

houses that mar our neighborhoods. Over 5000 families already have signed up to begin working on homes.

ACORN members raise most of the funds they need to keep our housing campaign going through their own grassroots efforts: they pay membership dues, they run bake sales, they sell raffle tickets, they sponsor dinners and dances.

But we don't have enough money to expand this program and its benefits to every family that is ready to contribute their time and their sweat to build their home.

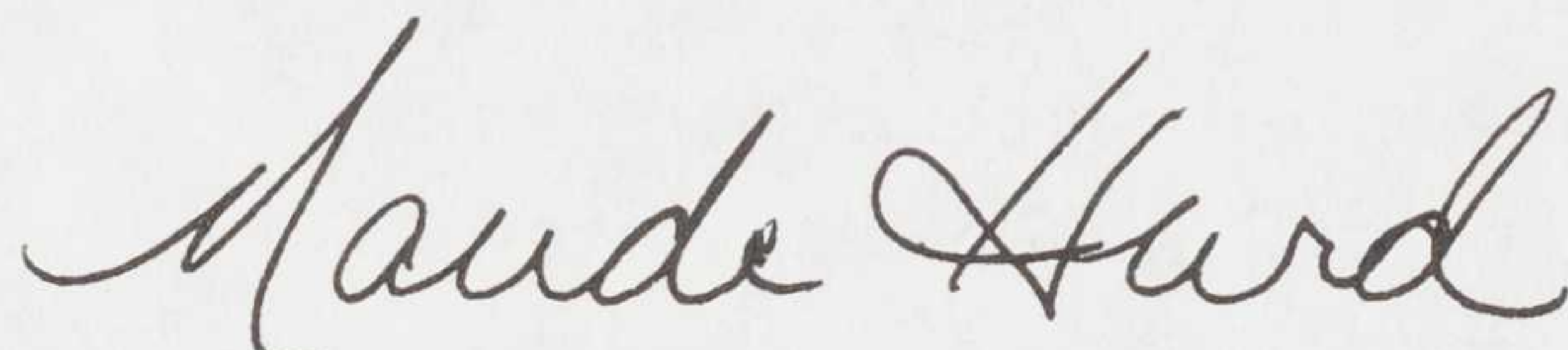
We know that you already give generously to other organizations. But ACORN is probably different from most other organizations you contribute to. ACORN members aren't lobbyists, or lawyers, or other "advocates" for social change -- ACORN members are low-income families who are using their own hands to build their homes and their communities.

Your contribution to our work will help our members even the odds against them, and will give them an opportunity to actually begin solving the problem of homelessness that afflicts our nation.

The elements of a solution are already present: tens of thousands of abandoned houses in most of our big cities, and tens of thousands of poorly housed families who want nothing so much as a chance to turn these vacant shells into real homes.

Our members will make the most of this chance -- they have already proven that by risking arrest to live in a vacant house. With your help, they can start fixing up those houses, and making them into homes.

Sincerely,



Maude Hurd
President, ACORN

P.S. Every day is a struggle for ACORN members who are trying to turn abandoned houses into decent homes for their families. Please don't set this letter aside for a few days -- we need your generous help today.