



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.

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 3:

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 4:

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 5:
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 6:
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 7:
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 8:
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 9:
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 10:
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 11:
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 12:
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 13:
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 14:
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 15:
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 16:

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 17:

Folder 1: Leadership Team--Meeting Minutes, 2008

Folder 2: Leadership Team--Miscellaneous

Folder 3: Leadership Team--TNT By-laws

Box 18:

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 19:

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 20:

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 21:
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 22:
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 23:

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 24:

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 25:

Folder 1: Research Action Team--Fair Immigration Movement
Folder 2: Research Action Team--Founding Convention
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 26:

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 27:
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 28:
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 29:
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
Folder 9: Strategy Team--Strategy Team Packet
Box 30:
Folder 1: Strategy Team--TNT Staff Meetings
Box 31:
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 32:

Folder 1: Transportation--Report of Metropolitan Transit Authority

Folder 2: Transportation--Research Action Team

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Provenance: Tying Nashville Together

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Accruals: No further accruals expected.