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 2/2026



Druid Heights Community Development Corporation / 2140 McCulloh Street / Baltimore, MD 21217 / 410-523-1350 Edition 2, Fall

Continuing to Serve 50 Years & Beyond!

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

Dr. 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 the purpose 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, Green & Healthy Homes 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,
Dr. JohnDre Jennings

Upcoming 2026 Community Meetings

Saturday, October 24th
Saturday, November 21st
Saturday, December 21st
Saturday, January 25th

All meetings begin at 1pm

First-Time Home Buyers Classes

November 4th & 5th
December 2nd & 3rd
January 6th & 7th
February 3rd and 4th

All classes are Wednesday& Thursday from 5pm-8pm
Call in Advance to Reserve your seat.

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Devan Southerland - Co-Editor

Dr. JohnDre Jennings
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Druid Heights' ReEntry Program Environmental Stewardship Program



Druid Heights CDC is excited to continue our Environmental Stewardship Program! Our GreenTeam is already out in the community, rolling up their sleeves and making a visible difference-cleaning up streets, restoring green spaces, and helping create a healthier environment for everyone. We're proud of this cohort for taking action and leading by example This program is funded through partnership with Green & Healthy Homes.

For more information please email:
info@druidheights.com

Archway Homeownership Development Groundbreaking



On the morning of July 21, 2026, at the corner of Druid Hill & Gold Street, the community witnessed the groundbreaking for the Archway Homeownership Development project! For the event, speakers included Commissioner Tim Keane (Baltimore DHCD), Director Renata Southard (Baltimore Planning), Assistant Director Larry Brown (Maryland DHCD), Councilman James Torrence, Delegate Elect Tiffany Welch and Mrs. Jacquelyn Cornish (Founder). The guest speakers spoke about the importance of the Archway Development project in the West Baltimore Community. We would like to extend a special thank you to Blackrock Development, Pan Services Architect Group, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Neighborhood Impact Investment Fund.

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, (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.



Throughout the year Druid Heights CDC's Housing Counseling Team participated in several outreach opportunities which included Baltimore Black Homeownership Forum which took place at Coppin University and Keys to the City: Homeownership Showcase. The team also participated in the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Housing Counseling Quarterly Meeting.

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. Katherine's Of Alexandria Episcopal Church. Druid Heights CDC served over 70 summer campers and youth workers! This year our youth enjoyed several trips, including swimming at Druid Hill Park, and Wonderfly Arena. Special THANK YOU to Art With a Heart, Hardware Plus, Y.E.S. Program, Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Employment Development, Luv Lots, Black Alfalfa photography, Urban Vocals Studio and St. Katherine's Of Alexandria Episcopal Church, Baltimore City Department of Housing. 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 next summer.

Druid Heights Fall Community Cleanup



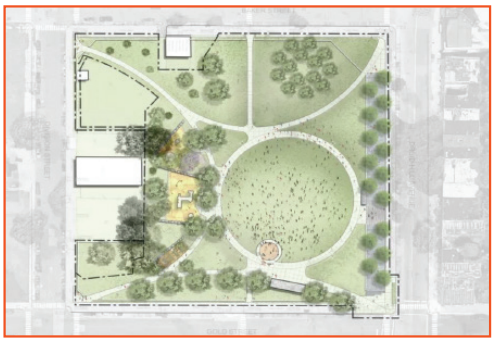


Druid Heights Community Development Corporation had our Annual Fall community clean up on October 24, 2026. This was in partnership with Councilman James Torrence, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. Baltimore Alumni Chapter, National Wildlife and community residents. The Fall Cleanup had over 50 volunteers participating in spruce up efforts for our green space which included Nature Play Space, Archway Park and the key blocks in the neighborhood. Special Thanks to the Clean Corps and Department of Public Works (DPW)! If you are interested in working with our Green Thumb Club please contact Tavon Benson in our Outreach Department at tbenson@druidheights.com

•• WHAT'S THE NEWS IN THE HEIGHTS?! ••

Cab Calloway Legends Park

We are excited to announce the construction of the Cab Calloway Legends Park. Druid Heights Community Development Corporation partnered with Baltimore City Recreation and Park to create a new community park in the Druid Heights community. The park is expected to be complete by Spring 2027.



Picture credit - Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architects





Thank You!

- Senator Larry Young
- National Action Network
- 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

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To Register

CALL 410.523.1350

Or Email cwilliams@druidheights.com

DRUID HEIGHTS
Community Development Corporation
www.druidheights.com

FIRST WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY MONTHLY

5:30PM TO 8:30PM
ZOOM MEETING
JOINING AFTER 5:45 MAY REQUIRE RESCHEDULING

FREE WORKSHOP
LEARN ABOUT GRANTS, FINANCING,
DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE!
*REQUIRED FOR BALTIMORE CITY INCENTIVES



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