

## **A PERSONAL WORD FOR YOU from Mack McCarter**

I am excited to communicate with each of you in our new magazine format! With this issue of *Renewal News*, we are now reaching about twenty thousand readers in almost fifteen thousand homes. That is great! But the significance which each of you bring to this issue is your own personal connection with the history and hopes of Shreveport-Bossier Community Renewal. This involvement and commitment of each of you in the mission of renewal for our cities is the uniquely powerful relationship that we share. I know that you are not just a detached reader of another newsletter. You care about what is happening in demonstrable ways.

I am also excited because this issue breaks the silence of some months. Much has transpired as we have grown and matured as an organization as you can begin to tell by the news inside. And the initiatives that have been launched have increased our scope and reach immeasurably. In good time we will be able to inform each of you of all of the huge strides that have been taken which have been literally breathtaking. We are seeing stunning results in health care, education, and housing as we walk the road to renewal using the SBCR model. The national spotlight is beginning to highlight these profound advances. This will become more and more clear with the unfolding of the next few months.

Our plan for clear communication of all of the growth taking place calls for us to have a quarterly magazine, *Renewal News*. So look for the next issues of *Renewal News* in December, '03 and then in March, June, September, and December of '04.

What a great journey and adventure we are sharing! We are seeing the seeds planted for a new world for our children and grandchildren! Is there any more compelling cause than this? God bless you all!