



The Northside Voice



Homeownership Takes Flight in The Northside

The first quarter of 2022 has been impactful when considering one of The Northside Development Group's key goals with this initiative- homeownership. NDG continues to work in collaboration with partners such as Habitat for Humanity, Oak and Ave., Homes of Hope, Rick Quinn, and James White Enterprises to help individuals and families realize their dream of becoming homeowners. In January of 2022, Tony Thomas, the Community Engagement Coordinator with NDG, closed on his home at 258 East Fremont Ave. Subsequently, four families worked with Oak and Ave., a community development partner, to reserve their homes on March 16, 2022. A groundbreaking ceremony was held at Harvest Park in honor of their achievement. To close out the list, Habitat for Humanity sponsored a groundbreaking ceremony for Mrs Katrina Gray and her family on April 1, 2022. When asked to share her thoughts on the importance of homeownership, Mrs. Gray stated, "working with Habitat for Humanity and putting in sweat equity to build my home gives me a real sense of ownership and pride in knowing that this is my home". The Northside Development Group has a pipeline to homeownership that has seen continued growth, as more and more residents in and around the Northside community are seeking the opportunity to realize the American dream.

CLEVELAND ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP

SAVINGS FOR SUCCESS!



Savings for Success!

For the past three years many students at Cleveland Academy of Leadership have been enrolled in the “Saving for Success” program which is a powerful vehicle that allows students to learn the importance of saving on a regular basis for future opportunities. Students who participate have their donations matched dollar for dollar up to \$100 each month. In March of 2022, the Cleveland Opportunity Foundation sponsored “March Match” which saw the creation of 10 new accounts opened by kindergarteners and 44 students made \$3,791.87 in deposits—a significant improvement since the start of the program. The mission of the Cleveland Opportunity Foundation, which consist of educators and community residents, is to ensure students have access to high quality academic and extra-curricular programs that ensure students reach their highest potential and become successful and productive members of our community. The Saving for Success program is modeled after similar programs operating at Pine St. Elementary and Meeting Street Academy. For more information about this program, please contact Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Evans at (864) 594-4444, or meevans@spartan7.org. You can also visit the website: <http://cleveland.spartanburg7.org>.

TRANSFORM, TRANSCEND AND TRIUMPH



Voyager Spotlight!

Joy Downing is in the Voyager spotlight for the first quarter of 2022. Joy is a long-term resident of the Northside community and has served as a Northside Voyager for 8 years. In September of 2021 Joy joined the team at The Bridge Outreach Center as a Financial Stability Counselor. In that role, Joy assists local residents in obtaining critical resources required for stability including rent and utility assistance as well as COVID 19 relief. As a 2013 graduate of the Butterfly Foundation Culinary program, Joy loves to prepare healthy meals for her family and friends, but her most enjoyable moments are spent entertaining her children. Joy's work ethic is "reaching as many people as I can in order to change one life at a time". We salute Joy Downing in our Voyager Spotlight for her passion, advocacy, and service to the community!



Hub City Farmers Market



Hub City Farmers Market Opening Season- Harvest Park

Saturday April 2, 2022, marked the beginning of the Hub City Farmers Market Spring season at Harvest Park. The staff of The Northside Development Group was there to “ring the bell” to get things started. The HCFM operates April - December with live entertainment, kid’s activities, and food trucks to enjoy while patrons shop for locally sourced produce, meats, and crafts. Sign up for the SNAP matching program and receive an additional \$1 for every \$1 you spend up to \$40! When you spend \$5 with your SNAP card, you can receive an additional \$10 in **HEALTHY BUCKS** (distributed at the HCFM booth) to spend on fruits and vegetables. Don’t forget- The Mobile Market makes over 400+ stops per year across Spartanburg County at a variety of neighborhoods, businesses, community centers, and schools.



For more information about the market or to schedule a stop, contact Heather Raines at (864) 580-0341 or hraines@hubcityfm.org.

RESIDENT SUCCESS



Former Oakview Apartments Resident Returns to the Northside

The possibility of homeownership has not eluded Ms. Kadija Byrd! Ms. Byrd, who is a former resident of Oakview Apartments, has returned to the Northside community after four years and now resides in a remodeled home that she hopes to purchase in the future. Kadija is the beneficiary of a lead abatement grant program, offered by the city of Spartanburg, which requires the removal of lead in homes throughout the city then allows residents with children under the age of 5 years to qualify for them. The Northside Development Group staff worked diligently with the city of Spartanburg and Spartanburg Housing to assist Ms. Byrd in the acquisition of the home located at 248 East Fremont Ave. These efforts were made to ensure that those residents who left the community during the early phases of the re-development would have priority to return. This is another example of how NDG is working, in partnership, to improve the quality of life for the residents we serve. We congratulate Ms. Byrd as she and her family now have a house to call home.

COMMUNITY HEALTH



Community Health Worker Engages with Senior Residents

Gigail Petty recently joined the staff of The Northside Development Group as the Community Health Worker and has hit the ground running! A critical part of the work she does is to engage with senior residents on those health determinants that affect their quality of life. Mrs. Petty meets with 50+ seniors at the Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center monthly to connect them with resources related to health such as Community Long Term Care, SNAP, Access Health, Elite Senior Care, Spartanburg Housing, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Food Share. In her assessment of community needs, Gigail has implemented monthly health initiatives where the focus is on topics like heart health, kidney disease, obesity, and hypertension with the hope that seniors will utilize the information and resources to improve their lives. Through sharing with the community, Mrs. Petty has found creative ways to engage our senior population through game playing and other fun activities. To learn more, you can contact Mrs. Petty at (864) 598-0097, ext.7 or gigail@spartanburgndg.com.



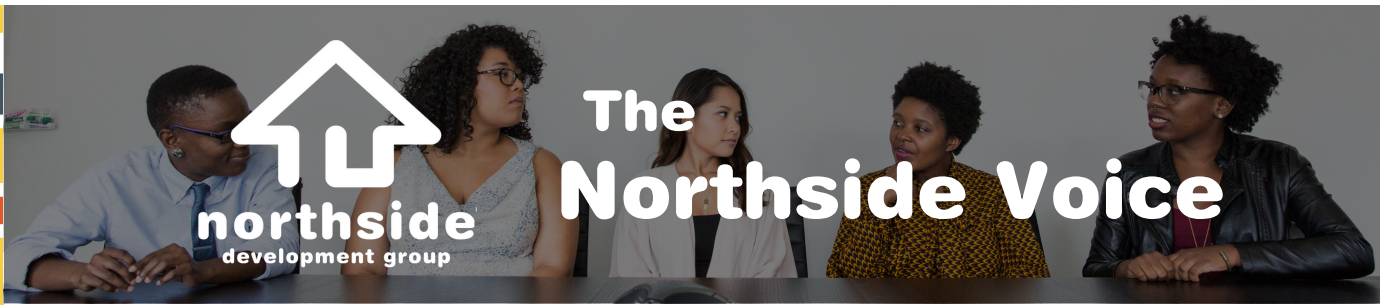
ANNOUNCEMENTS

NDG Receives 150k Grant from TD Bank Charitable Foundation

The Northside Development Group is one of 33 organizations selected to receive a Housing for Everyone grant from the TD Charitable Foundation in March of this year. The 150k grant awarded to NDG will be used to support tenant housing stabilization efforts in the Northside community. The Tenant Education and Support Program and The Landlord Insurance Program are designed to educate tenants, considered to be high risk, on the skills required to be successful tenants. Tenants who complete the program will be eligible to rent from participating landlords in the Northside regardless of past issues with credit or evictions. It is contributions like these that enables NDG with the ability to continue its support of families and individuals with critical resources needed for community stabilization.

HCFM: Summer Internship Program Accepting Applications

The Hub City Farmers Market is now accepting applications for its Summer Internship Program for Youth. The 8-week program is for students ages 14-17 and focuses on youth empowerment through meaningful farm work (Urban Farm) and community-oriented workshops. Participants will be held to high, but realistic standards that prepares them for life after high school. Workshops will focus on: Financial Literacy, Health and Wellness, Diversity and Equity, Mindfulness, College and Career Readiness, and Food Access and Sustainable Agriculture. The program runs from June 14th- August 6th. Crew members receive \$8 an hour and a uniform is provided and required daily. Apply online at www.HubCityFM.org/Youth-Farm or email Raven Logan at RLogan@HubCityFM.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Voyager Conversation Series

June 7th 6pm until 7:30pm
at the Northside Development Group Office.
501 Howard St. Suite A

ULI South Carolina Northside Initiative Symposium

Jun 9, 2022
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center
650 Howard St. Spartanburg, SC 29303
[Register Here](#)

2022 Spartanburg Senior Farmers Market Voucher Schedule

June 13th 10am to 1pm at Archibald Rutledge Apartments
June 15th 10am to 1pm at Northside Harvest Park
June 16th 10am to 1pm at Thornton Community Center

Habitat for Humanity Wall Raising

June 7th 8:30am at 535 Brawley Street
Parking available at Grace Church, 570 Farley Street