ANNUAL UPDATE
2018

20 Years Strong
The Community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus (Collaborative) has had a rich history of supporting Community Development Corporations (CDCs) in Columbus and Franklin County. The formation of the Collaborative stemmed from a series of meetings between a diverse array of public, private and philanthropic organizations that shared a common goal of supporting community development.

These meetings started as a simple way to share information about the CDCs that these organizations were funding. However, it quickly became clear that by combining resources and working together, the group could have a much stronger impact.

In 1998, the Collaborative was officially formed with the mission of strengthening the capacity of CDCs to develop affordable housing and revitalize distressed communities.

Over the past 20 years, the Collaborative has served as a supporter, convener and connector — proving to be a valuable resource for both its funding partners and CDCs alike. In this time, the Collaborative has directly administered over $7 million in grant funding and capacity development dollars to 18 CDCs in Central Ohio. These CDCs have gone on to create or preserve over 1,000 units of affordable housing.

CDCs that are supported by the Collaborative are often able to access crucial resources that otherwise would be unavailable to them. Over the past 10 years alone, Collaborative CDC grantees accessed over $59 million in housing development subsidy and capital funding.

Beyond helping the CDCs with crucial funding, the Collaborative has held numerous events, trainings and valuable one-on-one consultations. These events and technical assistance enable the CDCs to better develop and maintain partnerships, build organizational capacity and in turn serve as better resources for their communities.

Thank you to the Collaborative’s funding partners, board members and CDCs — both past and present — for helping the Collaborative to thrive these past 20 years. With your support, the Collaborative will continue its legacy of strengthening CDCs in Columbus and Franklin County.
Each year, the Community Development Collaborative for Greater Columbus offers awards to community CDCs and CHDOs in order to assist in their efforts of transforming Columbus’ distressed neighborhoods into vibrant and sustainable communities.

In 2018, we have provided funding for operational costs (salaries/wages, rent/mortgage), accounting, consultants, staff development (training/conferences) and various other indirect fees. Our funding allows them to concentrate on their missions of providing support to their communities in a multitude of ways.

The organizations are required to submit a work plan that details their plans for housing production and community revitalization for the year. 2018 has been quite productive in both areas!

Development of programs in the areas of employment, credit restoration and entrepreneurship are just some of the ways they have strengthened their neighborhoods. These groups have acquired land, rehabbed existing properties and provided supportive living to those in the community who need it most.
Community Development for All People (CD4AP) manages an on-site workforce development program at the Residences at Career Gateway. The program provides tenants and other Southside residents with job training services.

One such resident is Jackie Yarborough, a single mother and former intern at CD4AP. Bill Canonico, CD4AP’s Workforce Development Coordinator at the Residences at Career Gateway, through the workforce development program, provided Ms. Yarborough with career coaching and helped her create a new resume.

In October 2018, after several interviews, Ms. Yarborough was hired as an Ambulatory Patient Access Representative at Nationwide Children’s Hospital’s Linden Primary Care Center.

“Jackie’s positive interviewing skill and consistent follow-through played a big part in the successful outcome of her search” said Mr. Canonico. “I felt welcomed to the start of a dream I have been trying to achieve for a few years, since I knew I wanted to help people in crisis and trauma situations,” said Ms. Yarborough.

“Getting this position was confirmation and having that background help and encouragement from CD4AP... just having people believe in me was confirmation for my future.”
Franklinton Urban Empowerment Lab
FUEL

Franklinton Urban Empowerment Lab (FUEL), with support from CelebrateONE, has launched the Franklinton Financial Life-Skills Program, a series of financial preparation classes targeted to the residents of Franklinton.

The program is unique in that it pays participants an hourly wage of $12.00 to attend six, two-hour long classes, as well as $9.00 an hour for homework allocation. This incentive ties together many of the lessons participants learn and allows them to think more strategically about how to save, spend and plan.

This is the first time FUEL has offered direct programming for residents and it has been a resounding success. In addition, this program has allowed FUEL to connect more directly with residents who need additional resources and assistance.

“This program has created a true dialogue that has been missing in our neighborhood up to this point” said Jack Storey, Executive Director of FUEL. “We are incredibly proud of this program and look forward to continuing it in 2019.” To date, FUEL has assisted over 80 residents and built a word-of-mouth driven waiting list of more than 70 additional residents for 2019.

The organization has successfully rolled out their community resource website at FRANKLINTON.ORG. The site has assisted over 1,000 unique, neighborhood users. They are also working to develop a “Made in Franklinton” site which will include e-commerce for local makers/artists, as well as small business resources in the area.
The event drew over 100 volunteers including Homeport employees, residents and supporters of Milo-Grogan successfully showcasing what can be accomplished when people come together. Since the event, both the area commission and civic association have experienced increased participation from the community and additional projects have been planned, including a volunteer-based community care day.

As appreciation for the work of all the volunteers and supporters, the Milo-Grogan community hosted a dinner for the participants and awarded Homeport a plaque for their service to the community.

Homeport proposed Milo-Grogan as a neighborhood to partner with in 2018 and they had the pleasure of working with the realtors, community organizations, residents, and other stakeholders to make the day a successful event.

Together, they gave back for a day, engaging in service projects such as painting homes, community clean-ups, and general beautification projects. 17 homes received improvements such as painting, weeding, flower planting, and other small maintenance projects, and there was work done on both a local business and a community garden.

In 2018, Homeport completed construction on 3 homes and has another 6 homes under construction.
Gertrude Wood Community Foundation
GWCF

Prospective first-time home buyers face many challenges, including meeting lender approval requirements and managing finances. Gertrude Wood Community Foundation’s (GWCF) 1 Home Program assists individuals who desire to increase their knowledge and understanding of finances, restore their credit and maintain a budget that better serves their daily needs.

The program helps individuals access the best financial information, products and services that specifically promote increasing wealth and improving their economic position. One-on-one coaching, financial literacy classes and motivational sessions serve as the foundation to support prospective buyers in their pursuit of home ownership and stability.

Through their One Street @ a Time program, which focuses on renovation and new construction of abandoned and vacant properties, GWCF is prepared to help in that aspect as well.

“This program helps and teaches me how to maintain my credit,” said Tanika, an enrolled 1 Home Program participant who has recently qualified to purchase a home through One Street @ a Time.

George, a former program participant and current lessee, said, “This program kept me from being homeless.” He is now on track to purchase his leased home within the next few months.

In 2018, GWCF aided several enrolled 1 Home Program participants in increasing their credit score by an average of 75 points, which will help them to qualify for mortgage pre-approval and to purchase newly constructed single-family homes in 2019.

In partnership with the Woda Group, GWCF is preparing to begin construction on The Livingston, a 45-unit senior housing facility located on the site of the former Livingston Theater. An outreach center to be constructed with the building will offer over 1000 square feet of space for services to be accessible to both residents and the greater community.
Aaron Yancey, a 35-year-old single dad, recently purchased a newly renovated home from HOTH. Mr. Yancey and his son were living in a small apartment near the Hollywood Casino and their rent was set to increase. Although his credit wasn’t perfect, he was preapproved for FHA financing.

When he began looking at houses with his realtor, he was disappointed to find that most houses in his price range needed repairs, wouldn’t pass an FHA appraisal, or were purchased by investors before he could even make an offer. When Mr. Yancey found a home recently renovated by HOTH, located on a peaceful cul-de-sac in the same zip code where he currently lived, he couldn’t believe his luck.

As part of their offerings to the community, HOTH holds a HUD-approved Homeownership Education workshop which provides 8 hours of homebuyer education and training, conducted by a housing counselor and industry professionals.

By completing a workshop and getting individual counseling, many clients become eligible for down payment assistance toward the purchase of their first home.

Mr. Yancey met with HOTH housing counselors and was surprised to learn that because he made less than 80% of the area median income, he met qualifications to purchase the home. He completed his homebuyer education with HOTH in August, and in September he purchased his first home, with a mortgage payment $1 less than what he paid in rent for his apartment.

HOTH focuses on rehabilitation and development of housing in the Hilltop area of Columbus. In 2018, they sold 5 houses and have 4 additional units set for completion in 2019.
Integrated Services for Behavioral Health
ISBH

Integrated Services for Behavioral Health (ISBH) began nearly 25 years ago as a behavioral health agency and has grown to include multiple programs to assist with locating and providing housing for senior citizens, youth, homeless, and ex-offenders. ISBH recently began working on the West Side of Columbus, providing health services and developing affordable rental units.

In 2018, ISBH partnered with The Corporation for Supportive Housing to deploy the Community Transition Program (CTP). CTP is funded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and is focused on providing recovery support to individuals exiting prison who have participated in substance use treatment or recovery services during incarceration.

ISBH assists program participants with rapid re-housing by working with local landlords to identify available units as well as by providing affordable rental units developed by ISBH.

The organization is unique in its ability to directly assist program participants with housing and offer additional supportive services to further their recovery. In 2018, ISBH acquired and restored 4 units and plans on developing additional units in the future to assist tenants in moving past barriers to obtain stable housing.

In 2018, ISBH completed renovations of 18,000 sq. ft. of commercial space on West Broad street, which now serves as office space for both their treatment services and affordable housing development staff. With the new space, ISBH was able to hire additional medical and support staff to increase services in the community. ISBH now sees between 300—400 clients per month, providing community health resources, care coordination, counseling, psychiatry and medical-assisted therapy.
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