



**Bob Woodson** is Founder and President of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise. Often referred to as the “godfather” of the movement to empower neighborhood-based organizations, for more than four decades, he has promoted the principles of self-help and neighborhood

empowerment and the importance of the institutions of civil society.

In 1981, Mr. Woodson founded the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise (then known as the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise) for the purpose of strengthening and advocating for neighborhood-based organizations struggling to serve their communities. Since its inception, the Center has provided training and capacity-building technical assistance to more than 2,600 leaders of community-based groups in 39 states.

He is the author of *Youth Crime and Urban Policy, A View From the Inner City* (1981), *On the Road to Economic Freedom: An Agenda for Black Progress* (1987), *A Summons to Life, Mediating Structures and the Prevention of Youth Crime* (1988), and *The Triumphs of Joseph: How Today’s Community Healers are Reviving Our Streets and Neighborhoods* (1998, reissued in paperback in 2008). He has also appeared on major network television talk shows including: *Meet the Press*, *Nightline*, and *the Oprah Winfrey Show*.