



For Immediate Release

**DOMINICAN CENTER AWARDED WE ENERGIES FOUNDATION
GRANT FOR AMANI RING PROJECT**

Smart doorbells will make homes more secure, bring down crime in Amani Neighborhood

MILWAUKEE, June 17, 2019 — We Energies Foundation has extended support to the Dominican Center in the form of a \$1,500 grant for the Amani Ring Project. “We are pleased to partner with the Dominican Center in an effort to create a safer and brighter future for the communities we serve,” said Beth Straka, vice president of the We Energies Foundation and senior vice president of – Corporate Communications and Investor Relations of WEC Energy Group, the holding company of We Energies.

Data reveals that the incidence of burglaries in the Amani neighborhood, which the Dominican Center serves, is approximately twice that of the City of Milwaukee as a whole. Therefore, the Dominican Center would use this grant to purchase and install video doorbells in the homes of Amani residents. Video doorbells send notifications to homeowners’ phones or computers when visitors ring or trigger the built-in motion detector. Homeowners can then answer their doors or see, hear and speak to visitors from anywhere using their mobile device. These smart doorbells, which cost \$200 each, are out of reach for more than 52% of Amani homeowners, so this grant will allow the Dominican Center to launch the Amani Rings program, anticipating a contribution to a decrease in Amani burglaries and violent crime, all resulting in residents feeling safe and more secure in their homes. Amani residents believe that improved safety in housing and increased home ownership will improve the quality of life for all residents, not just those homes where a video doorbell is installed.

Dominican Center is located at 2470 W. Locust Street, in the heart of the Amani neighborhood. It works with Amani residents and partners to build a better future. The Dominican Center served as the community anchor for the White House Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative, Building Neighborhood Capacity Program and is the lead community partner for the US Department of Justice’s Innovations of Community Based Crime Reduction grant for Amani.

Please contact Christina Chronister at the Dominican Center for additional information at (414) 444-9930 or by email at christina@dominican-center.org

###