



DRUID HEIGHTS
Community
Development
Corporation

Our Mission is to cause, encourage
and promote community
self-empowerment through the development
of economic, educational, employment
and affordable housing opportunities.

DRUID HEIGHTS

Trumpet

AND NEWSLETTER

Quarter 3/2024



Druid Heights Community Development Corporation / 2140 McCulloh Street / Baltimore, MD 21217 / 410-523-1350

Edition 2

DRUID HEIGHTS Spotlight



In our efforts to recognize individuals making an outstanding contribution to the community, The Druid Heights Trumpet and Newsletter salute Black Voters. Letter from Maya Angelou provided by Washington Free Beacon Staff 2012. "I am not writing to you as a black voter, or a woman voter, or as a voter who is over 70 years old and six feet tall. I am writing to you as a representative of this great country -- as an American. It is your job to vote. It is your responsibility, your right, and your privilege. You may be pretty or plain, heavy or thin, gay or straight, poor or rich. But remember this: In an election, every voice is equally powerful -- don't underestimate your vote. Voting is the great equalizer.

Your vote might make the difference. Don't fool around with this -- get the information you need to vote in this election. As a country, we can scarcely perceive

the magnitude of our progress. My grandmother and my uncle experienced circumstances that would break your heart. When they went to vote, they were asked impossible questions like, "How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?" When they couldn't answer, they couldn't vote.

I once debated with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. about whether an African American would ever be elected president. He believed it would happen within the next 40 years at the time -- I believed it would never happen within my lifetime. I have never been happier to have been proven wrong. And since President Barack Obama's historic election, we've moved forward in courageous and beautiful ways. More students can afford college, and more families have access to affordable health insurance. Women have greater opportunities to get equal pay for equal work.

Yet as Rev. King wrote, "All progress is precarious." So don't sit on the sidelines. Don't hesitate. Don't have any regrets. Vote. Go, rise up, and find out what you need to do to vote and ask your friends to join you. We must make our voices heard: "Your vote is not only important. It's imperative."

Executive Director's Corner

JohnDre Jennings

Greetings to our community residents, stakeholders, and friends of Druid Heights Community Development Corporation (DHCDC). On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we welcome you to the Spring edition of Druid Heights Trumpet and Newsletter. As we celebrate our 50th year of service, we continue to press forward. I'm excited to continue serving with the Druid Heights team and look forward to continuing to connect with residents and community members throughout the Druid Heights community.

We welcome the Fall to our Druid Heights community! We are continuing to move forward with purpose in our 50th year of serving the community! This year we continue to move with the spirit of servitude, sharing resources and services throughout the summer months. DHCDC continues to connect with our residents through our departments which include Community Outreach, ReEntry Program, Housing Counseling, and Real Estate Development. Through these programs and services, DHCDC strengthens our community in Druid Heights neighborhood and beyond!

During the past months, DHCDC has been able to partner with community stakeholders to assist with providing summer programming to our youth and families! We have partnered with several organizations which include Youth Clean & Green Team, Baltimore Civic Works, PNC Bank Baltimore Community Foundation and Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods. Through partnerships, DHCDC continues to engage our youth in our Druid Heights After School Program. The youth programs include Health & Wellness, Druid Heights STEAM Academy, and Youth Clean & Green Team. DHCDC is also able to continue supporting individuals who are working to return to society. Through our ReEntry Program, DHCDC can partner and connect with stakeholders to continue providing workforce development and life skills training to over thirty-five (35) individuals.

DHCDC continues to build homes through our Bakers View Homeownership Development Project. We were excited to celebrate the continued Bakers View Homeownership Development Project! The Bakers View Project focuses on affordable homeownership within the Druid Heights community. While we are providing homeownership opportunities, DHCDC is also able to create sustainable partnerships to provide housing counseling support for families. DHCDC continues to serve individuals as a HUD Certified Agency, serving over 400 individuals every year. The Housing Counseling Team connects with our community members through our First Time Homebuyer Workshops, One-on-One Counseling, Reverse Mortgage, and Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF). Through these programs and services, DHCDC can assist families who want to purchase, maintain, and sustain their homes in Baltimore City.

As we move forward during this year, DHCDC will continue to empower our residents by creating long-lasting community partnerships, providing equitable community development practices, and creating sustainable outreach efforts within the Druid Heights community. We hope that you enjoy reading about the programs, projects, and services that we will continue to offer to our community residents in Druid Heights and the greater Baltimore community. As always we look forward to seeing you in the Druid Heights neighborhood!

Yours in Service,
JohnDre Jennings

Upcoming 2024 Community Meetings

Saturday, October 26th
Saturday, November 23rd
Saturday, December 21st
Saturday, January 25th
All meetings begin at 1pm

First-Time Home Buyers Classes

Saturday, October 12th
Saturday, November 2nd
Saturday, December 7th
Saturday, January 11th
All classes are from 9am-4pm
Call in Advance to Reserve a seat.

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Druid Heights ReEntry Program Men's Wrap Sessions

On average, our program serves 50 returning citizens annually. As re-entry is a lifelong process, our program maintains ongoing connections with participants at various stages of their transition. One of the key highlights of our program is Men's Rap, a support group that offers participants the opportunity to talk with each other. Open to men and women, the group invites everyone from recovering addicts to exoffenders that have changed their lives and working toward being productive members of society to offer support, encouragement and motivation to live healthy lifestyles. Men's Rap meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6-8 pm at the CDC.

For more information contact Andre Fisher - afisher2@druidheights.com



Druid Heights CDC's Housing Counselors "On The Move"

Druid Heights CDC's Housing Counseling program offers counseling in financial planning, pre – and post-purchase, default and delinquency prevention, predatory lending, HECM (Reverse Mortgage) and other aspects of homeownership and tenancy. Additionally, it works collaboratively with public and private financial programs to ensure proper financing for eligible participants. Druid Heights CDC's Housing Counseling Team participated in several outreach opportunities which included Baltimore Black Homeownership Forum which took place at Coppin University University and Dorothy Heights Elementary School's Back To School Event. Special Thanks to Isabel Antreasian Community Schools Coordinator (Dorothy Heights Elementary).



Little Bears Den Graduation

Congrats to the graduates at Little Bears Den Learning Center! Little Bears Den has been a partner with Druid Heights Community Development Corporation for over 20 years! Special Thanks to Mrs. Favia Hicks, Tachaia Haughton and Amber Washington.

For more information please contact Little Bears Den Learning Center at 410-669-2480.



The Baltimore Black Homeownership Forum took place during June in celebration of Homeownership Month. The goal was to inform, educate and strategize with prospective homebuyers. Special Thanks to Druid Heights CDC's Housing Counseling Team- Chloe Williams, Candace Rice, Debbie Horsey and Pat Hull. Special Thanks to PNC, Will Hendrix-Griffin, Heather Lyle Dawn Devine-Price, Roderick Hirsch, Adrian Wilcox, Live Baltimore, Kareema Pinder (NHS), Exit Spivey, Professional Realty, Coppin State University President Anthony L. Jenkins, Druid Height Community Development Corporation, Inc. (Chloe Williams).



Druid Heights Summer Fun Camp

Druid Heights CDC is committed to providing out of school time services for our youth in the community. This commitment is even more important in the summer months when our youth has extended out of school time. For the past 25+ years Druid Heights CDC has provided a safe space for children and teens to ensure a safe and fun summer.

This year Druid Heights CDC was able to continue our Summer Fun Camp in partnership with St. Peter Claver Church. Druid Heights CDC served over 75 summer campers and youth workers! This year our youth enjoyed several trips, including swimming at Druid Hill Park, SkyZone, and Wonderfly Arena. Special THANK YOU to Y.E.S. Club, Art With a Heart, Minister's Conference Cradle To Career, Hardware Plus, Mr. & Mrs. Bush, Leading Ladies Program (LaKiesha White) and Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Employment Development. Special thank you to all the parents and community members who shared and showed love during our summer camp. We look forward to seeing our youth on next summer.



2024 Annual Druid Heights Back-To-School Event

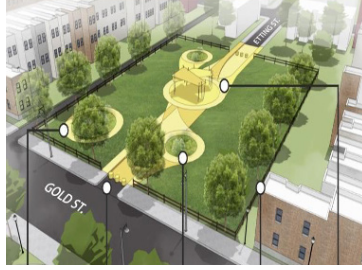
Each year the Druid Heights provides bookbags and school supplies for over 100 students in the community. August 24, 2024, Druid Heights CDC held its Annual National Back-To School Event. We were honored to have special guests which included Police Commissioner Richard Worley, elected officials, and our families to engage with the Western District.. Special Thanks to Baltimore City Mayor's Office, Councilman Torrence, Councilman Costello and Western District and Police Commissioner Richard Worley.



•• WHAT'S NEWS IN THE HEIGHTS! ••

Druid Heights Etting Street Greenspace

The Etting Street Greenspace project focuses on reducing inland flood and nonpoint pollution in an area that has been seeing an increase in economic investment. The city-owned lots on both sides of this block (totaling approximately 27,773 square feet) have been impacted by repeated dumping by residential and commercial contractors. This has increased the amount of inflood flooding, along with an increase in suspended solids, nitrogen, phosphorus, and heavy metals in the Jones Falls watershed due to dumping. This project recreates this space as a pedestrian-only space in order to provide a long-term green space to help encourage economic investment in this area of West Baltimore. Special Thanks to Chesapeake Bay Trust, Department of Natural Resources and Mayor's Office of Recovery (ARPA).



Druid Heights CDC's Annual Health Fair

Druid Heights Community Development Corporation is pleased to partner with the Baltimore City Health Department for our Annual Health Fair. This year DHCDC's Health Fair will be expanding our reach to better serve the residents of Druid Heights and surrounding communities. This collaboration is important as we continue to promote positive health and the well being of our residents in the Druid Heights community and Baltimore City at large. We would like to extend a special thank you to our partners Baltimore City Health Department, B'more for Healthy Babies.



Thank You!

- Residents of Druid Heights
- Mrs. Charlotte Tires, Community Volunteer
- Mayor Brandon Scott,
- Council President Nick Mosby City Council
- Senator Antonio Hayes, Maryland's 40th District
- Congressman Kweisi Mfume, 7th Congressional District
- Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development
- Baltimore City Department of Planning
- Commissioner Alice Kennedy, Dept. of Housing
- Councilman Eric Costello, 7th District
- Councilman James Torrence, 11th District
- Comptroller Bill Henry
- Jason Johnson, Black Wall Street Charm City
- Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin
- Ms. Delores Banks, Baltimore Public Schools Home and Hospital Care program
- Mr. Deitrick Goodwin, Piano Instructor
- Mr. Lee, After School Tutor
- Sarah Forsett, Aziza Peace
- Mr. Edward Lewis, Owner, Hardware Plus
- Fulton Bank
- The Furniture Bank
- Charles Lee
- Patterson Ashbury A.M.E. Church
- St. Peter Claver Pius V. Roman Catholic Church
- St. Martins Church of Christ
- Morgan State University
- Volunteers Un-tap
- District Court of Baltimore Office Community Service
- Whole Food Market
- Walmart Store
- QVC
- Behavioral Health Inc.
- Ms. Kimberly Knox, Baltimore City Green Coordinator
- Ms. Renata Southard, City Planner
- National Wildlife Federation
- Dept. of Natural Resources
- Moms on Demand
- Tree-House Project
- Ms. Ashley Jeffries, Girls Scouts of America
- Mr. Eugene Tilghman
- Wells Fargo
- George Mason Mortgage
- NeighborWorks
- Baltimore Community Foundation
- PNC Bank
- Verizon Foundation
- New Baltimore Contractors, LLC
- P&J Contracting Co. Inc.
- C.L. Myles Contracting
- Shante Colbert & Family
- Chesapeake Bay Trust
- University of Maryland
- -Coppin State University
- -Roberta's House (A Family Grief Support Center)
- Total Health Care
- Ascension Saint Agnes
- American Heart Association
- Chase Braxton Health Care
- Light Health & Wellness
- BTST Cares
- Lori's Hands (Community Health Service Learning)
- Minister's Conference Empowerment Center CDC

Bakers View

TOWNHOMES

Starting at
\$199,999

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CONTACT US TODAY

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