

Subject: A Final Word from CCDA's CEO
From: "Christian Community Development Association"
<Ccda16@wildapricot.org>
Sent: 11/3/2018 6:30:56 PM
To: "John Ross" <jpr@gospel-net.com>;



Dear CCDA Family,

Today concludes our 30th National Conference in Chicago, IL. We want to extend our deepest gratitude for sharing this important event with us. There is much to celebrate over these past years but as those who attended our final plenary gathering heard, we also have broken relationships in need of repair.

We recognize the challenging and uncomfortable spaces in which we all sat these past few days. We grieve the pain that many of you are feeling as a result of those spaces, and want to share our steadfast commitment to living out our Christian faith to a reconciled Body of Christ.

As Christian leaders, we believe that a clear path for reconciliation is outlined in the Scriptures and the Board of Directors has been intentionally working to that end without resolution. In addition to seeking out paths to reconciliation, we are dedicated to serving the association with integrity, humility and excellence. We have been and are actively working to reconcile past mistakes and implement new systems and structures to prevent repetition of error.

In full knowledge that there were still emotional wounds in need of healing, the CCDA leadership sought to utilize the CCDA 30th conference to acknowledge, lament and repent of failures on its part in causing these wounds. In addition to having the founding President Wayne Gordon and current Chairwoman, Mayra Nolan publically share at the first plenary session, the leadership wrote and posted [a repentance statement](#) on CCDA's website.

Additionally, many of you expressed concern about one of our speakers

during the final plenary session. CCDA works hard to represent its diverse Christian tent, giving a platform to Christian leaders from various perspectives. As stated in our conference program book:

“Comments from our diverse range of speakers and workshop presenters are their own opinions. While CCDA values a wide variety of expressions, not all expressions and comments represent the position of CCDA.”

We apologize for the distribution of promotional material during the final plenary session. CCDA strictly prohibits the distribution of promotional or informational materials at CCDA events without prior approval from the national office.

As CCDA leadership, we remain committed to reconciliation in all its forms and continue to seek out a path to repair broken relationships. We look forward to growing on this journey together with all of our CCDA family.

Sharing the Journey,

Ava Steaffens, CEO

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ava Steaffens".

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