



BHC-MSS 0151

## Guide to the Records of Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc.

By Meg Rinn

### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc.

**Title:** Records of Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc.

**Dates:** 1985-2003

**Quantity:** 1 manuscript box

**Abstract:** Founded in 1984 by the Jewish Federation of Greater Bridgeport, Council of Churches, and the Dioceses of Bridgeport, the Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc. was an inter-religious organization with an emphasis on addressing the needs of the city, especially with regards to economic equality and social justice.

**Repository:** Bridgeport History Center

### **Biographical History:**

Founded in 1984 by the Jewish Federation of Greater Bridgeport, Council of Churches, and the Dioceses of Bridgeport, the Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc. was an inter-religious organization with an emphasis on addressing the needs of the city. In this way, it was not dissimilar to organizations like the earlier Urban Coalition, and the still in existence Action for Bridgeport Community Development. The organization rooted itself in shared religious values, especially social justice and economic inequality in order to improve the quality of life for residents of the city.

Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc. boasted many victories on its resume. They included being a part of the removal of Mount Trashmore, addressing blight conditions in the city during the late 80s and 1990s, and working on a block-by-block level in the East Side, the Hollow, and the East End in order to encourage revitalization. They also marched against city violence, advocated for gun control, and tried to increase public safety with regards to drug dealing as well.

It is currently unclear when the organization disbanded, but the mid 00s seem to be correct, as some legacy information online states "this has not been updated since 2005."

### **Scope and Content note:**

Material in the collection primarily contains newspaper clippings, handbills and flyers, and some documentation of fundraising and specific programming done by the organization over the years. Also included are the by-laws, providing insight into the administrative function of the group.

### **Arrangement Note:**

Subject files arranged alphabetically

### **Administrative information:**

**Provenance:** Unclear.

### **Preferred Citation:**

Records of Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc. (BHC-MSS 0151), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

### **Names and Subject Tracings**

#### *Corporate names*

Greater Bridgeport Interfaith Action Inc.  
Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport  
Dioceses of Bridgeport  
Jewish Federation of Greater Bridgeport

#### *Subject tracings*

Interfaith organizations  
Social justice  
Economic development  
East End (Bridgeport, Conn.)  
The Hollow (Bridgeport, Conn.)  
East Side (Bridgeport, Conn.)  
Gun control  
Mt. Trashmore (Bridgeport, Conn.)

### **Detailed box and folder listing**

#### Box 1

1. Ad programs, award dinners, other fundraisers, 1997-2003
2. By-laws, 1985-2000
3. Community awards program, 2001
4. Congregational organizing, 2002-2003
5. Events, campaigns, press releases, brochures, 1992-1998
6. Fundraising, 1990-2000
7. Interim community collaborative of Bridgeport empowerment zone, 1994-1996
8. Issues and programs, 1998-2001
9. Remington Woods, 1998
10. Thanksgiving Dinner, 2002
11. [?] Comm, undated