

voices of cabrini

What's wrong with me moving? What's wrong with me wanting something better? There's absolutely nothing wrong with that. And I'm not gonna move from Cabrini into another area that is just as "bad." I think you all deserve a back yard. I think I deserve a basement. I think we just deserve...a peace...of mind. And we can't get that here. We can't get that here. Even if we were able to have this community stabilized— which it has been for quite some time—it's stabilized to a point where we don't have to worry about crime, violence, or those type of things—we always gonna have that aura over our head of what's gonna happen next? Through government, through private developers. I don't think you all deserve to grow up like that. I think you all just deserve your own.

Mark Pratt, 1999

It's fun when you just wake up in the morning and you look out the window and you could see a lot—just seem like you could just see the whole world.

Trevente Pratt, 1999 (on Cabrini-Green)

It was a beautiful place to live. And people look out for each other children. Someone needed something, oh, so and so, let's just say Mrs. Martin, I'm just callin' her name. Oh, you know, she's not gonna be able to make her rent. Had a house party. We helped her pay that rent. You know, they don't do that anymore.

Cabrini-Green resident, c. 1999