

2020 ANNUAL UPDATE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATIVE
OF GREATER COLUMBUS

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS
AND COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATIONS TO DEVELOP AFFORDABLE
HOUSING AND REVITALIZE DISTRESSED
COMMUNITIES.



FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STEVEN D. GLADMAN

With masks on and sanitizer at the ready, CDCs played a special role in the COVID-19 pandemic. For CDCs accustomed to working with their hands within their neighborhoods, changes were necessary and swift. Working remotely, They were able to overcome technological bumps in the road to maintain contact with their residents.

Since 1998, the Community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus (Collaborative or CDCGC) has invested in community development corporations (CDCs) and community housing development organizations (CHDOs). The Collaborative provides funding and technical assistance, allowing CDCs and CHDOs to address the needs of their neighborhoods with regards to housing development and community engagement.

In 2020, despite lockdowns and curfews, houses were constructed and activities were held. Many of the programs centered around resource connections, voting, financial counseling and educational assistance, further showcasing the strength and determination of the organizations to help in any way they can.

Thank you to the organizations for their unwavering dedication to their communities. Thank you to our Board members and funding partners for continuing to believe in and support the Collaborative's mission to revive and restore neighborhoods in the City of Columbus and Franklin County.

HOUSING PRODUCTION

Through the combined efforts of all our grantees, 5 housing units were sold and 8 units were rented.

A total of 135 housing units were under development, in contract or on the market by the end of 2020. These numbers reflect a substantial increase in quality affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families.



CONNECT STRENGTHEN SUSTAIN

"The Community [Development] Collaborative of Greater Columbus (CDCGC) has been an incredible partner with Community Development for All People (CD4AP). They have supported Community Development from the beginning when they began their first housing venture, a rehab, until the present. This grant provides the salary support for a housing specialist who serves Community Development for All People (CD4AP) with all the housing programming and planning. From that small beginning of one house, CD4AP now has completed more than \$100 million in housing."

~CD4AP

"The Operating Support and Housing Development Grant Program, traditionally the only operational grant funds FDA receives, plays an incredibly important role in stabilizing the overall sustainability of the organization. As a small organization, the ebbs and flows of project-based funding can cause significant administrative and financial burdens. This grant has served as a steady stabilizing factor in allowing this organization to continue do the work that we have done to support the community of Franklinton over our 27-year history." ~FDA

"The funding has allowed the organization to provide below market value housing, affordable housing to include individual buyers' design/input, infusion of mixed income community residents and armed seniors with greater knowledge of maintaining organization in their new apartments and an awareness of Medicare/Medicaid programs." ~GWCF

"Funding supported Homeport's work with residents to provide targeted service coordination, specifically to residents in the Linden Community, and financial education and counseling. Additionally, the funding covered staff expenses for community outreach and development project delivery. All of this work could have been negatively impact by the pandemic. The consistent funding provided by the grant allowed Homeport to continue operations through this transition and directly serve the community." ~Homeport

"The grant provided the resources for Homes on the Hill CDC to continue providing affordable new and rehabbed single-family homeownership and rental opportunities throughout the southwestern portion of Franklin County." ~HOTH

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

Community
Development

for

All People



- ID's for All is a program designed to improve quality of life for residents by assisting them in obtaining the necessary documents for full access to housing, employment, resources, financial and educational opportunities. During the pandemic, CD4AP helped over 100 people!
- Adapting to the needs of their neighborhood, CD4AP transitioned their after school program into full day Learning Extension Centers. Their efforts resulted in a daily roster of 44 students and an 85% overall attendance rate! The end of 2020 brought collaborative services to the Learning Extension Centers, as CareSource partnered with the program to provide 75 coats for scholars and their families, as well as free immunizations.
- As a positive response to the South Side's extremely high rates of infant mortality, CD4AP began their "First Birthdays" program which, in 2020, expanded into what is now called "Thrive to Five." The program offers comprehensive services to young families to ensure that babies are born healthy, grow to celebrate a first birthday and continue to thrive to age 5, arriving at kindergarten developmentally ready to excel in school. In November, Thrive to 5 held their quarterly First Birthday Party and Fall Festival (To Go), providing food, activities, giveaways, and community resources to 35 families and 63 children under 5. They've also partnered with OSU Extension Franklin County SNAP Education, the Ohio Poison Control Center and Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) at Nationwide Children's Hospital to hold virtual classes. The program holds monthly Sister Circle discussion groups and has begun a monthly gift card drawing for participants who keep their children's well-child appointments and immunizations up to date. In December they held several events including the Free Store Christmas Shop, an immunization clinic, and a coat giveaway. CD4AP provided toys and clothes to over 100 children, completed 14 vaccinations and distributed 46 brand-new coats to Thrive to 5 families.
- Community Development for All People was given the opportunity to participate in the Cleaner Columbus Employment Initiative. Their plan was then offered to additional non-profits which benefitted communities and neighborhoods throughout the city.

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION



FRANKLINTON DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

HOUSING – EDUCATION – ADVOCACY

- FDA continued their Financial Life Skills program by transitioning to Zoom classes with two partner organizations, The Refuge (residential drug/alcohol recovery) and Lower Lights Ministries (criminal re-entry housing program), and one cohort made up of community members. They were also able to continue including guest speakers in their virtual classes from Huntington Bank, Chase Bank, First Merchant Bank, Legal Aid Society of Columbus, Economic & Community Development Institute, Columbus Works and Next Step Business Consulting. There were 59 graduates in 2020!
- Expanding upon the success of their websites, Franklinton.org and HilltopUSA.org, FDA acted quickly by adding COVID-19 specific resource pages which alone have had over 3,000 views! Overall web traffic increased in 2020 with over 36,000 views! They also expanded their social media presence in order to complement and more widely disseminate the information on the websites. Throughout 2020, they shared over 300 posts, reaching about 700 people per post. Their weekly posts listing free food offerings on the Westside average between 2,500-3,000 views each week with one post reaching over 4,000 people! Their COVID-19 related posts on Facebook have reached over 87,000 people and had more than 600 shares by partnering organizations and community members!
- FDA hosted their first virtual Franklinton Job Fair in 2020, developing graphics, videos, and flyers with the help of 13 participating agencies. Partnering with Clean Turn, Columbus Works, Ohio Poverty Law Center, Ohio Means Jobs CFC, Franklin County Public Health, Fortuity, IMPACT Community Action, Columbus Metropolitan Library's Job Help Center, Columbus Building Trades, Columbus Urban League, Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, Hilltop YMCA, and National Center for Urban Scholars, they reached over 3,600 people.
- FDA considered the needs of all of their residents by also launching the "Franklinton Newsletter". The four page Newsletter highlights resources and events listed on Franklinton.org and includes the monthly calendar of events on the last page.



COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

- Financial empowerment was a central focus for Gertrude Wood Community Foundation in 2020. GWCF updated their website and converted their workshop into a resource guide which included links to partner sites with information that participants would receive in an in-person setting. They also made hard copies available which contain information on budgeting, credit, savings, community services and much more! They also held a Community Housing & Wellness Fair, a mini drive-thru event held to distribute school supplies and the financial information packets while residents safely remained in their cars



- GWCF in partnership with Lifecare Alliance, the provider of supportive services at The Livingston (a senior apartment community), gave residents the opportunity to safely gather in the community room and, while abiding by social distancing requirements, increase their knowledge of finance, home maintenance and community involvement.



homeport

- Homeport planned and hosted a volunteer event to improve the outdoor recreation space for residents, remodeling the Emerald Glen playground.
 - Through their Financial Capabilities program, Homeport's Housing Advisory Services team has provided 124 distinct services to individuals and families living in the Linden area. Services include financial education, home purchase counseling and mortgage assistance. Their Resident Services team has made 102 service connections for residents, including financial/rent assistance, food access, and medical referrals.
- Taking time from their housing production, HOTH distributed about 150 voter safety kits to residents in the Hilltop neighborhood. The kits were provided by the Greater Hilltop Area Shalom Zone and contained a mask, hand sanitizer, and an absentee ballot application.



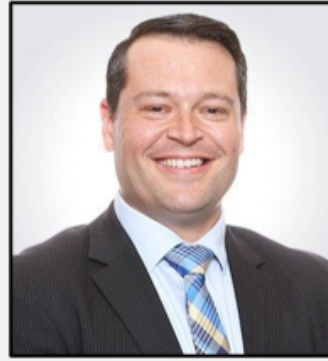
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