

Tying Nashville Together

Collection Summary

Title: Tying Nashville Together

Summary: A collection of records, reference material, and training material relating to civic improvement non-profit organization Tying Nashville Together (an affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation) dates between 1991 and 2008.

Physical Description: 33 boxes, 13.55 linear feet

Language: English

Stack Location: TBD

Repository: Metropolitan Government Archives of Nashville-Davidson County, 615 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37219

Historical Note:

Founded in 1993, Tying Nashville Together was a broad-based, citizens' organization made up of primarily religious institutions; however Tying Nashville Together remained strictly non-denominational. Their membership also included civic, neighborhood, and non-profit business associations. Their goal was to work with pre-established networks of people who were willing to organize Nashville-Davidson County. TNT was an affiliate of a larger organization, The Industrial Areas Foundation, founded by Chicago community organizer Saul Alinsky in 1940. Inspired by Upton Sinclair's novel *The Jungle*, Alinsky based his organizing model on the old Chicago stockyards neighborhood.

TNT's platform included creating an after-school program in every council district of Davidson County and creating and funding minimum standards of excellence in all schools equally to ensure a quality education for every child enrolled in the Metro school system. In addition to the after-school program, TNT conducted a series of audits on the Metro public school system, the Metro Transportation Authority, and local neighborhoods outside of downtown Nashville. The results of these audits, included in the acquisition, were turned over to Metro officials and improvements began to materialize throughout Davidson County's lower income communities.

In response to issues pertaining to crime, TNT worked to strengthen the existing community policing programs by establishing a youth-outreach worker project and a Neighborhood Justice Center that mediated neighborhood disputes. TNT sought to broaden economic and racial diversity of Metro neighborhoods by rebuilding and diversifying public housing sites and restructuring the Nashville bus network. Their aim was to speak in the voice of those not yet at the table, to get poor people to the table, to identify issues of importance to the broader community, and to join the self-interest of the community in an organization that could bring about change. TNT believed that a just society means that all people

have ample access to food, clothing, housing, physical integrity and safety, education, employment, healthcare, self-determination in the democratic process, and freedom and power to make decisions that affect one's life.

Scope and Contents of the Collection:

TNT's internal structure consisted of a Leadership Team that focused on long-range planning issues, a Strategy Team that was responsible for producing tremendous turnouts for major actions, and a Research Action Team that focused on new issues while analyzing the power structures in Nashville. All three of these areas are represented individually within the archive. TNT historically focused on four key issues from 1993 until 2008: public education, access to reliable public transportation, affordable housing and public safety, and access to quality healthcare. The audits performed by TNT in particular draw attention to the many obstacles a large majority of the citizens in Metro Nashville face on a daily basis; obstacles such as affordable housing, reliable public transportation, and a public school system that enables all of its students to succeed academically and socially.

Index Terms:

Subjects:

African American social workers.

Alinsky, Saul David, 1909-1972 – Political and social views.

Civic improvement.

Civil rights movements--Tennessee – Nashville – History.

Industrial Areas Foundation.

Social justice – United States – History – 20th century.

Related Collections:

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged into eight series, including administrative records, education, housing, Leadership Team, member organizations, Research Action Team, Strategy Team, and transportation. Series are arranged alphabetically.

The *administrative records* series ranges from 1992 to 2008, and contains extensive information and training materials from TNT's parent organization, The Industrial Areas Foundation, as well as training materials specific to TNT's organization in Metro Nashville. The series contains two theses (subseries *IAF Training Materials* Box: 1, Folder 8 and Box: 2, Folder 1), a valuable reference introducing the IAF and TNT organization to researchers and students.

The *education* series ranges from 1994 to 2008, and contains subseries pertaining to TNT's Delegate Assembly, Project for Neighborhood Aftercare, School Improvement Plan, TNT's audit of the Metro school system (see subseries *School Surveys* Box: 7, Folder 7 and 8), photographs, and a rich trove of newspaper clippings and research material specific to TNT's education platform.

The *housing* series ranges from 1992 to 2008, and contains subseries pertaining to TNT's Neighborhood Justice Center, TNT's housing audit of lower socioeconomic neighborhoods outside of downtown Nashville, a transcript of TNT's public hearing on affordable housing, and newspaper clippings pertaining to the Neighborhood Justice Center and housing platform.

The *Leadership Team* series ranges from 1997 to 2008. The Leadership Team is the executive body of TNT, dealing with personnel, budget, planning, and strategy. This series contains financial records, grant proposals, and meeting minutes.

The *member organizations* series ranges from 1991 to 2008, and contains financial records, correspondence, printed material, and ephemera relating to TNT's network of member organization throughout Davidson County.

The *Research Action Team* series ranges from 1993 to 2008. The Research Action Team (RAT) forms around specific issues (e.g. education, affordable housing, and healthcare). They research problems, turn large problems into specific issues, inform TNT leaders of desired changes, suggest actions to effect change, analyze power structures in Nashville, and plan the public actions. This series contains newspaper clippings, records, and research material pertaining to the English-Only Ordinance, TNT's Election Accountability Night, and the Metro Council elections

The *Strategy Team* series ranges from 1994 to 2009. The Strategy Team is the central decision-making body of TNT. The Strategy Team officially votes on major actions/issues and is responsible for communicating actions/issues within their congregation or organization. This series contains meeting minutes, newspaper clippings, and training materials.

The *transportation* series ranges from 1997 to 2002, and contains TNT's audit of the Metro Transportation Authority, individual MTA rider surveys, a transcript of TNT's public transportation hearing, and newspaper clippings pertaining to TNT's transportation platform.

Contents Listing:

Box 1:

- Folder 1:** Administrative Records--Business Papers
- Folder 2:** Administrative Records--Correspondence
- Folder 3:** Administrative Records--Financial Records
- Folder 4:** Administrative Records--IAF Organizations
- Folder 5:** Administrative Records--IAF Training Records--Financial Records
- Folder 6:** Administrative Records--IAF Training--Miscellaneous
- Folder 7:** Administrative Records--IAF Training Materials (1 of 3)
- Folder 8:** Administrative Records--IAF Training Materials (2 of 3)

Box 2:

- Folder 1:** Administrative Records--IAF Training Materials (3 of 3)
- Folder 2:** Administrative Records--IAF Training Materials--Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 3:** Administrative Records--Internal Meeting Minutes
- Folder 4:** Administrative Records--Media Research (1 of 2)
- Folder 5:** Administrative Records--Media Research (2 of 2)
- Folder 6:** Administrative Records--Miscellaneous

Box 3:

- Folder 1:** Administrative Records--Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 2:** Administrative Records--TNT Accomplishments
- Folder 3:** Administrative Records--TNT By-laws
- Folder 4:** Administrative Records--TNT By-laws (2008 revisions)
- Folder 5:** Administrative Records--TNT Handbook
- Folder 6:** Administrative Records--TNT Newsletter
- Folder 7:** Administrative Records--TNT Orientation Materials
- Folder 8:** Administrative Records--TNT Training Materials (1 of 2)
- Folder 9:** Administrative Records--TNT Training Materials (2 of 2)

Box 4:

- Folder 1:** Education--Correspondence
- Folder 2:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Business Papers
- Folder 3:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Contacts
- Folder 4:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Correspondence
- Folder 5:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Meeting Evaluations
- Folder 6:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Meeting Minutes
- Folder 7:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Miscellaneous
- Folder 8:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 9:** Education--Delegates Assembly--Printed Material

Box 5:

- Folder 1:** Education--Education Research (1 of 2)
- Folder 2:** Education--Education Research (2 of 2)
- Folder 3:** Education--Education Research Action Team
- Folder 4:** Education--Metro Nashville Education Association
- Folder 5:** Education--Metro Nashville Public Schools Report

Box 6:

Folder 1: Education--Miscellaneous

Folder 2: Education--National Center for Health Education: School Health Council Training

Folder 3: Education--Parent Power Initiative

Folder 4: Education--Parental Information

Folder 5: Education--Photos

Folder 6: Education--Policies and Procedures

Folder 7: Education--Project for Neighborhood Aftercare--Correspondence

Folder 8: Education--Project for Neighborhood Aftercare--Newspaper Clippings

Box 7:

Folder 1: Education--Project for Neighborhood Aftercare--Photographs

Folder 2: Education--Project for Neighborhood Aftercare--Policies and Procedures

Folder 3: Education--Project for Neighborhood Aftercare--Reports

Folder 4: Education--Project for Neighborhood Aftercare--Research

Folder 5: Education--School Improvement Plan

Folder 6: Education--School Improvement Plan Terms

Folder 7: Education--School Surveys (1 of 2)

Folder 8: Education--School Surveys (2 of 2)

Box 8:

Folder 1: Education--Special Education

Folder 2: Education--Stand for Children

Folder 3: Education--Strategy Team Meeting Minutes

Folder 4: Education--Student Improvement Plan

Folder 5: Education--Testing

Folder 6: Education --Title One

Box 9:

Folder 1: Housing--Affordable Housing Research

Folder 2: Housing--Citizens' Hearing on Affordable Housing

Folder 3: Housing--Correspondence

Folder 4: Housing--Meeting Minutes

Folder 5: Housing--Metro Property Listings (1 of 2)

Folder 6: Housing--Metro Property Listings (2 of 2)

Folder 7: Housing--Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency

Folder 8: Housing-- Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency--Housing Audit

Box 10:

Folder 1: Housing--Nashville Peace and Justice Center--Organizer Training

Folder 2: Housing--Neighborhood Audit (1 of 3)

Folder 3: Housing--Neighborhood Audit (2 of 3)

Folder 4: Housing--Neighborhood Audit (3 of 3)

Folder 5: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Business Papers

Folder 6: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Correspondence

Folder 7: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Newspaper Clippings

Folder 8: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Program Audit

Folder 9: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Proposal

Box 11:

Folder 1: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Research (1 of 3)

Folder 2: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Research (2 of 3)

Folder 3: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Research (3 of 3)

Folder 4: Housing--Neighborhood Justice Center--Strategic Plan

Folder 5: Housing--Newspaper Clippings

Folder 6: Housing--Personal Papers

Box 12:

Folder 1: Housing--Printed Materials

Folder 2: Housing--Proposals

Folder 3: Housing--Research Action Team

Folder 4: Housing--Section Eight Housing Program

Folder 5: Housing--Surveys

Folder 6: Housing--Trevecca Towers

Box 13:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--5th Anniversary Ad Book Contact List

Folder 2: Leadership Team--5th Anniversary Ad Book Planning Materials

Folder 3: Leadership Team--10th Anniversary Ad Book Planning Materials

Folder 4: Leadership Team--10th Anniversary Ad Book Solicitation Materials

Folder 5: Leadership Team--10th Anniversary Sample Ad Books

Box 14:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--All Leaders Meeting

Folder 2: Leadership Team--Clergy Caucus (1 of 2)

Folder 3: Leadership Team-- Clergy Caucus (2 of 2)

Folder 4: Leadership Team--Correspondence

Folder 5: Leadership Team--Financial Records

Box 15:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--Grant Proposals (A-F)

Folder 2: Leadership Team-- Grant Proposals (G-Q)

Folder 3: Leadership Team-- Grant Proposals (R-Z)

Box 16:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--Grant Proposals--Miscellaneous

Folder 2: Leadership Team--Leadership Academy Project

Folder 3: Leadership Team-- Leadership Academy Project--Student Surveys

Folder 4: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 1998

Folder 5: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 1999

Folder 6: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2000

Folder 7: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2001

Box 17:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2002

Folder 2: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2003

Folder 3: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2004

Folder 4: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2005

Folder 5: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2006

Folder 6: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2007

Box 18:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2008

Folder 2: Leadership Team--Miscellaneous

Folder 3: Leadership Team--TNT By-laws

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Folder 1: Member Organizations--Baha'i Center

Folder 2: Member Organizations--Belle Meade United Methodist Church

Folder 3: Member Organizations--Belmont United Methodist Church

Folder 4: Member Organizations--Blakemore United Methodist Church

Folder 5: Member Organizations--Brookmeade Congregational Church

Folder 6: Member Organizations--Calvary United Methodist Church

Folder 7: Member Organizations--Christ Church Cathedral

Folder 8: Member Organizations--Church of the Assumption

Folder 9: Member Organizations--Church Visitation Campaign

Folder 10: Member Organizations--Cleveland Street Missionary Baptist Church

Folder 11: Member Organizations--Congregation Micah

Folder 12: Member Organizations--Donelson Heights United Methodist Church

Folder 13: Member Organizations--Downtown Presbyterian Church

Box 20:

Folder 1: Member Organizations--East End United Methodist Church

Folder 2: Member Organizations--Eastwood Christian Church

Folder 3: Member Organizations--Edgehill United Methodist Church

Folder 4: Member Organizations--Families of Outreach Unity

Folder 5: Member Organizations--Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church

Folder 6: Member Organizations--First Baptist church: Capitol Hill

Folder 7: Member Organizations--The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville

Folder 8: Member Organizations--Former Member Organizations (1 of 2)

Folder 9: Member Organizations-- Former Member Organizations (2 of 2)

Box 21:

Folder 1: Member Organizations--Franciscan Peace Center

Folder 2: Member Organizations--Glendale Baptist Church

Folder 3: Member Organizations--Glendale United Methodist Church

Folder 4: Member Organizations--Greater Nashville Unitarian

Folder 5: Member Organizations--Green Street Church of Christ

Folder 6: Member Organizations--Greenwood Neighborhood Association

Folder 7: Member Organizations--Hillsboro Presbyterian Church

Folder 8: Member Organizations--Hobson United Methodist Church

Folder 9: Member Organizations--Hope Gardens Residents Association

Folder 10: Member Organizations--Inglewood United Methodist Church

Folder 11: Member Organizations--Lee Chapel AME Church
Folder 12: Member Organizations--Meditation Works
Folder 13: Member Organizations--Membership Forms
Folder 14: Member Organizations--Mental Health Association of Middle Tennessee
Folder 15: Member Organizations--Metropolitan Interdenominational Church
Folder 16: Member Organizations--Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Folder 17: Member Organizations--Muslim American Community Center
Folder 18: Member Organizations--Nancy Webb Kelly United Methodist Church
Folder 19: Member Organizations--Nashville Electric Service
Folder 20: Member Organizations--Nashville Friends Meeting
Folder 21: Member Organizations--Nashville Minority Business Center

Box 22:

Folder 1: Member Organizations--New Vision Baptist Church
Folder 2: Member Organizations--North Nashville Organization for Community Improvement
Folder 3: Member Organizations--Oasis Center
Folder 4: Member Organizations--Organized Neighbors of Edgehill
Folder 5: Member Organizations--Pleasant Green Baptist Church
Folder 6: Member Organizations--Potential Member Organizations
Folder 7: Member Organizations--Residential Resources
Folder 8: Member Organizations--Rutherford County Sponsoring Committee
Folder 9: Member Organizations--Saint Ann Catholic Church
Folder 10: Member Organizations--Saint Anne's Episcopal Church
Folder 11: Member Organizations--Saint Augustine's Chapel
Folder 12: Member Organizations--Saint David's Episcopal
Folder 13: Member Organizations--Saint Edward Catholic Church
Folder 14: Member Organizations--Saint George's Episcopal Church

Box 23:

Folder 1: Member Organizations--Saint Luke Primitive Baptist Church
Folder 2: Member Organizations--Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Folder 3: Member Organizations--Scarritt Bennett Center
Folder 4: Member Organizations--Seay Hubbard United Methodist Church
Folder 5: Member Organizations--Second Presbyterian Church
Folder 6: Member Organizations--Service Employees International Union
Folder 7: Member Organizations--Temple Church
Folder 8: Member Organizations--Temple Ohabai Sholom
Folder 9: Member Organizations--Tennessee Voices for Children
Folder 10: Member Organizations--TNT Member Pledge List
Folder 11: Member Organizations--United Methodist Church
Folder 12: Member Organizations--Urban League of Middle Tennessee

Box 24:

Folder 1: Member Organizations--The Village Church
Folder 2: Member Organizations--Vine Street Christian Church

Folder 3: Member Organizations--West End United Methodist Church
Folder 4: Member Organizations--West Nashville United Methodist Church
Folder 5: Member Organizations--Westwood Baptist Church
Folder 6: Member Organizations--Wilson County Sponsoring Committee
Folder 7: Member Organizations--Y-CAP/Y-WCA

Box 25:

Folder 1: Research Action Team--Campaign for Community Values
Folder 2: Research Action Team--Community Voting Project
Folder 3: Research Action Team--Community Voting Project--Field Training
Folder 4: Research Action Team--Election Accountability Night
Folder 5: Research Action Team--Election Research
Folder 6: Research Action Team--Engineering the Law
Folder 7: Research Action Team--English-Only Ordinance
Folder 8: Research Action Team--English-Only Ordinance Newspaper Clippings

Box 26:

Folder 1: Research Action Team--Fair Immigration Movement
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Folder 3: Research Action Team--Healthcare Initiative Research (1 of 2)
Folder 4: Research Action Team--Healthcare Initiative Research (1 of 2)
Folder 5: Research Action Team--Healthcare Rights Organization
Folder 6: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Candidates Forum (1 of 2)
Folder 7: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Candidates Forum (2 of 2)

Box 27:

Folder 1: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Candidates Forum--
Candidate Responses
Folder 2: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Candidate Report Card
Folder 3: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Correspondence
Folder 4: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Meeting Minutes
Folder 5: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Miscellaneous
Folder 6: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Newspaper Clippings
Folder 7: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Report of Candidate
Responses
Folder 8: Research Action Team--Metro Council Elections--Voter Canvas
Folder 9: Research Action Team--Metro Election Platform--Candidate compact
Folder 10: Research Action Team--NAACP
Folder 11: Research Action Team--Planned Parenthood of Middle and East Tennessee
Folder 12: Research Action Team--Progressive Technologies Project
Folder 13: Research Action Team--Tennessee Alliance for Progress

Box 28:

Folder 1: Strategy Team--Election--Ballots, 2003
Folder 2: Strategy Team--Election--Ballots, 2004
Folder 3: Strategy Team--Election--Nominating Forms, 2003
Folder 4: Strategy Team--Election--Nominating Forms, 2004

Folder 5: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 1994-1995; 1997

Folder 6: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 1998

Folder 7: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 1999

Folder 8: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2000

Box 29:

Folder 1: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes (1 of 2), 2001

Folder 2: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes (2 of 2), 2001

Folder 3: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2002

Folder 4: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2003

Folder 5: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2004

Box 30:

Folder 1: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2005

Folder 2: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2007

Folder 3: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes (1 of 2), 2008

Folder 4: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes (2 of 2), 2008

Folder 5: Strategy Team--Meeting Minutes, 2009

Folder 6: Strategy Team--Miscellaneous

Folder 7: Strategy Team--Newspaper Clippings

Folder 8: Strategy Team--Strategy Team Orientation Packet

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Box 31:

Folder 1: Strategy Team--TNT Staff Meetings

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Folder 1: Transportation--Correspondence

Folder 2: Transportation--Metropolitan Transit Authority Bus Audit

Folder 3: Transportation--Metropolitan Transit Authority Bus Surveys

Folder 4: Transportation--Miscellaneous

Folder 5: Transportation--Nashville Area Long Range Transportation Plan

Folder 6: Transportation--Newspaper Clippings

Folder 7: Transportation--Printed Material

Folder 8: Transportation--Public Transportation Hearing Transcript

Box 33:

Folder 1: Transportation--Report of Metropolitan Transit Authority

Folder 2: Transportation--Research Action Team

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Accruals: No further accruals expected.