborhood Alliance**

The *Prairie District Neighborhood Alliance* is a community organization whose mission is to build a sense of community and to promote the common good and social welfare for the Near South and South Loop area in Chicago. Also, to preserve the integrity of the neighborhood's historic character and educate the public about its history. Further, to address issues of the neighborhood and provide it with an effective and transparent communication link with city municipal and government officials, developers, businesses and other influential groups, and to empower the community to work together in improving the neighborhood with the objective of fostering a collective, respectful and unified voice that translates into a powerful and influential force for improving and maintaining the community.

The PDNA Board of Directors is seated through a nomination and election process in accordance with its By-laws.

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Prairie District Neighborhood Alliance  
[www.pdnachicago.com](http://www.pdnachicago.com)



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